

JONAH

Reluctant Prophet. Relentless God.

Jonah 1:1-3

¹ The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: ² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

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³ But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.

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Jonah – the prophet

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1. An instrument of God's grace

Ephesians 4:7, 11-13

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; **until we all attain to the unity of the faith**, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

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A simple message

- 1. Missional in purpose**
- 2. Multi-national in scope**
- 3. Urgent in mood**

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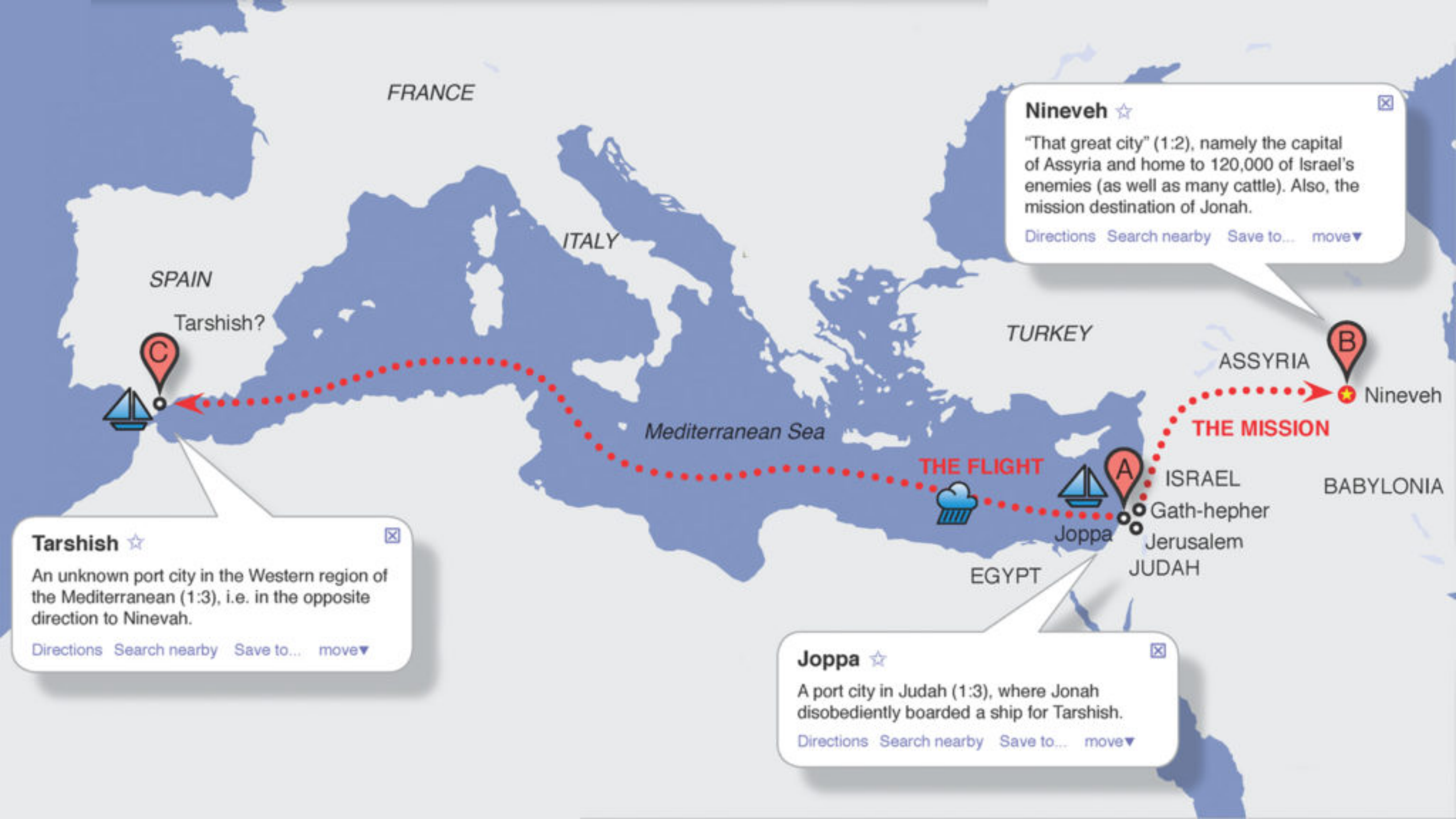
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Jonah – the prophet

- 1. An instrument of God's grace**
- 2. Flawed messenger**

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Nineveh ☆

"That great city" (1:2), namely the capital of Assyria and home to 120,000 of Israel's enemies (as well as many cattle). Also, the mission destination of Jonah.

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Tarshish ☆

An unknown port city in the Western region of the Mediterranean (1:3), i.e. in the opposite direction to Nineveh.

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Joppa ☆

A port city in Judah (1:3), where Jonah disobediendly boarded a ship for Tarshish.

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Lessons from Jonah's response

- 1. Our lack of mercy can hinder the God's work in our lives.**

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- 1. Our lack of mercy can hinder the God's work in our lives.**
- 2. Sacrifice is essential to God's purpose being accomplished through us**

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Mark 1:14-15

Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, **“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”**

**God's mercy is available to all who would turn
to him through Jesus Christ!**

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