

## Notes on the Prophet Jonah

St. Jerome Bible Study



- Scholars suppose that Tarshish was on the SE coast of Spain. The map shows the route Jonah would have taken to get to Nineveh. The exclamation marks are where Jonah was thrown overboard shortly after leaving Joppa and where the great fish spat him out on land
- Jonah probably lived about 780 to 740 BC
- Nineveh was the capital of the dreaded Assyrian Empire that completely destroyed forever the northern kingdom of Israel in about 721 BC – the Assyrians hated the Jews so it's no wonder Jonah did not want to go there and, of all things, preach about the God of the Jews
- What do I think Jonah was thinking when he tried to hide from God?
- Can I think of anyone else who was reluctant to answer God's call? Perhaps myself?
- What do I think about God's giving Jonah a second chance? Has He ever given me or any of my loved ones a second chance?
- Did God give Nineveh any cause for hope? Was His proposed destruction conditional? Why, do I suppose, did they repent?
- Why was Jonah angry at first? Why was he angry about the plant?
- What message do I get from God and His plant?
- Why did God spare Nineveh?