

The Whale

Grace Under Water

Grace is:

- God Freely Favoring You
- God Helping You.

Jonah 1:1-2

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

Jonah 1:17

And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 2:1-9

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, "I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God. When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

1. Grace is unique to Christianity.

Romans 5:6-8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. God rescues and restores!

Jonah cries out to the God he violated, and that God rescues and restores, because that's what God does!

Jonah 2:2

saying, "I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

Jonah 2:4

Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.'

Jonah 2:7

When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

Jonah 2:9

But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

Jonah 2:5

The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head.

3. Grace may not be comfortable.

Transformation doesn't come from fighting the sin, but loving the savior.

Jonah 2:7

When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.