

Jonah 4:1-11

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Jonah's Anger & Jonah's Reproval

וַיִּרַע אֶל־יוֹנָה רָעָה גְדוֹלָה וַיַּחַר לוֹ: ² וַיִּתְפַּלֵּל
אֶל־יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר אָנֹכָה יְהוָה הֲלוֹא־זֶה דְבַר־יְהוָה
עַל־אֲדָמָתִי עַל־כֵּן קִדְמָתִי לְבָרַח תִּרְשִׁישָׁה כִּי יָדַעְתִּי כִּי
אַתָּה אֱלֹהֵי־חַנּוּן וְרַחוּם אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְנָחָם עַל־הָרָעָה:
³ וְעַתָּה יְהוָה קַח־נָא אֶת־נַפְשִׁי מִמֶּנִּי כִּי טוֹב מוֹתִי מִחַיִּי: ס
⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה הֲהִיטֵב חָרָה לָךְ: ⁵ וַיֵּצֵא יוֹנָה מִן־הָעִיר וַיֵּשֶׁב
מִקְדָּם לָעִיר וַיַּעַשׂ לוֹ שֵׁם סֹכָה וַיֵּשֶׁב תַּחְתֶּיהָ בַּצֵּל עַד אֲשֶׁר
יִרְאֶה מֵה־יְהִיָּה בָּעִיר: ⁶ וַיִּמַּן יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים קִיקְיוֹן וַיַּעַל
מֵעַל לְיוֹנָה לְהִיּוֹת צֵל עַל־רֹאשׁוֹ לְהַצִּיל לוֹ מִרְעַתוֹ וַיִּשְׁמַח

יֹנָה עַל־הַקִּיקִיּוֹן שְׂמַחַה גְּדוֹלָה: ⁷ וַיִּמַּן הָאֱלֹהִים תּוֹלַעַת
 בְּעֵלוֹת הַשָּׁחַר לַמַּחֲרַת וַתֵּךְ אֶת־הַקִּיקִיּוֹן וַיִּיבֹשׁ: ⁸ וַיְהִי כַּזְרַח
 הַשָּׁמֶשׁ וַיִּמַּן אֱלֹהִים רוּחַ קָדִים חָרִישִׁית וַתֵּךְ הַשָּׁמֶשׁ
 עַל־רֹאשׁ יֹנָה וַיִּתְעַלֵּף וַיִּשְׂאֵל אֶת־נַפְשׁוֹ לָמוּת וַיֹּאמֶר טוֹב
 מוֹתִי מִחַיִּי: ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־יֹנָה הֲהֵיטֵב חָרָה־לְךָ
 עַל־הַקִּיקִיּוֹן וַיֹּאמֶר הֵיטֵב חָרָה־לִּי עַד־מוֹת: ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה
 אַתָּה חֹסֵף עַל־הַקִּיקִיּוֹן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־עֲמַלְתָּ בּוֹ וְלֹא גִדַּלְתָּו
 שְׁבֹן־לַיְלָה הִיא וּבֹן־לַיְלָה אֲבָד: ¹¹ וַאֲנִי לֹא אֲחֹס עַל־נִינוּהָ
 הָעִיר הַגְּדוֹלָה אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁבָּהּ הַרְבֵּה מִנְּשָׁתִים־עֲשָׂרָה רְבֹו אָדָם
 אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַע בֵּין־יְמֵינוֹ לְשִׁמְאֵלוֹ וּבְהֵמָה רְבָה:

^{NRS} **Jonah 4:1** But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"