

# Word Study

## *Significant Repeated Words in Jonah*

- **“Down”** -- 03381 יָרַד yarad yaw-rad'

*The Hebrew words used repetitively are deliberate and artistic showing the downward spiral of Jonah's flight from the presence of the Lord.*

Jonah 1:3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went **down** <03381> to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went **down** <03381> into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah 1:5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that *were* in the ship into the sea, to lighten *it* of them. But Jonah was gone **down** <03381> into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

Jonah 2:6 I went **down** <03381> to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars *was* about me for ever: yet you have brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.

- **“Hurl”**

02904 טָוַל tuwl tool

*The Hebrew word for to throw down is deliberately repeated four times to emphasis that God was hurling things in Jonah's pathway. God was directing this throwing away of the prophet..*

Jonah 1:4 But the LORD **sent out** <02904> a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

Jonah 1:5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and **cast forth** <02904> the wares that *were* in the ship into the sea, to lighten *it* of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

Jonah 1:12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and **cast me forth** <02904> into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest *is* upon you.

Jonah 1:15 So they took up Jonah, and **cast him forth** <02904> into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

- **“Lift up”** (Genesis 21:18)

05375 נָשָׂא nasa' naw-saw' (#Ps 4:6) naw-saw'

*The Hebrew word for to lifting up or taking up was a word used in the offering of sacrifices. The lamb was lifted up before God and presented as a sacrifice with a prayer. There is evidence this was a religious ritual of committing him to God. The Rabbi's taught that the sailors attempted to dip Jonah four times into the water up to his knees and waist, but each time the storm worsened when they pulled him out. Thus, they gave up and surrendered him to God.*

Jonah 1:12 And he said unto them, **Take me up** <05375>, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest *is* upon you.

Jonah 1:15 So they **took up** <05375> Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

- **“God prepared”**

04487 מָנַח manah maw-naw'

*Probably the most obvious use of repeated word for the English reader is “God prepared.” It emphasized that God was in control of all these events from beginning to end. Nothing was left to chance. The Rabbi’s teach that God prepared the great fish from the first day of creation for this very event. God is sovereign over all.*

Jonah 1:17 Now the **LORD had prepared <04487> a great fish** to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 4:6 And the **LORD God prepared <04487> a gourd**, and made *it* to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

Jonah 4:7 But **God prepared <04487> a worm** when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

Jonah 4:8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that **God prepared <04487> a vehement east wind**; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, *It is better for me to die than to live.*

- **Exceeding /or Great (a superlative word)**

01419 גָּדוֹל gadol gaw-dole'

*This Hebrew word is used as an emphasis in describing an object. It is a superlative word like we would use in English in saying something was “super, mega, mammoth, gigantic, huge.”*

Jonah 1:2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that **great <01419> city**, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

Jonah 3:2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, **that great <01419> city**, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

Jonah 3:3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an **exceeding great <01419> city** of three days' journey.

Jonah 4:11 And should not I spare Nineveh, **that great <01419> city**, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and *also* much cattle?

Jonah 1:4 But the LORD sent out a **great <01419> wind** into the sea, and there was a mighty **<01419> tempest** in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

Jonah 1:10 Then were the men **exceedingly <01419> afraid**, and said unto him, Why have you done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Jonah 1:12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake **this great <01419> tempest is** upon you.

Jonah 1:16 Then the men **feared** the LORD **exceedingly <01419>**, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

Jonah 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a **great <01419> fish** to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 3:5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from **the greatest <01419>** of them even to the least of them.

Jonah 4:1 But it **displeased** Jonah **exceedingly <01419>**, and he was very angry.

Jonah 4:6 And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made *it* to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was **exceeding <01419> glad** of the gourd.