



**Title** | An Amazing Turnaround  
**Series** | Barf on the Beach  
**Text** | Jonah 3  
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**Date** | Jan 7, 2023

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# Sermon Notes

“Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.”

## Big Idea:

**Jeremiah 18:7-8 (ESV)**

***“If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it.”***

## For Reflection and Application:

### Monday:

Read Jonah 2:10-3:1. Think about Jonah's response to the first message God gave him, and then the series of events that God brought about. Speculate how Jonah might have felt being given this second chance. Have you ever faced a situation when you felt you failed at what God wanted for you? Did God give you another chance? Why? (hint: Grace!)

### Tuesday:

Read Jonah 3:4 (Jonah's message) and Jonah 3:10. If God said He was going to judge Ninevah, why did He relent? After promising judgment, does that seem fair? (hint: Grace!)

### Wednesday:

In Daniel 4, God got Nebuchadnezzar's attention. Here, He gets the attention of the King of Ninevah (likely a reference to the king of Assyria). Both these people were outside of the circle of God's people. Both were violent men. Why did God do that (hint: Grace!)? How might this impact how we think about people outside our normal circles?

### Thursday:

Read Jonah 3:7-8. The king issued a proclamation for citywide mourning, turning from their evil ways, and prayer. Imagine you wrote for the local paper, the "Ninevah Ninnies" (sorry, I had to get that in there somehow). A week before this event, could you even imagine that such a turn would happen? Do you think it's possible for such a turn today, whether city, county, state, or national? Why or why not?

### Friday:

Reread all of Jonah 3. Pretend you do not know how Jonah actually responded in Jonah 4. How do you think God wanted Jonah to respond? Imagine someone or some group you dislike or even hate. Can you develop a soft heart towards them? What would you think if God intervened in their world like he did here?

### Daily Prayer:

Lord, sometimes I forget that you can accomplish the impossible. Help me to see the world around me with eyes of faith. I don't know if you will intervene in any specific situation, but help me to remember you can!