

# The GREAT FISH

in Jonah 1:17-2:10 **was** / is ...

“Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish’s belly.” (*Jonah 1:17-2:1*)

“Those who regard worthless idols forsake their own Mercy. But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD. So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.” (*Jonah 2:8-10*)

\* \*

able to

safely swallow Jonah

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

also in

Matthew 12:40

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \*

closely linked to

the great storm (1:4)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

demonstrating that

the Lord alone is God

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

evidence of

the Lord’s patience & grace

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

foreshadowing

Jesus’ resurrection

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

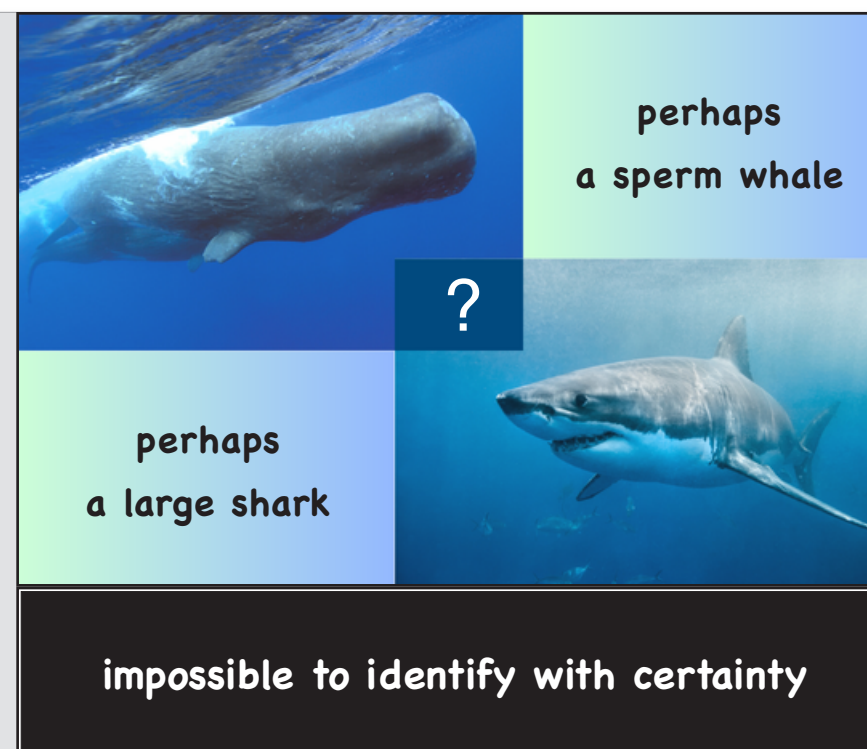
\* \*

God’s

fish rather than a fish god

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

Descriptive



Meditation

\* \* \*

God’s special

provision for Jonah

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

mocked

by proud skeptics

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

necessary for

multiple reasons

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

not described

in great detail

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

prepared by God

like the plant and worm

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \* \*

quick to

obey the Lord (2:10)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

\* \*

significantly

different from

the lowly worm (4:7)

\* \*

strikingly

different from

the bears in 2 Kings 2:24

\* \* \*

used to oppose

idolatry (Dagon) (2:8-9)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

**Directions:** after reading through **Jonah** and the notes in a good study Bible, consider and discuss the various ways that the great fish that swallowed Jonah is described above. **Do you agree with the various points? How would you change some of them?** — **At the end, discuss the most important descriptive phrases and make some personal applications.** In doing so, think about the Lord’s purposes in using the great fish and how this relates to the storm in chapter one and the plant in chapter four that God also used. The Lord used his creation to oppose idolatry and rebellion. How then should we use creation in our ministries? © 2022 by Jon F. Mahar, Hakusan City, Japan and Alexander, Maine, U.S.A.