

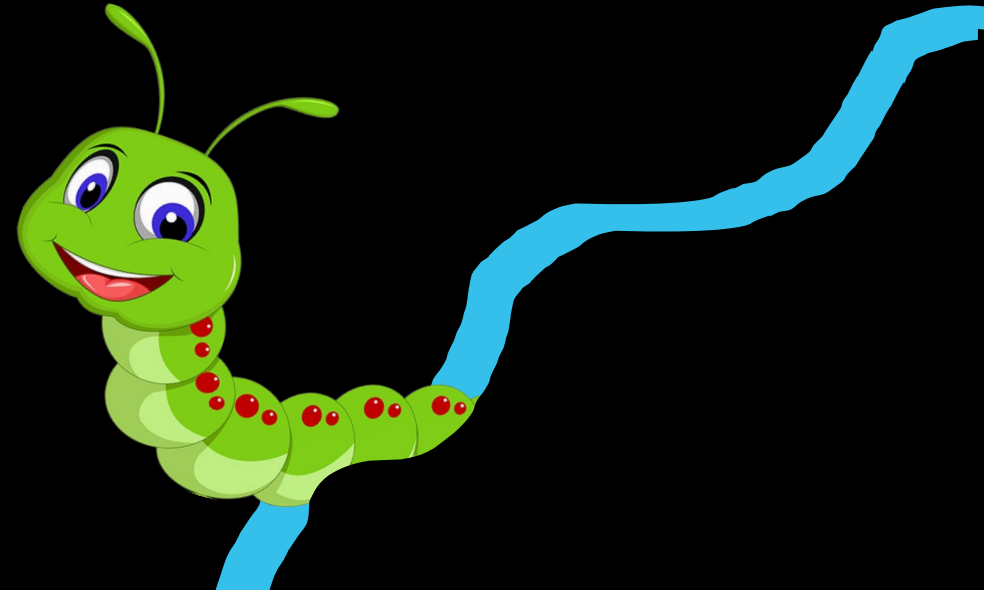
JONAH

Sunday, November 2, 2025

Matt Thompson

JONAH

And the Worm



The Book of Jonah

Structure

- 4 Chapters



The Book of Jonah

Structure

- 4 Chapters
- 2 Halves



The Book of Jonah

Structure

- 4 Chapters
- 2 Halves
- Mirrored Stories



The Book of Jonah



Only Book in
the Bible that
ends in a
question

1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying,² “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.” ³ But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. – Jonah 1:1-3







**Located
across the Tigris
river from
Mosul, Iraq.**



**Capital of the
Assyrian Empire
& Sworn
enemies of Israel**



**Described by
Nahum as the
“Bloody City”**



Nineveh

Jonah 3:1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, ² “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and proclaim to it the proclamation which I am going to tell you.” ³ So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days’ walk. ⁴ Then Jonah began to go through the city one day’s walk; and he cried out and said, “Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown.”



Nineveh Responded

¹⁰ When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do *it*.

Chapter 4

Jonah Pouteth



4:1 But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, “Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my *own* country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.

³ Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for death is better to me than life.” ⁴ The Lord said, “Do you have good reason to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out from the city and sat east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat under it in the shade until he could see what would happen in the city.

⁶ So the Lord God appointed a plant and it grew up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. And Jonah was extremely happy about the plant. ⁷ But God appointed a worm when dawn came the next day and it attacked the plant and it withered.

⁸ When the sun came up God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he became faint and begged with *all* his soul to die, saying, "Death is better to me than life." ⁹ Then God said to Jonah, "Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "I have good reason to be angry, even to death."

¹⁰ Then the Lord said, “You had compassion on the plant for which you did not work and *which* you did not cause to grow, which came up overnight and perished overnight.¹¹ Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know *the difference* between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?”

In his preoccupation with himself, Jonah did not get the point that God was trying to show him.



Nineveh foreshadowed
the Gentile church.

The question asked in Jonah
is fulfilled in the Gospel

John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Jonah's story illustrates the 2
greatest commandments

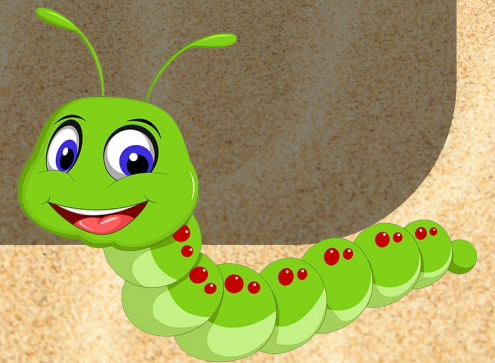
34 But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. 35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him: 36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” 37 And He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”

- Matthew 22:34-40 (NASB)

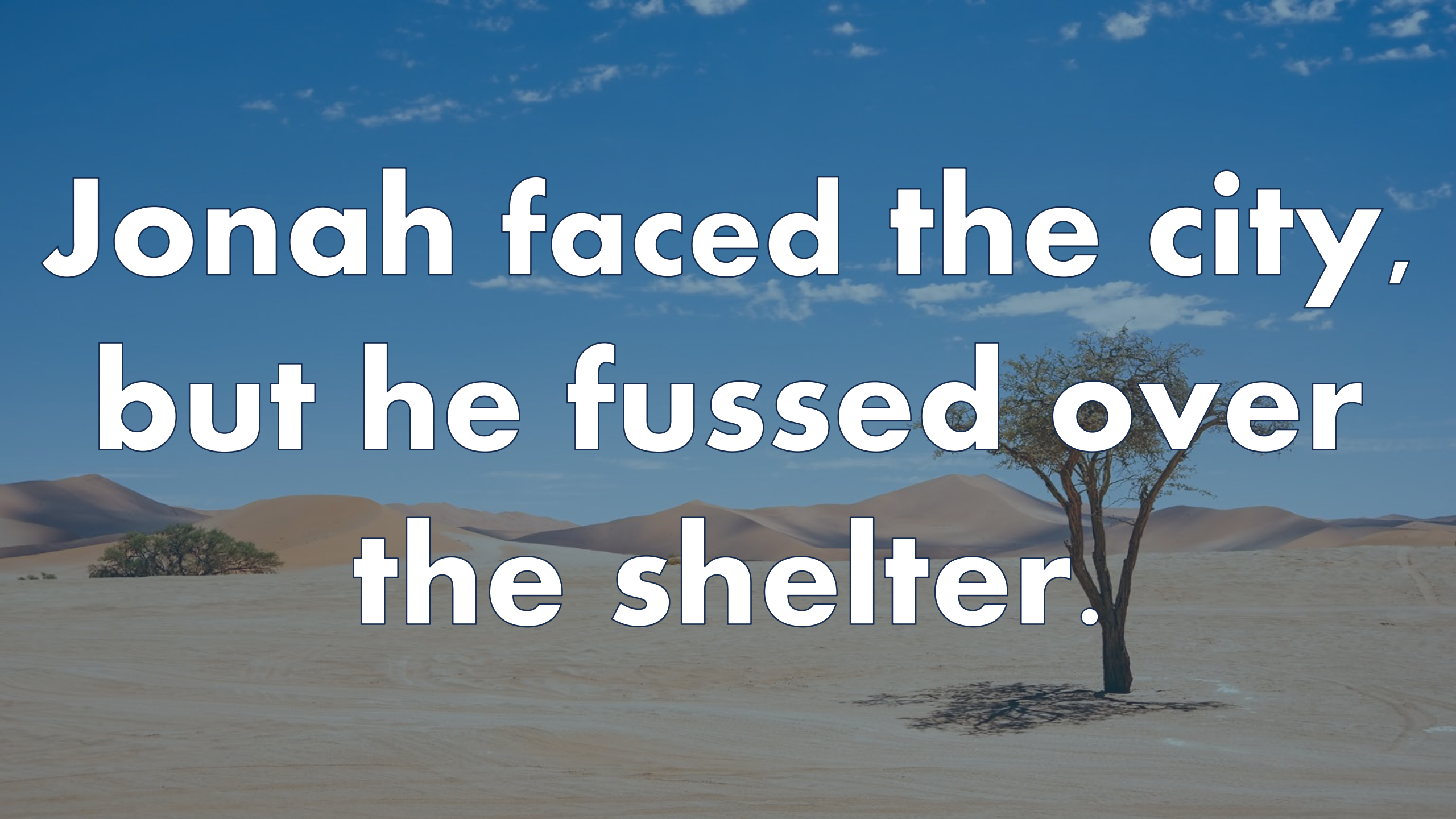
The whale brought Jonah back to
the greatest commandment.

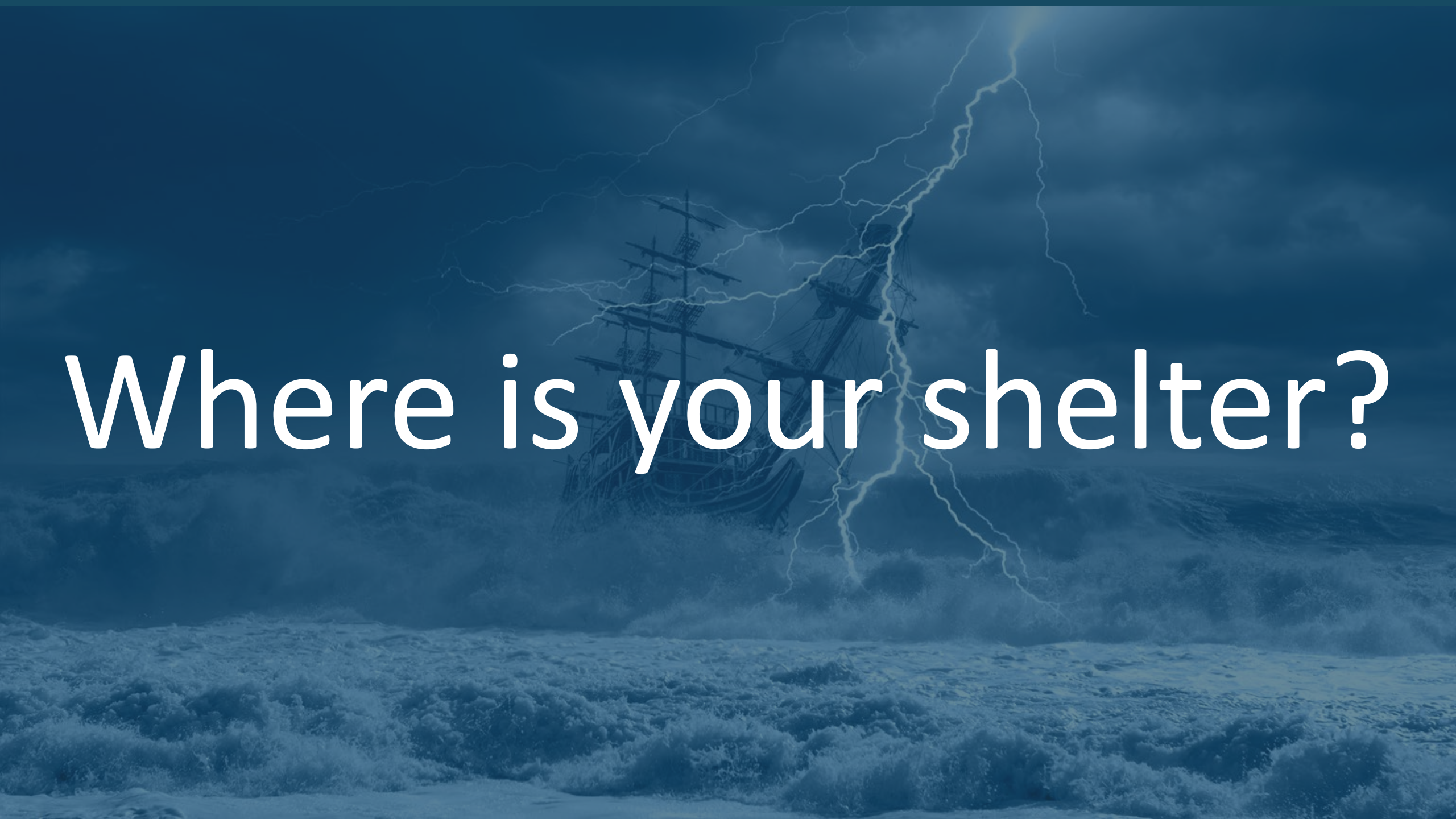


The worm brought Jonah back to
the second greatest Commandment



Jonah faced the city,
but he fussed over
the shelter.



The background image is a dramatic, blue-toned photograph of a multi-masted sailing ship, possibly a galleon, navigating through a turbulent sea. The ship is positioned in the center-left of the frame, its sails partially visible. The sea is filled with large, white-capped waves, suggesting a storm. In the upper right, a bright, jagged lightning bolt strikes down towards the ship, illuminating the dark, cloudy sky. The overall mood is one of peril and uncertainty.

Where is your shelter?

