

THE GOD OF THE  
**SECOND  
CHANCE**



# NO!

---

I want to go to Tarshish.



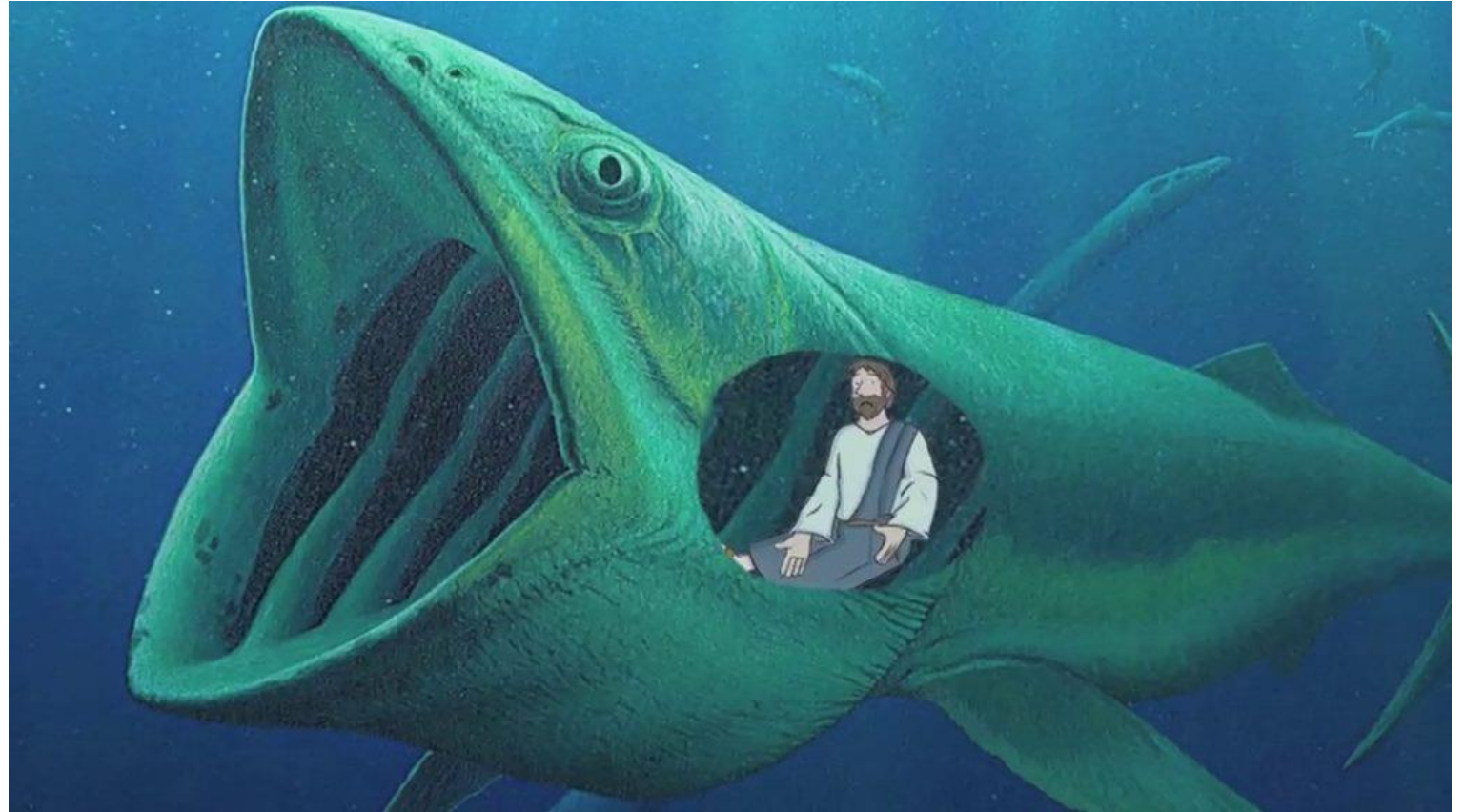


Its YOU!



# Crying out to God

---



GO to  
NINEVEH!

---





**YES!**

---



## Jonah Ch 3. ESV

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.

# Jonah Ch 3

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.





**Tarshish**

**Nineveh**

**2500 miles**

**550 miles**

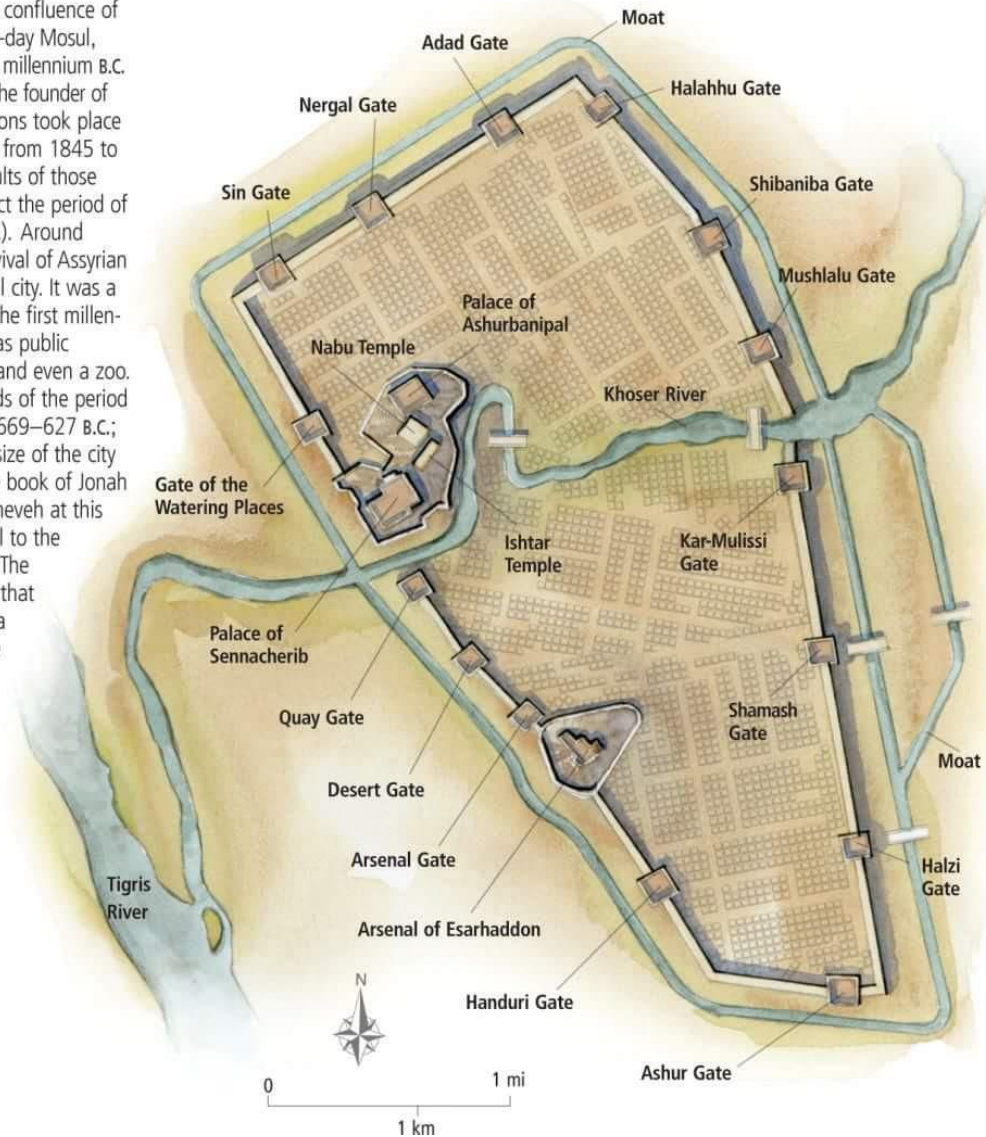
**Joppa**





### The City of Nineveh

Nineveh, which was situated at the confluence of the Tigris and Khoser rivers (modern-day Mosul, Iraq), was first settled in the seventh millennium B.C. According to the Bible, Nimrod was the founder of the city (Gen. 10:11). Major excavations took place under the direction of Henry Layard from 1845 to 1854. The diagram pictures the results of those excavations, especially as they reflect the period of the Assyrian Empire (1420–609 B.C.). Around 1000 B.C. there occurred a great revival of Assyrian power, and Nineveh became a royal city. It was a thriving city during the first half of the first millennium, and contained such luxuries as public squares, parks, botanical gardens, and even a zoo. One of the great archaeological finds of the period is the library of King Ashurbanipal (669–627 B.C.; called Osnappar in Ezra 4:10). The size of the city was approximately 1,850 acres. The book of Jonah reflects the flourishing nature of Nineveh at this time (3:1–5). Nineveh eventually fell to the Medes and Babylonians in 612 B.C. The invading armies dammed the rivers that supplied water to the city, causing a flood that broke through one of the perimeter walls, giving the foreign armies access to the city.

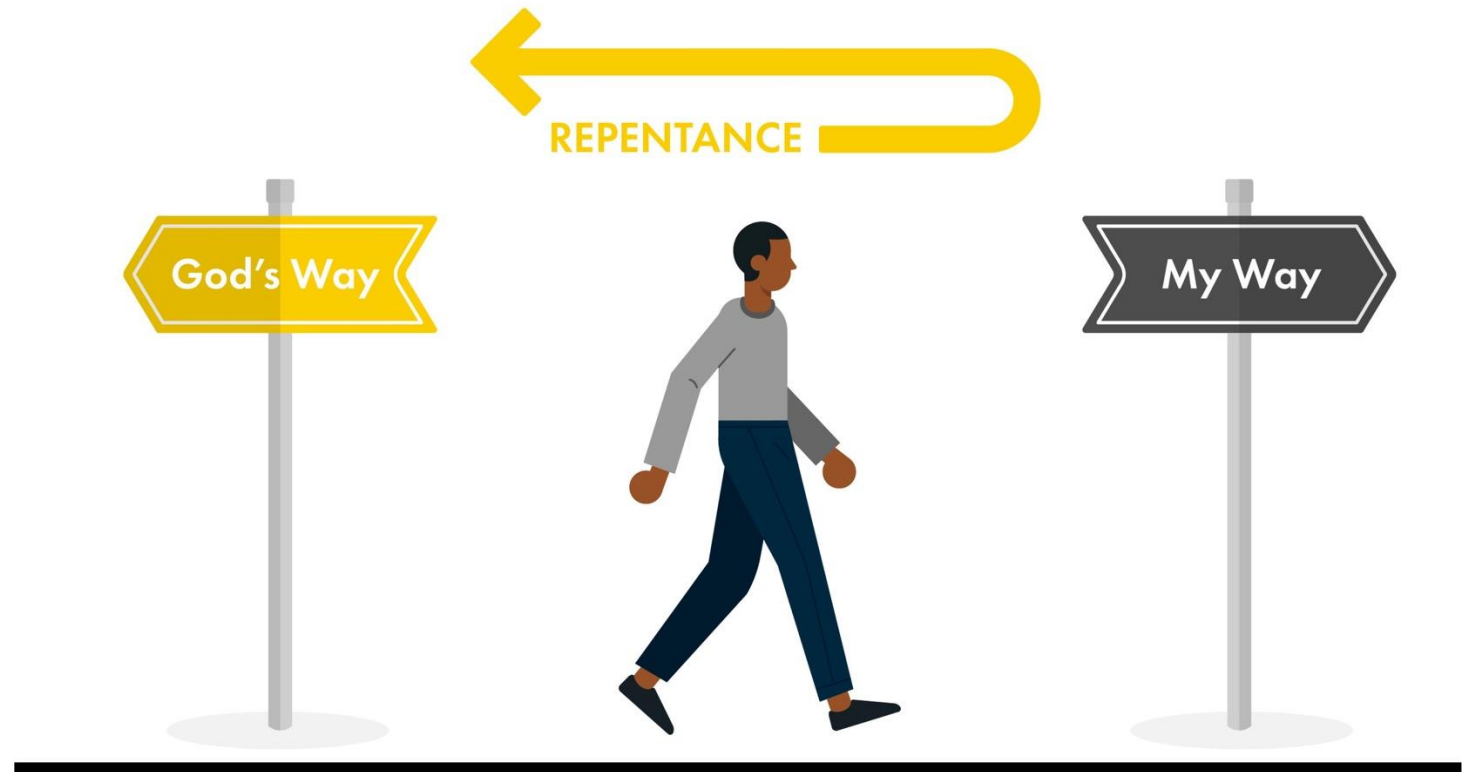




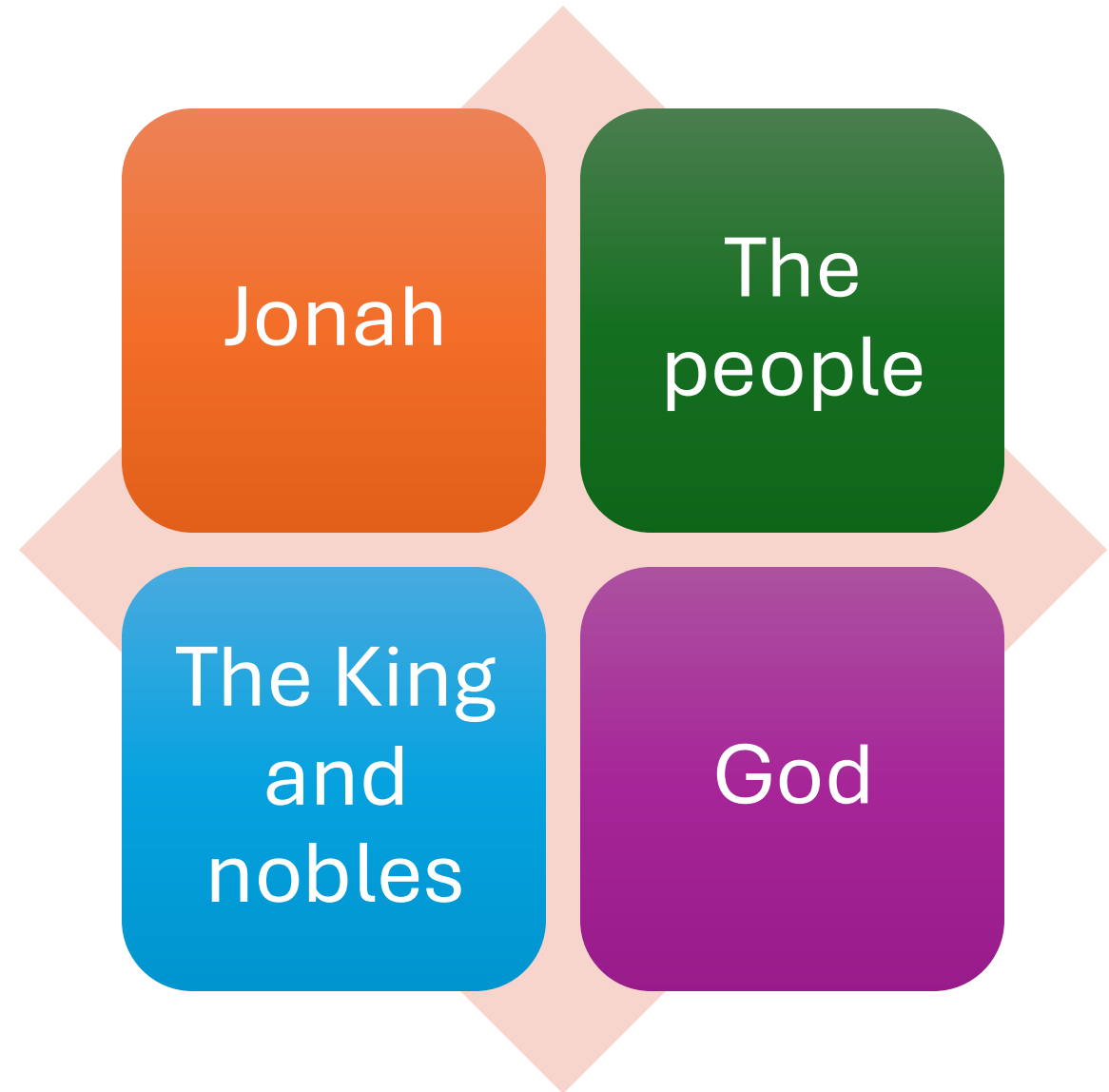
# Repentance

---

- Change of MIND
- Change of DIRECTION
- Resulting in a change of ACTION.



# 4 Players



Jonah – his  
second  
chance

---

Transformed by the experience

---

New heart –understood God's  
grace from personal experience

---

New way of preaching



# The People of Nineveh

40 days –

- Time of trial and testing

Every individual had to  
respond

Unlike time of Constantine -  
or Inquisition

# The king ..

- Humbled himself –
  - Took off royal robes
  - Just the same before God as the people.



# How did God Respond?

- He relented of the disaster - and “did not do it”
- Jeremiah 18:8.

*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.*

- 2 Chronicles 7...

*if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*





# What is our response?

- Testimony
- Luke 13 – repent or perish .....
- Pray for the people of Melksham
  - To experience a sense of their need of God for mercy
- We are called to preach
  - out of the mercy we have received –