

Jonah

The Reluctant Prophet (Whose Story Nevertheless Points to Christ)

Outline:

March 23

1. Origin of this Series
 - 1.1. Setting expectations and audience participation
 - 1.2. Christopher: Origin in HS Sunday School story referencing Lk 11.29–31
When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.
 - 1.3. Loren: Jonah’s Place in Holy Saturday Liturgy
2. Genre and Themes of Jonah
 - 2.1. Satire
 - 2.2. Descent & Ascent
 - 2.2.1. Chapters 1-2 are roughly parallel with chapters 3-4
 - 2.3. God’s sovereignty and the creatures’ responses
 - 2.4. The Reluctant Prophet

At this point, therefore, let us begin our narrative, without adding any more to what has already been said, for it would be foolish to lengthen the preface while cutting short the history itself. 2 Macc 2.32

3. Jonah 1-2: Jonah’s descent
 - 3.1. Jonah’s call and his flight 1.1–3
 - 3.2. Jonah in the storm 1.4–16 theme of fear
 - 3.3. Jonah’s prayer in the deep 2 (also 1.17 English)

March 30

4. Jonah in a foreign land 3-4
 - 4.1. Jonah in Nineveh 3
 - 4.2. Jonah under the gourd 4
5. Discussion & Application
 - 5.1. Is Jonah a saint?
 - 5.2. What is the object of this satire?

So [we] will here end the [discussion]. If it is well [presented] and [engaging] that is what [we ourselves] desired; if it is poorly done and mediocre, that was the best [we] could do. 2 Macc 15.38