

“Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, ‘Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.’

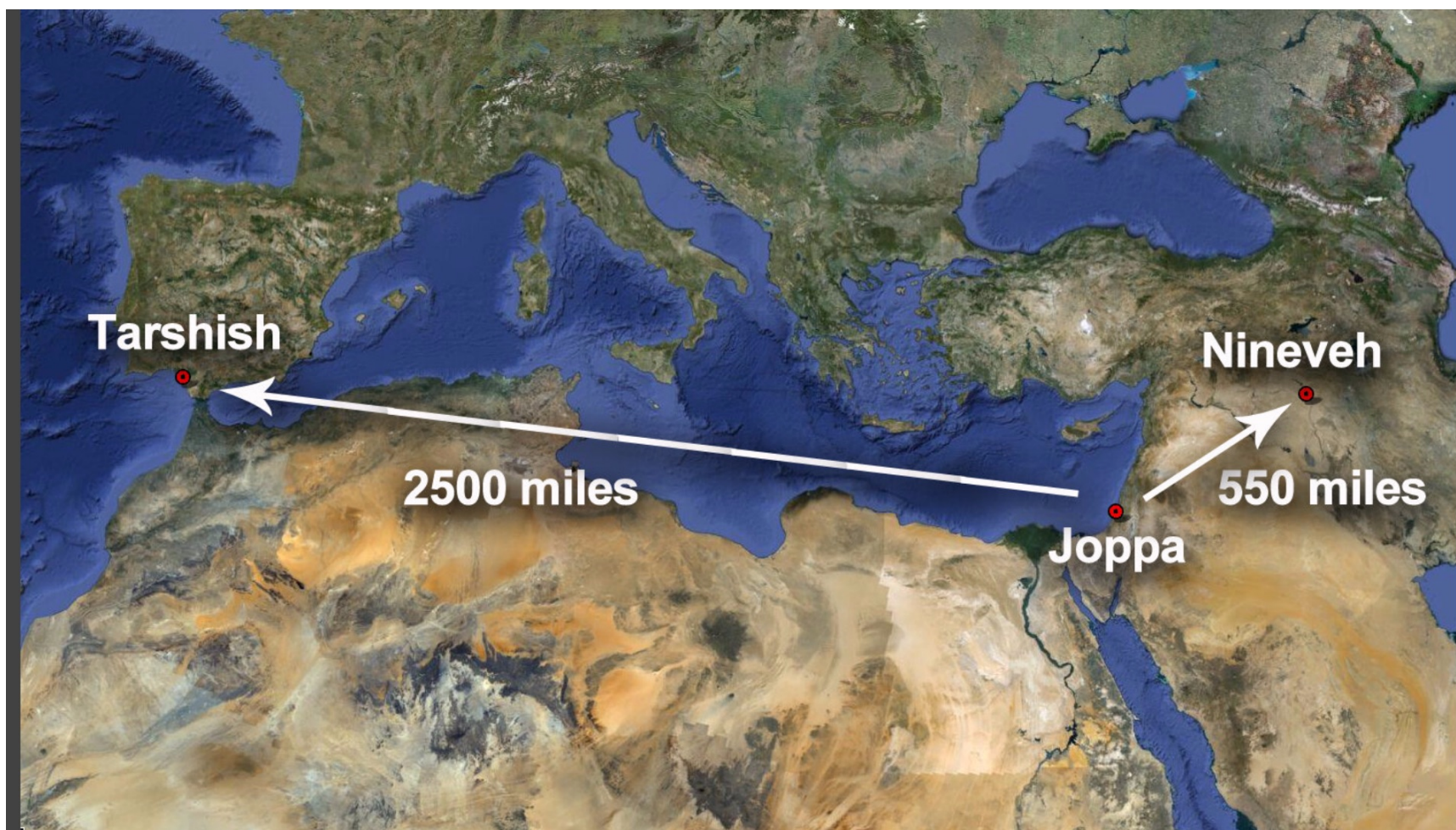
“But he answered them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign,

“but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.” Matthew 12:38-39

Who was Jonah?



Nineveh



“And the LORD appointed a great fish to
swallow up Jonah.”

Jonah 1:17a



Dell Simancas via AP

VIDEO

Strait of Magellan

Chile



“And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.”

Jonah 1:17b

“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish,

“so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Matthew 12:40

What is the sign of Jonah?

1. Jonah is a sign of Jesus's **rejection**.

“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief....

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have
turned—every one—to his own way;

“and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of
us all.”

Isaiah 53:3-6

“The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it,

“for they repented at the preaching of Jonah,
and behold, something greater than Jonah is
here.”

Matthew 12:41

“The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it,

“for she came from the ends of the earth to
hear the wisdom of Solomon,

“and behold, something greater than
Solomon is here.” Matthew 12:42



“He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,”

John 1:11-12

1. Jonah is a sign of Jesus's rejection.

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2. Jonah is a sign of Jesus's **resurrection**.

“Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying,

“I called out to the LORD, out of my distress,
and he answered me;

“out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
and you heard my voice.” Jonah 2:1-2

“The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head....” Jonah 2:5

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3. Jonah is a sign of Jesus's **reconciliation**.

“But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

“For he himself is our peace ... that he might
... reconcile us both to God in one body
through the cross.”

Ephesians 2:13-16

Jonah is a sign of Jesus's
rejection
resurrection
reconciliation.

A compelling sign

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- the **empty tomb**



“It was in the political interest of the leaders of the day to produce the dead body.”

Russell Cowburn

- the empty tomb
- the **eyewitness testimony**

- the empty tomb
- the eyewitness testimony
- the **Christian church**



“What if this God can fill your life and heal your resentments, fears, and loneliness in such a profound way that you’d actually want to live forever because you’d finally be whole?”

“Everyone deals with the terminal and internal problems,

“and the solution for every other belief system is a philosophy – an enlightened state to transcend human problems.

“Jesus stands out because he didn’t teach a solution; he became a solution. The word for that is resurrection.”

Tyler Staton