

# DISCOVERING PURPOSE

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**Jonah 1:11-12** NASB – So they said to him, “What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?”—for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy.  
<sup>12</sup> He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you.”

**Jonah 1:15-16** NASB – So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging.<sup>16</sup> Then the men feared the Lord greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

**Jonah 1:17** NASB – And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

## 1 What if the SWALLOWING was to SAVE?

## 2 What if the RESTRICTION was to RESTORE?

**Jonah 2:1-9** NASB – Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the stomach of the fish,<sup>2</sup> and he said, “I called out of my distress to the Lord, And He answered me. I cried for help from the depth of Sheol; You heard my voice.  
<sup>3</sup> “For You had cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the current engulfed me. All Your breakers and billows passed over me.<sup>4</sup> “So I said, ‘I have been expelled from Your sight. Nevertheless I will look again toward Your holy temple.’<sup>5</sup> “Water encompassed me to the point of death.

The great deep engulfed me, Weeds were wrapped around my head.  
<sup>6</sup> “I descended to the roots of the mountains. The earth with its bars was around me forever, But You have brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God.<sup>7</sup> “While I was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, And my prayer came to You, Into Your holy temple.<sup>8</sup> “Those who regard vain idols forsake their faithfulness,<sup>9</sup> But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay.

Salvation is from the Lord.”

## 3 What if the PURGING was to PROVIDE?

**Jonah 2:10** NASB – Then the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah up onto the dry land.

**1 Peter 4:12-13; 19** NIV – Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.<sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.<sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

**Jonah 3:1-3** NASB – Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying,<sup>2</sup> “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and proclaim to it the proclamation which I am going to tell you.”<sup>3</sup> So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord.