

Jonah 4

King James Version (KJV)

4 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.
(Because he knew that these people would conquer Israel in the near future. God would use Assyria to punish Israel for their idolatry and corruption)

(Jonah didn't get it. God used him to humble the Assyrians so that they would be more merciful when they took Israel)

²And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.
(evil = trouble<for Israel>) (Jonah is trying to impose his will on God's plan. It won't work)

³Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. (He feels he betrayed Israel by helping to save the Assyrians. He doesn't understand that God is the Savior of all people; not just the 12 tribes of Israel)

⁴Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry? (Does being angry make you feel better? God is mocking him for acting like a baby)

⁵So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

⁶And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd. (It grew overnight. This was divine intercession. God is teaching Jonah a life lesson)

⁷But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. (The gourd died as quickly as it grew)

⁸And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

⁹And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd?
And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

¹⁰Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: (God gives; God takes away – It is per His plan, not Jonah's. God is in control; not Jonah)

¹¹And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle? (God wanted to spare the people of Ninevah, and so He did. Those people were heathen idol worshippers because of ignorance; not because of malice. All people are God's children; not just the 12 tribes)