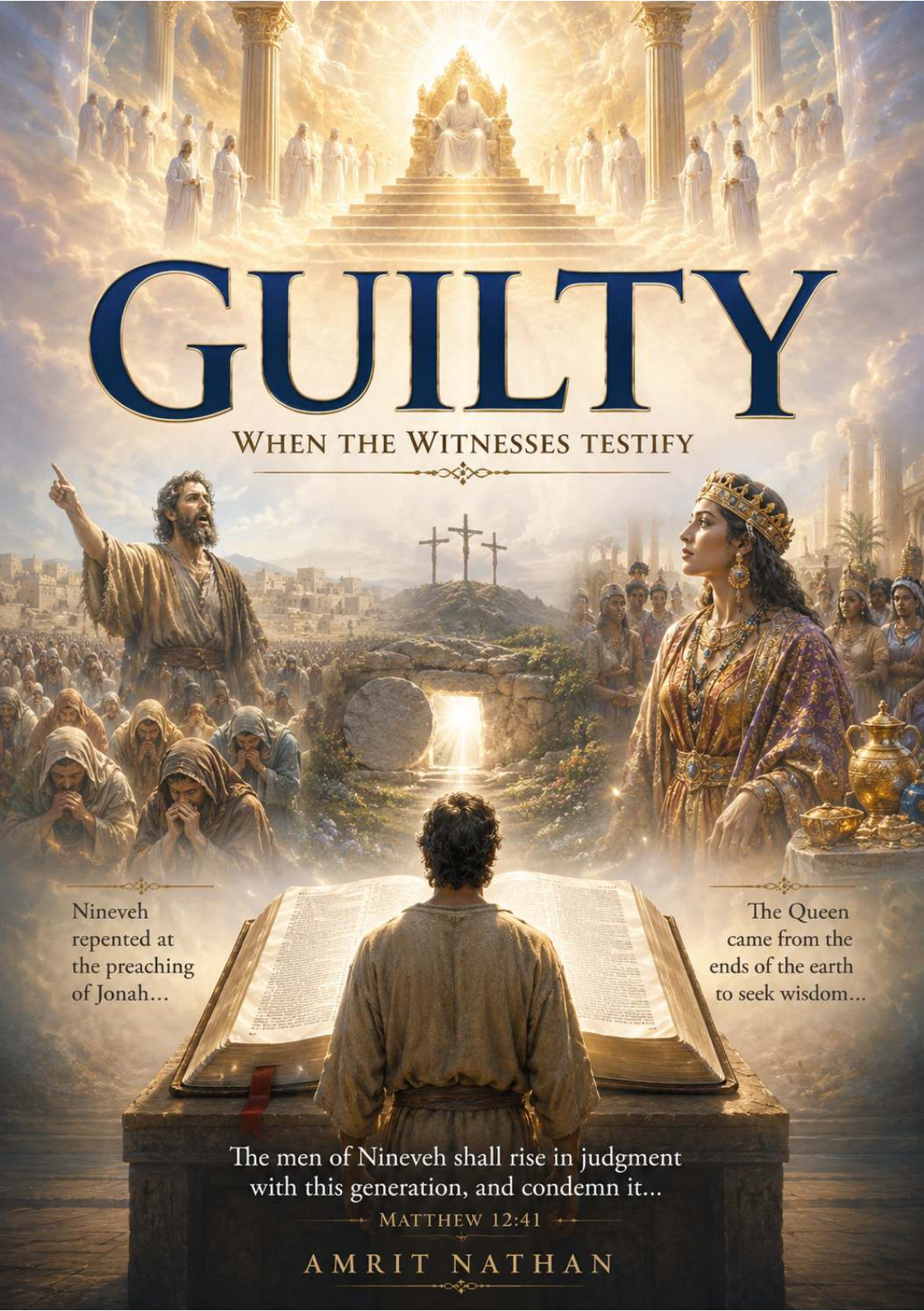




GUILTY

WHEN THE WITNESSES TESTIFY

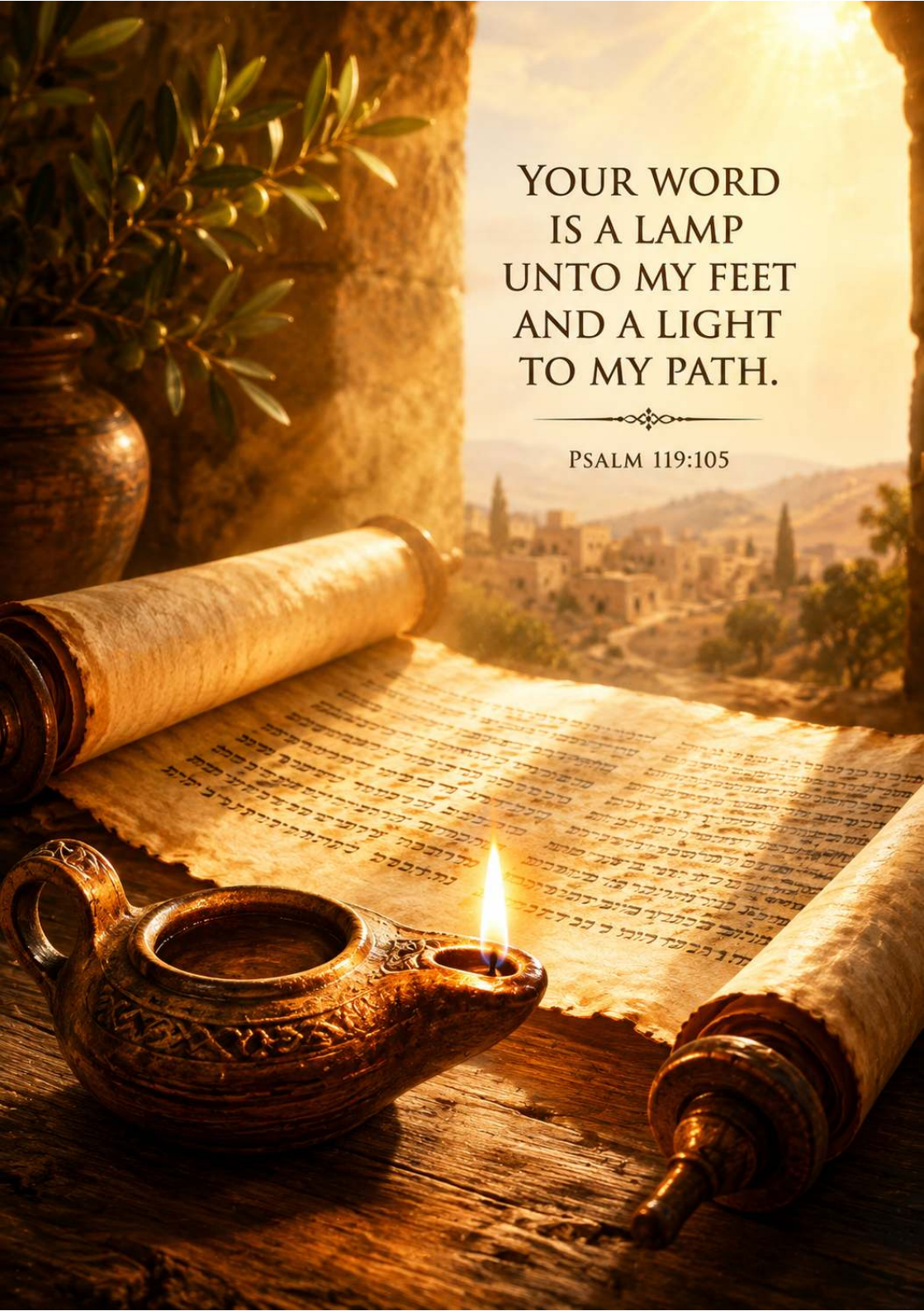
Nineveh
repented at
the preaching
of Jonah...

The Queen
came from the
ends of the earth
to seek wisdom...

The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment
with this generation, and condemn it...

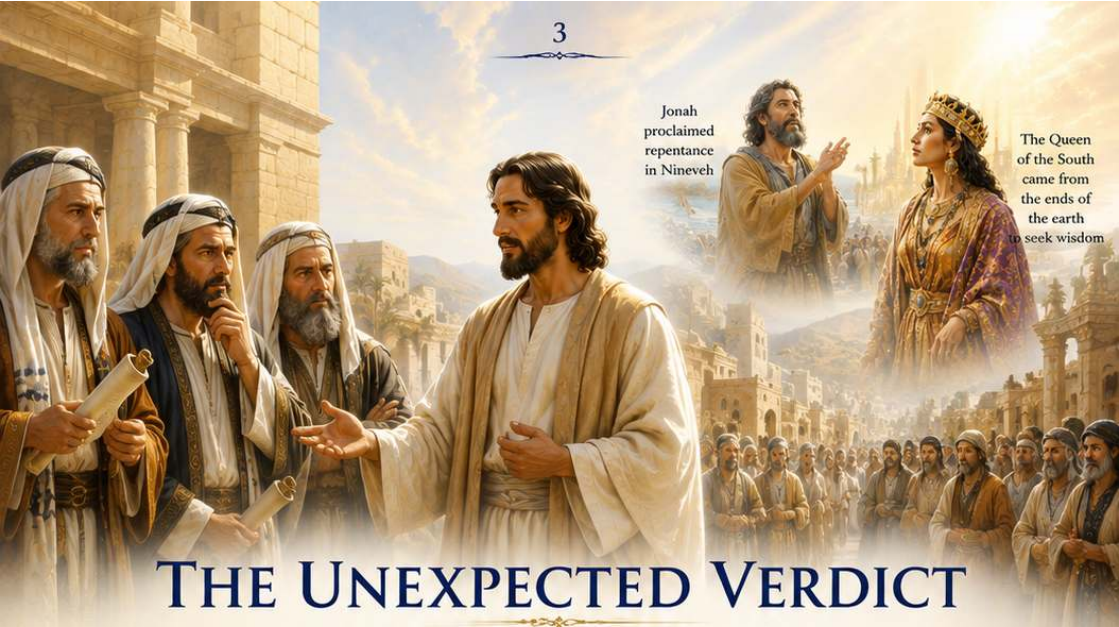
MATTHEW 12:41

AMRIT NATHAN

A still life scene with a scroll, a lamp, and a city view. In the foreground, a scroll is unrolled on a wooden surface, showing Hebrew text. A small, ornate metal lamp with a flame is lit, casting a warm glow. In the background, a city with a church spire is visible through a window, with a bright sun setting or rising behind it. A potted plant is on the left.

YOUR WORD
IS A LAMP
UNTO MY FEET
AND A LIGHT
TO MY PATH.

PSALM 119:105



Jonah
proclaimed
repentance
in Nineveh

The Queen
of the South
came from
the ends of
the earth
to seek wisdom

THE UNEXPECTED VERDICT

MATTHEW 12:38–42 (NKJV)

- “ **38** Then some of the experts in the law and Pharisees answered Him, saying, ‘Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.’
- 39** But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.
- 40** For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the heart of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.
- 41** The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation, and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.
- 42** The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation, and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here. ”



The Pharisees came to Yahshua seeking a sign to establish His claim as the promised Messiah. Their request was not unreasonable, for the Scriptures had taught them to test every prophet.



Yahshua answered that only one sign would be given—the sign of Jonah.



But immediately afterward, He made an astonishing declaration. He announced that two Gentile witnesses would one day stand in God’s court to testify against that generation: the men of Nineveh and the Queen of the South.



Neither belonged to Israel. Neither possessed the Law of Moses. Yet both would condemn those who rejected Someone greater than Jonah and greater than Solomon.



Why would Yahshua call these two witnesses? The answer forms the heart of this study.



GOD’S JUDGMENT IS NOT BASED MERELY UPON WHAT WE KNOW,
BUT UPON HOW WE RESPOND TO THE LIGHT WE HAVE RECEIVED.

THE MEN OF NINEVEH

A NATION THAT REPENTED

Matthew 12:41 (NKJV)

"The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here."



1. THEIR BACKGROUND

- Nineveh was a great city of Assyria—powerful, wealthy, and feared.
- Its people worshiped a fish-god called *Dagon*.
- They were far from the God of Israel and from His ways.

2. JONAH CAME

- God sent Jonah, not with a message of destruction, but of *repentance*.
- Jonah preached: *"Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"*
- A simple message—yet it was believed.

3. THEY BELIEVED AND REPENTED

- The king arose from his throne, removed his robe, and covered himself with sackcloth.
- He commanded a fast.
- From the greatest to the least, all humbled themselves before God.

4. GOD RELENTE

- God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way.
- And God relented from the disaster which He had said He would bring upon them—and He did not do it.

— Jonah 3:10 (NKJV)

WHAT THIS MEANS



Hearts can change when truth is heard.



Humility opens the door to mercy.



Even those far from God can turn to Him.

THEIR TESTIMONY AGAINST UNBELIEF

These Gentiles, without the Scriptures, without the prophets, heard one message and repented.

They will stand in judgment and condemn a generation that had the Scriptures, the prophets—and Yahshua Himself.



"For 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 (NKJV)



JONAH'S REMARKABLE JOURNEY

A SIGN THAT PREPARED A NATION

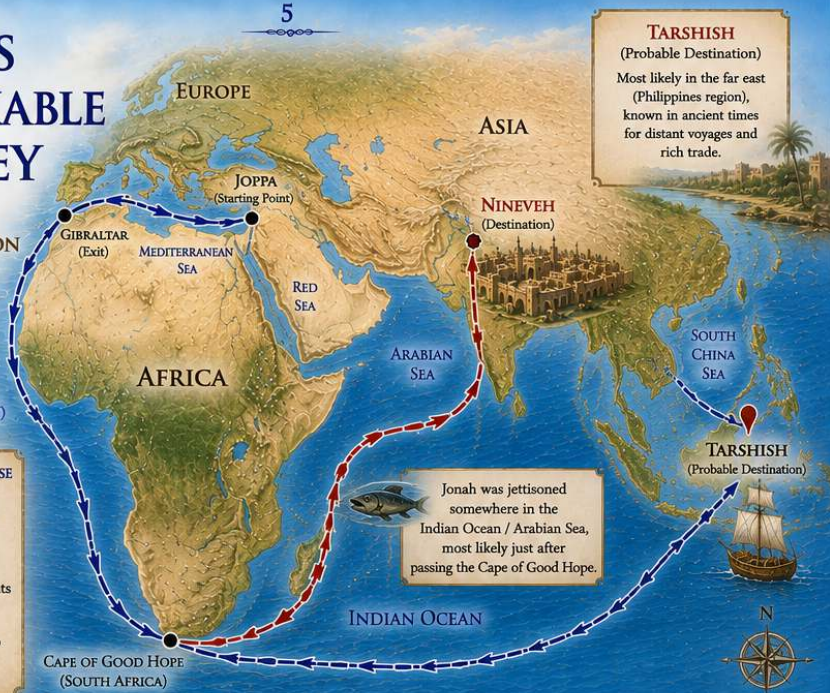
"So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days' journey in extent."

— Jonah 3:3 (NKJV)

TWO JOURNEYS, ONE PURPOSE

- ➡ Ship's route to Tarshish (the ship continues east to the far east)
- ➡ Jonah's route (three days and three nights in the belly of the fish)

God turned disobedience into divine appointments.



TARSHISH

(Probable Destination)
Most likely in the far east (Philippines region), known in ancient times for distant voyages and rich trade.

Jonah was jettisoned somewhere in the Indian Ocean / Arabian Sea, most likely just after passing the Cape of Good Hope.

1 THE STORM AND THE SEA



A violent storm arose. Jonah was thrown overboard.

2 THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS



A great fish swallowed Jonah. For three days and three nights he was in its belly.

3 RELEASED NEAR THE TIGRIS



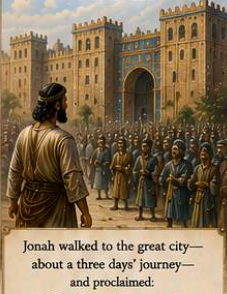
The LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land near the River Tigris.

4 SIGHTED BY THE PEOPLE



People witnessed this astonishing event. Assyrians worshiped a fish-god (Dagon and other fish deities). Jonah's deliverance gave him immediate credibility.

5 JONAH ENTERS NINEVEH



Jonah walked to the great city—about a three days' journey—and proclaimed:
"Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"
The people believed God, fasted, and repented.

WHY THE TIGRIS?

- ◆ Nineveh was only a three days' journey inland.
- ◆ The nearest major water body was the River Tigris.
- ◆ This study proposes that God brought Jonah close enough to reach Nineveh in three days.



THE SHIP'S FINAL DESTINATION

- ✦ The ship continued its long voyage east from the Indian Ocean.
- ✦ Tarshish was likely in the far east (Philippines region), in the South China Sea.
- ✦ A voyage of many months across the Indian Ocean to the far east.



A SIGN THAT PREPARED THE WAY

Jonah's extraordinary journey was not for his own rescue alone. It was a sign that prepared a nation to hear the message of God.

"For 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 (NKJV)

THE QUEEN

FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Theme Scripture — Matthew 12:42 (NKJV)

"The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here."

"SHE CAME FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH"

The Queen heard reports of Solomon's wisdom and glory. But hearing was not enough.

She determined to investigate the report personally.

1 A REPORT REACHED A DISTANT LAND

- ◆ Solomon's fame had travelled far beyond Israel.
- ◆ The Queen heard reports concerning his wisdom, his kingdom and his relationship with the LORD.
- ◆ But hearing was not enough.
- ◆ She determined to investigate the report personally.

"Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions."

— 1 Kings 10:1 (NKJV)

She did not simply accept or reject what she had heard—she investigated.

2 SOLOMON'S SHIPS TRAVELLED FAR

OPHIR

"And King Solomon built a fleet of ships at Ezion Geber..."
— 1 Kings 9:26

The fleet brought back gold from Ophir.



TARSHISH

For the king had merchant ships at sea with the fleet of Hiram. Once every three years the merchant ships came bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and monkeys."

— 1 Kings 10:22 (NKJV)



GOLD | SILVER | IVORY | APES | MONKEYS



A THREE-YEAR VOYAGE

A journey so long that the ships returned only once every three years.

3 WHERE WERE "THE ENDS OF THE EARTH"?

Yahshua did not merely say that the Queen came from somewhere far away.

He said: *"She came from the ends of the earth..."*

If Solomon's ships undertook voyages lasting three years, how far were they travelling?

HOW FAR WERE "THE ENDS OF THE EARTH"?



Solomon's fleet may have sailed from Ezion Geber down the Red Sea, through the Bab al Man-dab Strait, across the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, and far eastward beyond human imagination.

4 SHE DECIDED TO GO

- ◆ The Queen had heard enough to become curious... but not enough to believe.
- ◆ So she travelled.
- ◆ She carried:
 - gold
 - spices
 - precious stones
 - and difficult questions.

She did not travel so far because she already believed. She travelled because she wanted to know the truth.



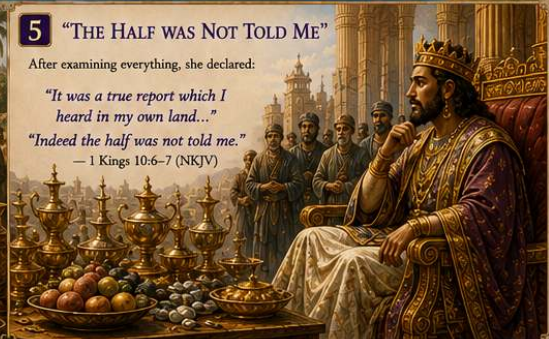
5 "THE HALF WAS NOT TOLD ME"

After examining everything, she declared:

"It was a true report which I heard in my own land..."

"Indeed the half was not told me."

— 1 Kings 10:6-7 (NKJV)



SHE HEARD



SHE JOURNEYED



SHE INVESTIGATED



SHE BELIEVED



WHAT WAS TRUTH WORTH TO HER?

Imagine a Queen hearing astonishing reports from a kingdom almost beyond her known world.

She could have dismissed them.
She could have sent ambassadors.
She could have remained safely upon her throne.

Instead, she went herself.

“She came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon.”
— Matthew 12:42 (NKJV)

THE PRICE OF THE JOURNEY

- ♦ rationed food
- ♦ carefully guarded drinking water
- ♦ cramped quarters
- ♦ primitive sanitation
- ♦ sickness
- ♦ storms
- ♦ dangerous seas
- ♦ uncertain winds
- ♦ piracy
- ♦ separation from her kingdom

WOULD SHE EVER RETURN?

THE LONG VOYAGE

1 DEPARTURE

Her homeland fades behind her.

2 OPEN OCEAN

Weeks become months.
Provisions grow scarce.
Rainwater is collected and carefully stored.

3 THE STORM

Enormous seas.
Fear. Prayer.
The vessel holds, by mercy.

4 THE CALM

Endless ocean...
Exhaustion...
But she keeps going.

5 ARRIVAL

After many months, land at last appears.



MONTH AFTER MONTH...



SEA AFTER SEA...



THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HER THRONE...



ALL TO DISCOVER WHETHER THE REPORT WAS TRUE.

SHE HAD HEARD SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY

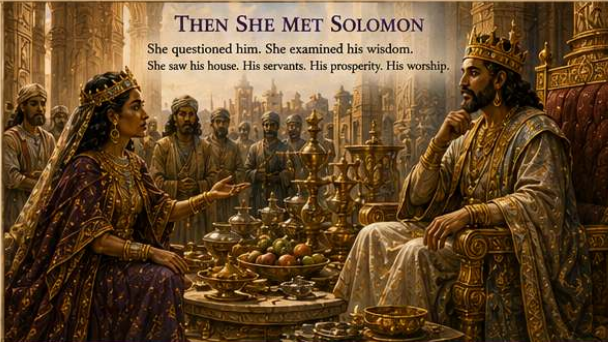
“Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD...”

— 1 Kings 10:1 (NKJV)

Her curiosity was not merely about Solomon's wealth. It was about “the name of the LORD.” Something she heard was so extraordinary that second-hand reports were no longer enough. She wanted to know whether it was true. And she was prepared to pay an enormous price to find out.

THEN SHE MET SOLOMON

She questioned him. She examined his wisdom. She saw his house. His servants. His prosperity. His worship.



AND SHE DECLARED:

“It was a true report which I heard in my own land...”

“However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes...”

“Indeed the half was not told me.”

— 1 Kings 10:6–7 (NKJV)

“THE HALF WAS NOT TOLD ME.”

She crossed the known world looking for truth— and discovered that the truth was **greater** than the report.

THE CONTRAST

This Gentle Queen was prepared to risk comfort, safety, time and perhaps even her throne to investigate Solomon...

YET THOSE STANDING BEFORE ONE GREATER THAN SOLOMON WERE UNWILLING TO INVESTIGATE HIS TESTIMONY.

SHE WILL RISE IN JUDGMENT

Therefore, she “will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it.”

— Matthew 12:42 (NKJV)



SHE HEARD THE REPORT. SHE PAID THE PRICE. SHE CAME. SHE SAW. SHE BELIEVED.

WITNESS ONE

NINEVEH

THEY HEARD—
AND BELIEVED

One reluctant prophet arrived
with one short warning:

*"Yet forty days,
and Nineveh shall be
overthrown!"*

— Jonah 3:4 (NKJV)

No Scriptures. No apostles.
No lifetime of teaching.

Yet:

*"So the people of Nineveh
believed God..."*

— Jonah 3:5 (NKJV)

They fasted. They humbled themselves.
They repented. And God spared the city.

THEIR TESTIMONY:

WE HEARD—
AND WE BELIEVED.

TWO WITNESSES RISE

*"The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with
this generation and condemn it; for they repented at
the preaching of Jonah, and indeed a greater than Jonah is here."*

*"The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with
this generation and condemn it; for she came from
the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon,
and indeed a greater than Solomon is here."*

— Matthew 12:41–42 (NKJV)

WITNESS TWO

THE QUEEN
OF THE SOUTH

SHE HEARD—
AND INVESTIGATED

She heard only a report.
But instead of dismissing it,
she was prepared to leave
her throne and undertake
an extraordinary journey to
discover whether it was true.

THEN YAHSHUA STOOD
BEFORE ISRAEL

Nineveh had—
One reluctant
prophet.

The Queen had—
One distant
report.

Israel had—
The Scriptures.
The prophets.
The miracles.
The words of Yahshua.
And the Sign He
personally gave them.

Yet Yahshua said:

*"INDEED A GREATER
THAN JONAH IS HERE."*

*"INDEED A GREATER
THAN SOLOMON IS HERE."*

When she finally examined
Solomon for herself:

*"I did not believe the words
until I came and saw with
my own eyes..."*

— 1 Kings 10:7 (NKJV)

And then:

*"THE HALF WAS
NOT TOLD ME."*

HER TESTIMONY:

I HEARD—
I CAME— I SAW—
I BELIEVED.

WHY WILL THEY CONDEMN?

Not because Nineveh knew more.

They knew less—
but responded.

These two witnesses will rise
in the judgment with
this generation.



Not because the Queen possessed
more evidence.

She had less—
but investigated.



THEY HAD LESS LIGHT—YET THEY RESPONDED.

WHAT WILL THEIR TESTIMONY SAY ABOUT US?

WHEN INHERITED BELIEF MEETS TRUTH

JEREMIAH 16:19 (NKJV)

"O LORD, my strength and my fortress,
My refuge in the day of affliction,
The Gentiles shall come to You
From the ends of the earth and say,
'Surely our fathers have inherited lies,
Worthlessness and unprofitable things.'"

"SURELY OUR FATHERS HAVE INHERITED LIES."

INHERITED—BUT NEVER EXAMINED

- From our parents.
- From our teachers.
- From our religious traditions.
- From generations before us.
- But Jeremiah describes a remarkable moment when the nations themselves discover that something inherited from their fathers was not necessarily true.

When God's Word challenges something we have inherited, which one will we examine?

THE TWO WITNESSES ANSWER

NINEVEH

They had inherited their own gods and traditions.

Yet when Jonah brought God's warning:

"Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

— Jonah 3:4 (NKJV)

"So the people of Nineveh believed God..."

— Jonah 3:5 (NKJV)

THEY REPENTED.

THEN CAME THE SIGN

They asked Yahshua for a sign.
He gave them one:

THE SIGN OF JONAH

"For 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 (NKJV)

THE QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

She had her own kingdom, culture and inherited beliefs.

Yet when reports concerning Solomon and "the name of the LORD" reached her:

"I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes..."

— 1 Kings 10:7 (NKJV)

SHE INVESTIGATED.

Neither allowed what they already believed to prevent them from responding to new evidence.
That is why Yahshua calls them as **witnesses**.

NINEVEH SAYS:
"We heard—
and believed."

WHY "GUILTY"?

The witnesses have testified.

THE QUEEN SAYS:
"I heard—
I investigated—
I believed."

THE ISSUE IS NOT WHAT WE INHERITED.
**THE ISSUE IS WHAT WE DID
WHEN TRUTH CONFRONTED IT.**

An inherited belief may explain why we believed something.
It cannot relieve us of the responsibility to examine it.

WHEN THE WORD OF GOD AND WHAT WE HAVE INHERITED
APPEAR TO DIFFER — WHICH WILL WE FOLLOW?

“THEY WILL RISE UP IN THE JUDGMENT...”

MATTHEW 12:41–42 (NKJV)

“The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.”

“The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.”

WITNESS ONE

NINEVEH

The men of Nineveh heard
one reluctant prophet.
They did not demand signs.
They did not ask for more time.
They believed... and repented.

WITNESS TWO

THE QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

She heard a report of Solomon's
wisdom and the fame of the LORD.

She could have ignored it.

She could have sent others.

Instead, she journeyed
from the ends of the earth
to investigate for herself.

THE SIGN

YAHSHUA GAVE THEM ONE SIGN.

Matthew 12:40 (NKJV)

“For 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.”

THEIR TESTIMONY:

**WE HEARD.
WE BELIEVED.
WE REPENTED.**

— Jonah 3:5 (NKJV)

JONAH

Great Fish



Three Days
& Three Nights

YAHSHUA

Tomb



Three Days
& Three Nights

THE
PARALLEL
IS THE
SIGN

HER TESTIMONY:

**I HEARD.
I CAME.
I SAW.
I BELIEVED.**

— 1 Kings 10:7 (NKJV)

**A GREATER THAN JONAH IS HERE.
A GREATER THAN SOLOMON IS HERE.**

GUILTY?

*Not because there was no evidence...
but because the evidence was never honestly examined?*

“HE WHO HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR!”

— Matthew 11:15 (NKJV)

TWO WITNESSES HAVE TESTIFIED

Nineveh:
We heard—
we believed—
we repented.

The Queen:
I heard—
I came—
I saw—
I believed.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Two Witnesses have spoken.
The Sign has been given.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH IT?



THE SIGN WAS GIVEN

Matthew 12:40 (NKJV)

*For 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.*

THE WISE CHOOSE LIFE

They examine. They believe. They obey.

LIKE THE WISE VIRGINS

Matthew 25:1–10 (NKJV)

- ◆ They took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
- ◆ They were ready for the Bridegroom.
- ◆ They entered in and the door was shut.
- ◆ They will reign with Him.

Life
or
Death
Deut. 30:19

THE FOOLISH CHOOSE DEATH

They ignore. They delay. They are unprepared.

LIKE THE FOOLISH VIRGINS

Matthew 25:1–10 (NKJV)

- ◆ They took no oil with them.
- ◆ They delayed and were unprepared.
- ◆ The door was shut.
- ◆ They were left outside in darkness and weeping.

You have been given
greater light than Nineveh.

You have been given
greater revelation than
the Queen of the South.
And you have been given
Yahshua—greater than
Jonah and greater than
Solomon.

**What will your
response be?**

THEIR CHOICE

I will examine God's Word.
I will believe the Sign of the Son of Man.
I will be ready when He comes.

I CHOOSE LIFE.

THEIR CHOICE

I will not examine.
I will not believe the Sign of the Son of Man.
I will not be ready.

I CHOOSE DEATH.

THE DECISION IS PERSONAL.

No one else can believe for you.
No one else can be ready for you.

Today—while it is called “today”—choose whom you will obey.

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

“...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

CHOOSE THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE.

I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you,
that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing;
therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;
that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice,
and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life...

— Deuteronomy 30:19–20 (NKJV)

**THE CHOICE IS YOURS.
THE RESPONSIBILITY
IS YOURS.
THE OUTCOME IS
ETERNAL.**

GREATER THAN JONAH. GREATER THAN SOLOMON.

THE CHOICE IS OURS.

EZEKIEL 36:26–27 (NKJV)

*²⁶ “I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
I will take the heart of stone
out of your flesh
and give you a heart of flesh.*

*²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you
and cause you to walk in My statutes,
and you will keep My judgments
and do them.”*

TWO WITNESSES.
ONE SIGN.
ONE DECISION
THAT LASTS ETERNALLY.

The Sign o f Jonah
Matthew 12:40

“For 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.