



JONAH

RUPTURED EXPECTATIONS

Brad Gray



Jonah 3

pg. 926



Black Sea

Italy

2800 mi

← TARSHISH

Greece

Asia Minor

650 mi

NINEVEH

Mediterranean Sea

Aram

Libya

Egypt

Arabia

Red Sea



Asia Minor

NINEVEH

430 mi

←TARSHISH

Phoenicia

Aram

Arabia

Egypt

The City of Nineveh

(~ 700 BC)



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עוֹד אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם וְנִינְוָה נִהְפָּכֶת

“Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.”



Jonah 3

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Prophetic Mood Swings





מַנְהָה (*manah*)



He [God] attempts to convince Jonah (and the reader) that the basic response of compassion for living things is more important than strict justice. God's primary argument is creational: "If you are moved to pity over the destruction of a vine you did not create, shouldn't I have pity over the destruction of people and animals I did create?" God loves all his creation, for he is "gracious and compassionate" (Jonah 4:2).

James K. Bruckner, *NIV Application Commentary: Jonah*, 96-97

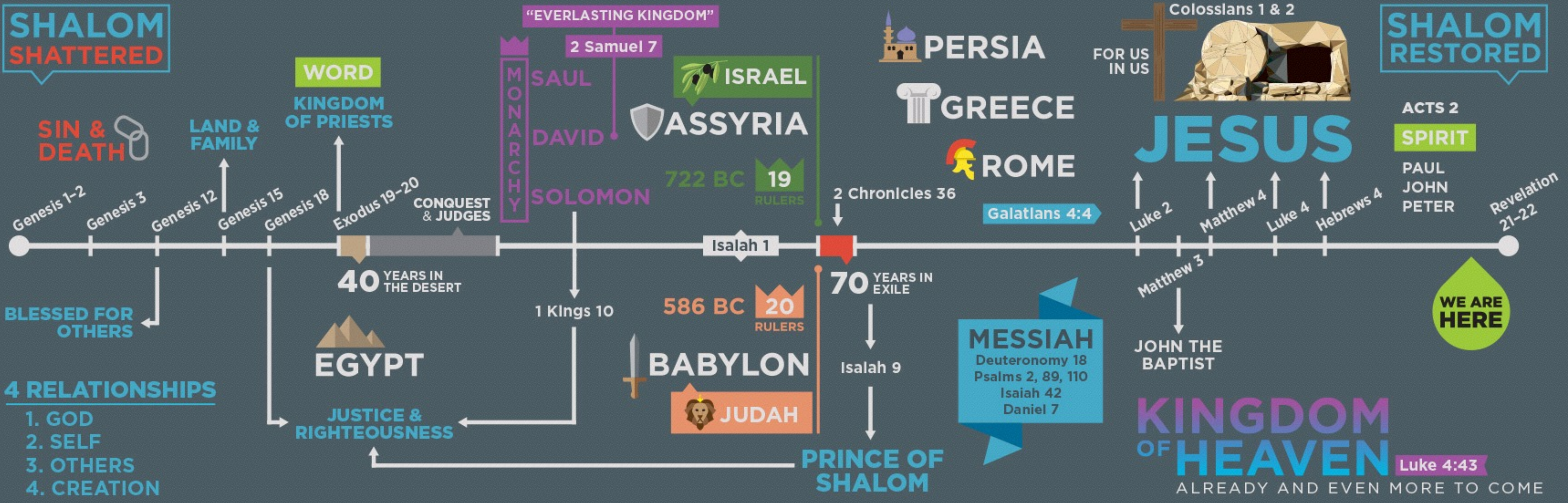


Will you allow yourself to see things from my perspective, and then act accordingly?

THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

SHALOM SHATTERED

SHALOM RESTORED





You have God who commands one of His prophets to reach out to the people of Nineveh.

You have a prophet of God who chooses not to listen to the very God with whom he claims to speak for.

You have a storm, fish, gourd, worm, and wind who obey God, but a prophet who does not.

You have a dude who ends up in the belly of a large fish for three days and three nights and doesn't die.



You have a pagan king and 120,000 people who hear five words, and they repent and turn to God.

You have the ancient day equivalent of ISIS, and yet God relents from sending calamity and extends mercy.

You have Jonah perfectly content receiving God's mercy to spare him from death, but when that very same mercy is extended to another, he wants to die.

You have the most successful prophet in the entire OT, and yet at the end of the story he is utterly lost.



This is a story that ruptures our expectations.



Matthew 16

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In our ruptured expectations, God desires to
birth something new within us.



How will you, when your expectations get ruptured,
allow God to birth something new within you?