> But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the Lord.’
> — *Jonah 2:9*

Book: Old Testament / Jonah
Topics: gratitude, obedience, sacrifice, Salvation

Interpretation:
The Book of Jonah is one of the prophetic books of the *Old Testament* and tells the story of a man who runs from God, disobeying His call to preach in Nineveh. *Jonah* is eventually thrown into the sea and swallowed by a large fish, where he remains for three days. In this *chapter 2*, Jonah finds himself in the belly of the fish and cries out to God for his salvation.

Thankfulness as a Response to Salvation

Verse 9 is an expression of praise and gratitude to God for His salvation. Jonah acknowledges that it is only by God’s grace and power that he has been delivered from the fish and has another opportunity to fulfill his mission. The voice of praise is a sacrifice given to God in recognition of His grace and love.

The Importance of Keeping Promises to God

Jonah also promises to fulfill what he told God in *verse 9: “But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good.”* In this sense, we can understand that offering praise is not only a verbal act, but rather involves concrete actions in accordance with what God has asked.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.
> — *Jonah 3:10*

Book: Old Testament / Jonah
Topics: conversion, evil, Forgiveness, grace, repentance, sin

Interpretation:
The message God commanded *Jonah* to deliver to the city of *Nineveh* was simple: the Ninevites must repent of their evil actions or face destruction. Although the people of Nineveh were known for their wickedness, they accepted Jonah's message and sincerely repented. When God saw the sincerity of their repentance, He repented of the evil He had declared they would do and chose not to destroy the city.

This verse has sparked much debate about God's repentance. Can God repent of His decisions? Is God fallible? However, the word *"repentance"* in this context does not imply a change in God's mind, but rather a change in His relationship with humanity. God is convinced of the sincerity of the Ninevites' repentance and changes His attitude toward them. This change in behavior *is an expression of God's mercy and grace*.

Jonah 3:10 also shows us the importance of repentance and conversion. The Ninevites not only repented of their evil deeds, but they also turned from their evil ways. This is a reminder to all of us that repentance must not only be a change in attitude, but also a change in our way of life. We must leave our evil deeds and follow the right and just path.

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