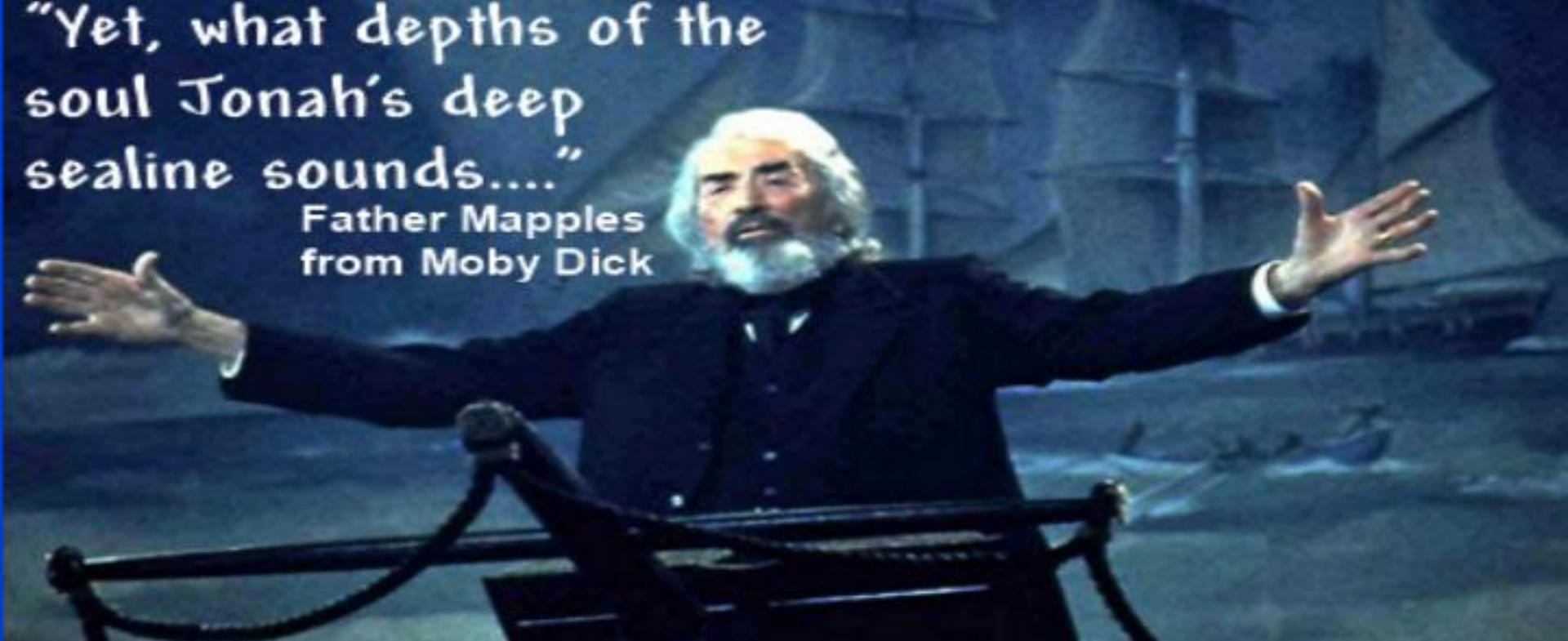


"Yet, what depths of the
soul Jonah's deep
sealine sounds...."

Father Mapples
from Moby Dick

- 
- The major theme of Jonah pertains to layman and leader
 - For Jonah, no thought could be more repellent than to do what God has told Him to do
 - It was very human to do what Jonah did: rebel
 - How could such a man as Jonah NOT be obedient?

JONAH CHAPTER 1

THE WORD

- *Way yehi debar Yehoveh* =
The Word of Yehoveh came
- 1) It is not “Lord” it is “Yehoveh”
- 2) Saying God’s name became taboo in the 4th century B.C.; saying a god’s name was critical information
- 3) “word of Yehoveh” is not speech: it is a manifestation of God called The Word John 1:14

NINEVEH of ASSYRIA



- People didn't have "last names" so adding "son of Amittai" to Jonah's name allows him to be identified
- Vs. 2 God tells Jonah to pronounce an oracle to Nineveh, Assyria
- Nineveh used in the Bible to represent "all Assyria"
- Nahum chapters 1, 2 and 3 deal with Nineveh

NINEVEH'S TROUBLES



- *Rah* can mean evil, misery, calamity, destruction, trouble
- No evidence of a divine threat
- Why was Nineveh receptive to Jonah?
- Nineveh was at a low point
- What *rah* is meaning is
 - 1) Nineveh was oblivious of their wickedness
 - 2) Wickedness caused their troubles

A LESSON FOR OUR DAY

- The USA used to be the envy of the world
- 50 years ago the definition of good and evil was vivid and accepted
- Today, we live in a post-moral society
- The new “morality” means whatever is legal is moral
- The pinnacle of our immorality has been reached: a belief in alternative and fluid genders



“But Jonah rose up...” ➤ The 1st characteristic God instilled in humans was gender; male and female



- Within the past 2 decades the foundational essence of humanity has been challenged by elites
- Nineveh thought their prosperity = proof of them being right
- **Qum** = rise up
- Jonah rose up to go the opposite direction!





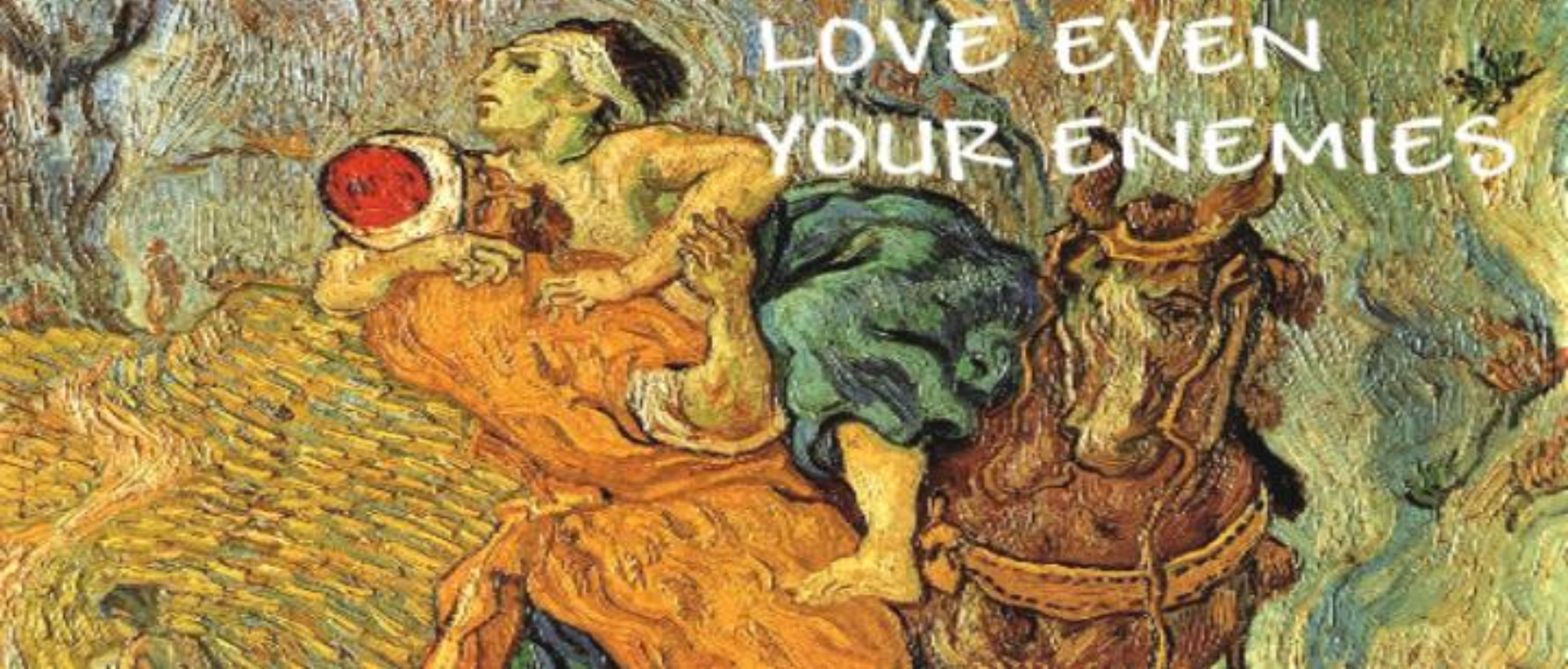
- Sometimes Tarshish is re-translated as “sea”
- Probably in southern Spain, called Tartessus
- “From Tarshish to Sheba” an expression meaning the known world from east to west
- Did Jonah actually believe he could escape from God?
- Jonah’s motivation to run away is given in Jonah 4:2

Thus says the LORD!


Jonah: the only rebelling Prophet



- Jonah was the only passenger mentioned
- Ships carried both cargo and people simultaneously
- Vs. 3 tells us Jonah's motivation:
he ran in order to escape God's presence
- The Father accomplished His goal in Nineveh
despite Jonah's effort to subvert it



- Douglas Stuart: ***“But to refuse to preach the possibility of divine mercy to one’s enemies...is simply too narrow a view of God’s love...”***
- Christ reiterated this same view in Matthew 5:43 – 48
- Even though Assyria was legitimately Israel’s enemy, Jonah was to love them as did God



THE
Storm
ON THE
SEA
JONAH 1:4-17

- The Hebrew word *tuwl* describes the way that God sent the storm
- *Tuwl* = hurl with force
- Humans are in awe of sea storms because they are beyond our control
- Paul shipwrecked 3 times and saw it as a sign
- John 3:16