

¹ثُمَّ صَارَ قَوْلُ الرَّبِّ إِلَى يُونَانَ ثَانِيَةً،² فَمَا أَذْهَبَ إِلَى نَيْنَوَى الْمَدِينَةِ الْعَظِيمَةِ، وَنَادَى لَهَا الْمُنَادَاةَ الَّتِي أَنَا مُكَلِّمُكَ بِهَا.³ فَقَامَ يُونَانُ وَذَهَبَ إِلَى نَيْنَوَى بِحَسَبِ قَوْلِ الرَّبِّ. أَمَّا نَيْنَوَى فَكَانَتْ مَدِينَةً عَظِيمَةً لِلَّهِ مَسِيرَةَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ.⁴ فَابْتَدَأَ يُونَانُ يَدْخُلُ الْمَدِينَةَ مَسِيرَةَ يَوْمٍ وَاحِدٍ، وَنَادَى، بَعْدَ أَرْبَعِينَ يَوْمًا تَنْقَلِبُ نَيْنَوَى.⁵ فَأَمَنَ أَهْلُ نَيْنَوَى بِاللَّهِ وَتَأَدُّوا بِصُومٍ وَلَبَسُوا مُسُوحًا مِنْ كِبِيرِهِمْ إِلَى صَغِيرِهِمْ.⁶ وَبَلَغَ الْأَمْرُ مَلِكَ نَيْنَوَى، فَقَامَ عَنْ كُرْسِيِّهِ وَخَلَعَ رِدَاءَهُ عَنْهُ، وَتَعَطَّى بِمِسْحٍ وَجَلَسَ عَلَى الرَّمَادِ.⁷ وَنُودِيَ فِي نَيْنَوَى عَنْ أَمْرِ الْمَلِكِ وَعُظَمَائِهِ، لَا تَذُقِ النَّاسُ وَلَا الْبَهَائِمُ وَلَا الْبَقَرُ وَلَا الْعَنَمُ شَيْئًا. لَا تَرْعَ وَلَا تَشْرَبْ مَاءً.⁸ وَلْيَتَعَطَّ بِمُسُوحٍ النَّاسُ وَالْبَهَائِمُ، وَيَصْرُخُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ بِشِدَّةٍ، وَيَرْجِعُوا كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ عَنْ طَرِيقِهِ الرَّدِيئَةِ وَعَنِ الظُّلْمِ الَّذِي فِي أَيْدِيهِمْ،⁹ لَعَلَّ اللَّهَ يَعُودُ وَيَنْدَمُ وَيَرْجِعَ عَنْ حُمُومِ غَضَبِهِ فَلَا تَهْلِكَ.¹⁰ فَلَمَّا رَأَى اللَّهُ أَعْمَالَهُمْ أَنَّهُمْ رَجَعُوا عَنْ طَرِيقِهِمُ الرَّدِيئَةِ، تَنَدَّمَ اللَّهُ عَلَى الشَّرِّ الَّذِي تَكَلَّمُ أَنْ يَصْنَعَهُ بِهِمْ، فَلَمْ يَصْنَعْهُ.

¹And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying,² Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.³ So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.⁴ And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.⁵ So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.⁶ For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.⁷ And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water:⁸ But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.⁹ Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?¹⁰ And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.