

# Before the THRONE

## The Devotional

Volume 3

The Prophetic Books

Jonah 2:1

“Now Jonah prays! From the belly of the fish, and boy, does he really begin to pray!  
Jonah 2:1 author’s paraphrase.

“Better late than never!” Even better to pray and obey before you find yourself in the belly of a crisis! Prayer will not always instantly deliver you from trials. In truth, prayer can get you into some troubles as well – just ask Daniel. (Daniel 6:11). But we can be sure of this – the prayer offered in faith will be heard by God and the answer will come! (Mark 11; 24; James 5:15 – 16). “This is the confidence we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us; and if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions we have desired of Him.” (1 John 5:14 – 15).

Had Jonah “prayed and obeyed” in the first place, we would not be reading about his prayer from the belly of the great fish. So, may we use Jonah as an example for us today? To “pray and obey” today will most certainly save grief tomorrow. However, if today, like Jonah, you find yourself surrounded by troubles and trials it is not too late to begin to pray!

Our God is both great and good. He can yet deliver you from extreme circumstances and He is willing to do just that – if you will only call upon Him. (Jeremiah 33:3; Joel 2:32; Romans 10:13). To neglect pray is both stupid and stubborn. Yield your pride and humbly ask!

“Father, today I come in Jesus’ name... ..”

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