

This will be *Part 4* of the current series entitled *Learning Through Jonah*.

Last week, we finished the sermon by ending on what is recorded in the last few verses of Jonah 2 here. We're going to go back there because there's more to build upon that wasn't completed that I wanted to be in this sermon here today.

So, back to **Jonah 2:5**, just to get some of the context here again, where he talked about how he said, **The water surrounded me to my life. In other words, to the losing of his life because it was a struggle. The deep parts turned me around. Weeds were wrapped around my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains. The earth with its bars closed behind me forever.**

So again, obviously writing these things much later, even much later than what we see when we complete the story here of what's recorded. But he learned some great lessons in a very hard way. Sometimes that's how we learn as a part of our learning process.

He went on to say, **Yet you have brought me up or brought up my life from corruption, O Eternal, my God. When my life fainted or was overwhelmed within me, I remembered the Eternal.** So again, some of this is a little humorous in that respect if you think about life and what we're like as human beings and the things that sometimes it takes to give us a good jolt. And that was a good jolt for him. It's a good time to remember when, you know, this is it. So anyway, that's what he needed, and God knew what he needed, and it's all for a purpose that these things happened in the way that they did.

**I remembered the Eternal, and my prayer went up to You into Your holy temple.**

Then **verse 8—Those who observe...** In other words, do what is given, practice, or live **empty vanity**. "Those who observe empty vanity," which is a matter of relying on self, which is just typical human nature. We tend to do that, meaning that God isn't put first, placed first in our life. If God isn't first in our life, self is what we're relying on; we're relying on self.

And that's why prayer is so important. Because if we don't do those things and we're not asking for God's help, not asking for God's spirit day by day to dwell within us, for God to dwell within us and Joshua the Christ, then we are relying on self.

**...empty vanity**, it says here, **forsake or lose the goodness**, if you will. I don't like the word "mercy" in the Old Testament. We've talked about that anyway. But it's about the goodness, it's about the grace, if you will, that God gives to mankind, the kindness and the favor that God gives. So, it has more to do, more related to, or more closely related to the word "grace," really, than it is the word for "mercy."

So again here, **Those who observe or practice empty vanity**, relying on self, **forsake**. The word in Hebrew means “lose.” That's what we lose then. If we rely on self, this is what we're going to lose. We're going to lose God's grace, God's favor, God's help. That's not smart, obviously. Some very important things here covered in the sense of what Jonah was going through.

Let's turn over to Proverbs 3. We'll come back to the story flow here in a moment. But Proverbs 3 fits in quite well here because this matter of remembering God doesn't have to be at a time of stress or trouble or hardship in one's life, though obviously we want to make sure we do that. But it's something we should do constantly, day by day, remembering God, remembering to put God first.

So it says here in **Proverbs 3:1—My son, do not forget**. In other words, remember. **...do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commandments**. And so again, great way of expressing this, that it has to be something that comes from inside, from the innermost part of our being, this feeling, this belief, this attachment we have to God's law, to God's way of life, to everything about God, the word of God, and what it means to us. So that's why we would want to put God first because it's so close to us and what we believe and what we hold dear.

**...for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you**. It doesn't necessarily mean in this life. Because we don't live in a peaceful world, and we have things that happen in life. Death happens in life. God lets us experience a lot of things in life, and those things are short-lived as far as human life is concerned.

This is about a promise of that which goes beyond human life. “For length of days, long life” –that's what we desire, that which is beyond this human existence. “...and peace.” Because you don't find it as a whole in this world. We can have a peace in our life to a degree in a relationship with God, which we should cherish, obviously, but the real peace we really want and the long life we really want is after this physical life.

Because, to be candid with you, I don't want a long physical life. I think it's a bad thing, a foolish thing if people want to hold on to life to the last scratching moment – scratching for life, you know. You get to a point in life where the quality of life as human beings gets to a point where there really isn't much quality to it. I would far rather just go to sleep, you know, just like that, have it over with.

So, I'm not looking forward to having a long life physically. I am looking forward to having a long life forever in God's Family, and that's our goal. That's our desire. I know of an individual who wanted to live to be 120. I thought, “Are you nuts?!” I didn't say that, but that's what I felt. You don't know what you're asking for. You don't know what you're saying. Your mind probably won't be there. Anyway, we won't go there.

**For length of days and long life and peace will they add to you. Let not...** Again, it uses that word, “mercy.” But **God's goodness**, don't lose it. So, don't let it go; hold on to it. **Don't let God's goodness** or

**His grace and truth forsake you.** They go together. Awesome. What we receive from God, what we understand about God, the truth of God, and when we grasp it's about grace, what God is offering to us, awesome.

**Bind them around your neck.** In other words, this is what's valuable to you. You know, like an expensive necklace, whatever, gold, beyond that, whatever. Keep it close to you. Cherish it. Bind them around your neck.

**Write them on the tablet of your heart.** So, it means that should be deep inside of us. **And so find favor.** Again, graciousness, grace, if you will. **...and good wisdom in the sight of God and man.** In essence, this is what we can receive from God. We can receive wisdom from God by this kind of attitude, by expressing or having this kind of attitude, and receiving favor from God. Because that's the only way we can grow in truth and greater understanding, is by being close to Him. He just gives more and more to us; life gets greater and greater as far as a oneness and unity with God. **...and good wisdom.** Good wisdom only comes from God. Beautiful.

**Verse 5—Trust in the Eternal with all your heart.** That's a biggie. Put your trust in God. That's how we should think in all things. And generally, that's probably tested the most when we're going through a difficult time, a very hard time. Put your trust in God. Whether He intervenes right then or not, that's the test. That's really the big test. Do you trust in God regardless of what happens in your life? We want God to intervene for us quickly, and He doesn't? Well, we can learn from that. God hasn't abandoned us.

What could be greater than having a relationship with God, knowing that we're at one with God, knowing that we're able to grow in truth, and maintaining a right spirit and a right mind through all of that in a matter of trust in God? Our life is in God's hands, whatever happens. And if we really believe that with all of our being, we're going to be at peace with that. We truly are. We're going to be at peace with that, no matter what we experience, no matter what we go through.

I think of what the early Church went through. They went through some hideously hard things on a physical scale. You know you're going to be taken into a room and have your head chopped off? I mean, this is what happened to people. It happened to John the Baptist, happened to a lot of them during the Roman times, Roman occupation, which is all they had anyway, Roman occupation. Incredible, the periods of time they went through. Or to be put on a pole? Crazy stuff.

Floggings? It happened commonly more than the death part. Or sometimes both. And to know that you have a relationship with God and that God hasn't abandoned you? The things that Christ said were written for our learning. "Father," in essence, "Why have You forsaken Me?" He didn't, and He knew that. But it's written for our benefit. And He knew it with all of His being because of all that He said in addition.

**Trust in the Eternal with all your heart and don't lean to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.** So, over and over again here in Proverbs, beautiful scriptures here about what it's talking about and a kind of relationship we're to have with God.

**Do not be wise in your own eyes.** Over and over again here, "Don't rely on self. It's the opposite of wisdom," which means it's kind of dumb. Well, that's actually really dumb, foolish to be wise in our own eyes, to get lifted up and think we have the answers, or an answer. Unless it's in absolute agreement with God, we have to be careful in all of our judgments and all of our thinking, to know this is of God, that it agrees with God.

**Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the Eternal.** That means to fear moving away from God in any fashion or form. It's just saying here already, "Remember; don't forsake." So, like Jonah did, to move away, to run away from, we don't want to do that. We don't want to move in the wrong direction. "Fear the Eternal." We should fear doing that because we as human beings have that ability. It's a matter of choices we make day in and day out all of our life.

**...and depart from evil.** It shouldn't even have to be said, but again, it goes with us because that's a part of the process of what we have to fight and what we have to address in our lives.

Back to Jonah. So, we don't have to wait until we're in the worst situation possible in life. But if we are, to know that we're in God's hands; whatever happens, so be it. Either we can learn from it and/or others can also learn from it—awesome—to their benefit.

**Jonah 2:8—Those who observe (practice) empty vanity,** in other words, relying on self, **forsake** or lose, in essence, **God's grace.**

**But I will sacrifice to You.** Now, we understand what this means for those called by God. It's not a matter of an animal sacrifice. That's not what it's about. It's about what we sacrifice in our lives. And the greatest thing, in essence, we sacrifice, is self. It's what we said at baptism: Self belongs to God, "I belong to God." When we enter into that agreement and that oath, that's what we want. We want to be in God's care. We want to be under God's way of life and in agreement, and unity, and oneness with God. That's what we chose, regardless of what happens to us in this physical life because it's leading to that which is far, far greater. And we have to go through many things, and a lot of them are very, very hard. They're not easy.

It was never meant to be easy. Fighting self is not easy. It's hard. You have to be consistent at it. Because when you let up, you're going the wrong way. You're running away from God. You're not putting God first.

"But I will sacrifice to You." So, we have to sacrifice our will to do, to choose God's will. And the more we do that, the wiser we become, the closer to God we become.

**...with the voice of thanksgiving.** I love this because this is so lacking in human life, and sometimes in our lives in a relationship with God. If our mind and our heart is right toward God, we'll always have thanksgiving there, we'll always be grateful to God for what He's doing and how He's doing it in our lives, for what we're able to experience good and bad in life in order to be molded in fashion to be in His Family. Because that's where we're headed. That's what we want. That's what we chose. It's what we're choosing day by day.

**...with the voice of thanksgiving, I will pay what I have vowed.** I can't help but think of the series we've just been through, talking about the oath we made at baptism, the oath God made with us when He called us, the oath that's for all who are called, and then the ability to enter into that, that we make oath with God, and what we promise. Awesome. It's beautiful.

“And with thanksgiving.” Always, always, always, and the more we can even learn to be thankful for things in this physical life, even toward others and sometimes one another within the Church.

I think of what an awesome blessing it is that we're able to have fellowship with others who are on the same journey. Not all have had that. Not all even have that right now because we have some that are so scattered and so far from others, and unable to travel. What an incredible thing when you're able to have fellowship. Awesome. A family of people who are going through sufferings, who are going through difficult times, just like you are. We're not the lone ranger, not a one of us. We just may go through things at different times in different ways, but we all have to go through things in order to be molded in fashion.

**With the voice of thanksgiving, I will pay what I have vowed.** That's quite a promise, “I will pay what I have vowed.” “I'm going to do what I have promised. I'm going to keep my word because I don't want anything else. You first. Your way first,” and all that you add to that because He gives us a family and gives us so much more beyond that than later on.

**...I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the Eternal. The Eternal spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah onto dry land/onto the land.** So quite a story. Incredible what he went through, what he experienced.

This is where we left off. I want to read one other Psalm here. **Psalm 50:14—Offer to God thanksgiving.** It's an offering. That's what we offer up to God. Even in sacrifice, sometimes it's a matter of grasping and understanding what we have with God and what we have if we just have the world, if we just have our own way.

**Offer to God thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High.** Be truthful to your word. Strive. That's a matter of character that we can grow in. And the more we're able to do that, the more we grow in godly character. Truly.

**Call upon Me in the day of trouble.** It's what God says, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble." We should call upon God on a regular basis. Obviously, we understand that. But especially in the day of trouble. He wants to help us through. It doesn't mean He's going to remove it. So often people can think that God has to take it away or He's going to take it away or I've lost favor with God. We can get down and whatever. That's so untrue. That's so not God. If we could just grasp that is not God, the way God thinks toward us. How we could ever have that come into our minds about God is really looking down upon God in a way that we shouldn't. The truth isn't there, then, something's wrong; something's wrong in our mind. Hope we understand that.

And He says, **I will deliver you, and you will glorify Me.** So, we have a path. We have a journey. Things that God has given us to do that we're not to run away from, that we're not to turn away from, but to continue moving in a particular direction to do a work to do and finish a work that God is doing in us, to yield ourselves to that process. And to do so with gratitude; to strive to be truthful to God, to keep our oath to God, that that should be so incredibly important to us to want to do that, nothing else but that. And then when trouble comes, to cry out to God and to know He's there to help you through it.

He doesn't abandon us. He never turns His back on His people. We are the only ones that can turn away from God and separate ourselves from God by not doing the things that we're supposed to do in a right response to Him. So, if we ever think different than that, something's wrong that needs to be corrected spiritually in our lives.

So, when we look at some of this, of what Jonah had to say here, "With the voice of thanksgiving, I will pay what I have vowed," he didn't do it right away. He didn't do really well after he got spewed out on the ground. He went through some more difficult time. He had to see some things in himself that he didn't see fully yet, and he hadn't come to grips with all that. So, this is written later and shows a mind and a desire he has later. He might have had that desire even after he spewed out, but he wasn't there yet because he had some more lessons to learn. And again, kind of a comical story here in regards to human nature and what we're like and how we can think.

So again, there are many times in life that people who are called, we don't do well, we don't respond in the way we should with the kind of thanksgiving we should.

Let's go on to **Jonah 3:1—Now, the word of the Eternal came to Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh.** So, we'll see how good the hearing is. He does it. He goes to Nineveh. But not in the best attitude because he's suffering. God didn't take his suffering away. He's suffering because of being where he was for three days and three nights. And being in just salt water alone, let alone anything else that might have been close in the gastric area that could begin to tear down your body. But just if it were salt water alone it would do a horrible number on your skin, truly. But this is a part of what he was going through as the story continues here, that's easier to see.

So, God spoke to him again, told him, "Go to Nineveh." Now, when it says, "God spoke to him," there's a way that God communicates to the mind, and he knew from God that this is what he was supposed to do. It's not a matter of having to hear a physical voice or anything of that nature.

Jonah had been worked with for some time; He was a prophet of God. We'll get to some of that in a moment here. But he was a prophet of God and had been sent to do other things as well. This was one he really didn't want to do. Perhaps because of some of their history and where they were in time. Perhaps because of his age. Because he may have been a very, very old man at this point. Which I believe he was. No way of proving some of these things when you go through and read some of the things that are written about them, commentaries, and so forth. They jump all over the place, and they mess up some of the story so much. But they try to figure out what time period he lived in. Well, it doesn't take a genius to figure part of this out, to get pretty close to where it was.

So, it came to the second time. **Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out to it the proclamation that I tell you.** So, He told him what to say to them. We don't really know all of it; we know a part of it. He said more than what he's recorded here. **So, Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Eternal.**

**Now, Nineveh...** This is poorly translated right here. It says, "**was an exceeding great city.**" It actually has the word "Elohim" in this, and some translators don't even recognize that. So what's really being said here, I'm just going to read it rather than going into the explanation: **Now Nineveh, before the Eternal, had become a great city.** So again here, it's something that happened, and it's just being recognized here and said this is before the Eternal, and this is what God saw, a great city, and He had a desire to send Jonah there.

And again, I believe with all my being, they'd been prepped and ready for this for a long time. This wasn't just something that just happened, that "Oh boy, they responded! Wow!" God prepared them for it, for this book to be written in the manner that it was to teach the things that it does.

So again here, **Now, Nineveh, before the Eternal, had become a great city of three days,** the word is **walking.** So, that's how long it took to get through it or to get around it. Whatever it means here, it doesn't fully say.

**Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown.** So, God told him to tell them a certain thing, that when he began to proclaim it, this is what he was to proclaim: "In forty days..." So, on the first day, the countdown has begun. So, this is what he said.

**Now, the people of Nineveh believed God.** Why on earth? How? Was it just because they saw Jonah? That was a part of it because there are things that they believed. I think of the thing that fits on top of a person's head at times. In history, it's a fish's head. That's how it's designed. It's like a mouth of the fish

and this big ole' tall thing. Anyway, this is where it comes from. It's part of the bringing in of different religions, like the Romans did, and mixed things together, and this was part of the product of it.

Because this was a kind of belief that was held in various regions of the world, of a worship. I mean, look at what the Egyptians did. They had about everything imaginable of creatures that they kind of worshiped and had superstitions about. So, a fish isn't all that bad in a gentile world. Just kidding.

So, was it just because of this that they knew here is a man who's been inside of a great fish and he's alive, and he's told us it's been three days that he was in it. Did they have reason not to believe him? Because more had to be said here than just what was proclaimed. There are other things they had to have because that's how carnal human beings look and think. And especially if his skin was really bad, perhaps partially bleached out. We don't know the whole story.

But they believed this was from God, and they responded to this. It doesn't give a good timeline here. And if the timeline is around the time after Sennacherib's army was destroyed, then this makes a whole lot more sense, because it's in this area somewhere. That's why I look forward to some of these stories coming together fully, where we really know everything, because then this would have caused people to think differently than they might have otherwise toward God, toward this God of this prophet because of things that they had already been experiencing.

Because it was after that that they actually moved, that this part of the world moved down into Nineveh and started a great city. This is when it had most of its beginning, in the sense of a great city. After Sennacherib's being conquered, and the king who followed him. So again, we don't know one hundred percent, but if it is, he was possibly in his late 80s, early 90's.

Now, I'm going to be 77 before long, and I can't imagine being in a fish for three days and three nights, and I can't imagine what my body is going to feel like if I were to live on that much longer. But I know it's not going to be good. That's just the way we are as human beings. Because if you experience some aches and pains as you go along, and more, you know, are coming, oh, it's not necessarily the grandest time of life. It's tough. And so many have said, it's not for sissies. So, if he were of that age?

I can't help but think of Herbert Armstrong and his age, and how you could tell at times when he came out and started speaking. It looked like he could barely make it to the podium. And then he would beat his hand on the podium. You could see his fingers, and they're just wrinkled up, on the videos that were there, and you think he'd break the bones in his hand. I mean, it wasn't small when he hit the podium. When he was giving some strong correction about something, he hit the podium hard.

And when I think of Jonah, I think of he very well could have been, because a lot of different ones live that long, you know, in serving God.

So again here, the story says, **Now, the people of Nineveh believed God.** So, they believed what Jonah told them. **...proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth.** It's really an incredible story that people would do

this, a people who didn't know that much about that God. Now, there are things they knew, different countries around knew about Judah. And how much, we don't know, but there are certainly things that they grasped and understood.

So, this here, to me, is an incredible story when you read through it, and it says they decided. This is how they're going to respond. They wanted to fast and put on sackcloth. And whether that was a custom in the region or whether it was something they had understood that came out of Judaism (because they were all over the world), we don't know. It's why I can't wait to hear the whole story and the true story all the way through.

It says, "proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth." So, they humbled themselves. They didn't have this belief in Almighty God, but if it especially happened around that time, and they knew the stories of what happened to Sennacherib? You remember the story of Sennacherib's army? God destroyed them all, and he had to go back into Assyria in shame. I think one of his sons rose up and killed him. I have to go back and brush up on the story. But I think that's what happened to that particular point in time. You think what a horrible thing that he brought such shame to the nation, and the choices he made, of what he wanted to do by conquering, that they turned against him. People are kind of fickle (like in politics and other things).

**...proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them.** Everyone joined in. So, this had to be worded around a lot. This is a great city before God. This wasn't a small thing. Three days walking? A lot of people.

**Then word came to the king of Nineveh, and he rose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.** This is what they did in Judah when the strongest of kind of repentance would come along. So, some of these customs? I'm glad we don't have to do that on Atonement. Go out and find some ashes. I don't know what this all means, but anyway, it's like, okay. Especially this time of year?

Anyway, **verse 7—Then he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast... No animal. Not the livestock. ... herd, nor flock, as it says, taste anything.** You're not to feed them. They're not to be put out in pasture if they're locked up, whatever, ever how they were taking care of them. **Do not let them eat or drink water.** Incredible.

So, everyone, including animals, were to go through this experience of a fast. Now, we should be in awe of this, that a nation of people, an entire city like this (because it was big), would do something like this.

**Verse 8.** And it went on with a decree: **But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth and cry mightily to God. Yes, let everyone turn from their evil way.** So, it wasn't just a matter of trying to save self; it's a matter here: "We need to change because this is why this is being said." So again, more had to

be said, and there had to be more that they knew and grasped from what Jonah was telling them, “We have to turn from evil.” Because there was a reason why God says, “Forty days, and this city is going to be destroyed.” Incredible.

**Who will tell if God will turn back and be comforted?** Now, I think it uses the word “repent” there, but it's not anything to do with repentance. This is a word that's used in a manner, when it's referring to God, that it's a matter that He made a judgment, the time had come to destroy because they had gone so far, too far, in things that they were doing and how they were living, that God made choice He was going to destroy them. That was His judgment.

And so, God's desire by sending Jonah there (there are some great lessons in this, of what's being taught) is that they would repent, and then God would be comforted in the sense that He doesn't have to destroy them. Because He'd far rather see people saved, He would far rather see people repent. It's a beautiful thing. “If people will just repent and turn from their evil way and humble themselves before Me...” then God shows incredible mercy. Awesome. Grace, graciousness to them, favor to them for such a response. Not to be worked with as a nation of people, but for this experience here, and to receive life, to be able to continue on with life.

**Who can tell if God will turn back and be comforted, and turn back from His fierce anger?** Again, that's the human side of seeing this because this is how they dealt with and understood things, and this is how most of the world understands something on a physical plane. That because it's a matter of a judgment, and it's a matter of death, that He's angry. Well, displeased? Absolutely. But not in the terms of we think as human beings when they get angry. This is absolute control of life in the sense of being able to deal with something and make a judgment that is righteous in every way, “This has to end. It has to come to a screeching halt,” as so many things through time God brought them to that point.

**...so that we might not perish.** So obviously, a part of that. We don't want to perish. So, we want to respond in the way that we know we're supposed to. They knew they were supposed to repent. They knew they were supposed to turn from their evil ways. And so they did this through the process as well of fasting. Did they receive this from Jonah? I don't know. But they sure did it in the right way, so they had to have known something.

**Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil ways.** So, it wasn't just a bunch of words; people started making some changes in the mind. God knew when some people were convicted in their mind and their thinking that there are certain things they're not going to do anymore. They had that conviction, and God knew that. They're turning from their evil way.

**...and God was comforted from the evil.** In other words, the evil that He was going to bring upon them in the sense of total destruction. **...that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.** So again, what an awesome story. To me, it's absolutely amazing. And to know that God had prepared them for these things?

Let's turn over to Luke 11 before we continue on, Luke 11:29. This is how important this was, that it would be used later on in scripture, not just as a matter of Jonah being in the great fish for three days and three nights that was attributed to that which Christ had as a sign; this was a sign for Nineveh.

But it goes on to say here, **Luke 11:29—Now, while the people had gathered together, He began to say,** Joshua did, **this is an evil generation who seek a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.** So, this is how important it was indeed. God had prepared all this for a purpose, and this was what was going to be shown.

**For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites...** So, there's a lot here that isn't written in the book of Jonah, because Jonah, it says, was a sign to them. So, it had to have something to do with what they saw in him as well, and what God let them see in the sense of His presence. **...so also the Son of Man will be to this generation.**

Then it goes on: **The queen of the south will rise up in judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them. For she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon.** So again, showing here that the word about what was happening in Judah, what David had done, had already spread throughout the region. And then Solomon came along, built this incredible temple, and then God began to work with him in a way that matters of judgment were given to him of mind, to be able to judge certain things with help from God. And these stories went throughout not just Judah, but throughout the world.

And so, people heard about these things and judgments that Solomon had made and things that Solomon had said, and they marveled at his words. And so much so, it says, that she came from a long, long way to hear. So, this is part of the example here.

“The queen of the south will rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon.” She did this on a physical plane because she wanted to hear something that she believed that a God, not necessarily her god, but a God, because there were a lot of gods worshiped throughout the regions. But this God, there's a history that goes with it. They knew some of their history. These other nations knew and heard, had heard about, even though it was 400-plus years beyond. You think of the length of time coming out of Egypt, those stories were still around. Things about Judah, things about King David, wars that were fought and won. And so here, if she's willing to do this, a queen from a different region, because she wants to hear things that have drawn her? Awesome.

**...and indeed, a greater than Solomon is here.** Pretty powerful what He just said. She came all the way to hear Solomon say things of God, “and someone here is greater here in front of you,” in essence, as He was standing there.

**The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it.** Awesome! I think of things that are written in the book right now about Judah and what Judah did, what Judaism did in time – that they wouldn't acknowledge the Passover. Pride. It's just about pride, human pride. They were too important. They'd lose their jobs, lose their following, lose whatever. They're being recognized by people. Because that becomes far more important to so many people when they're in leadership like that, being looked upon, because that's what's great to them, to have the awe of people.

**The men of Nineveh will rise up with judgment in that generation and condemn it. For they repented at the preaching of Jonah.** Awesome! And look what Joshua did. Look at all the things that were said about Him. And even resurrecting the dead. Incredible! Healing leprosy, healing the blind, on and on it goes. Those who were lame, healing them. They knew these stories. People of Nineveh didn't see anything like that, know of anything like that. They just saw Jonah, and they were moved to change, to repent, and to fast.

**For they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed, a greater than Jonah is here.** Powerful words. It almost sends chills up and down your spine. To think, here's Christ, the Passover, he's going to be the Messiah, the one that supposedly they looked up to and wanted to come and save them, wanted the Messiah to come and save them from the Roman government. They wanted that for a long time. And then when He was there, it didn't come in the way they thought it should, it didn't come in the way of their beliefs. Because by that time their beliefs were so watered down, so distorted. Incredible.

So, once again, here, chapter 3, Jonah, the end of it. So, I think about things of judgment in the Great White Throne because this is what it's talking about, and those who have a different mindset. Because you see, that was a very evil generation. There's a lot of evil in the world, and there has been from the beginning, just because of mankind and the way mankind is. But there are certain periods that have been worse than others. Just like the period of time that led up to Noah and what God did to the earth at that time and those minds. Because they had so destroyed their minds...had lived so long in a physical human body, and the haughtiness of mankind was so incredibly great by that time.

To live that long? I can see, it should be easy to see, how haughtiness was almost totally unbreakable they were so bad. To even think of in the Great White Throne, how many are really going to change then? The majority of them? I believe not. Not by any measure. Because just because God gives another life to someone doesn't mean they will change what's already there, what they've already lived for 800 or 900 years. So, to live for 70 and to die, your chances, candidly, are going to be much better, if you understand. Human beings, we're something else, and what God offers is not owed to anyone. Choices, choices.

**Then God saw their works, that they had turned from their evil way, and God was comforted from the evil that He said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.** So, an incredible story here. And so, their minds were willing to change, and candidly, they're going to be easier to work with in the Great

White Throne. Because they know what they experienced, and you can't take experience away from people, what you live, what you experience, what's in your mind.

**Jonah 4:1—But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.** He didn't like what was happening. Why that kind of response, exactly? Little hard to imagine. What was he like?

**So, he prayed to the Eternal and said, O Eternal, was not this what I said when I was still in my country,** when he was still in Judah, **therefore, I fled unto Tarshish.** Do you know what he's doing? Justifying self, what he did, why he took off in the first place. "It's really Your fault, God. It's really Your fault. That's why I did this." He's not accepting personal blame or his own part in all of this, and realizing, "If there's something wrong, it isn't with God Almighty, it's with me." That's a great thing to know and believe with all of our being.

No one should ever blame God, and sometimes that's happened in God's Church. That's when I shudder and feel, "You don't know what you're messing with, with that kind of thinking." To do something like that against God? To not know God better than that after all He's done, after all He's given? "Therefore, I fled into Tarshish." Just common, base human nature.

**For I knew that you were a gracious God and merciful.** He's really adding it on here. "Why send me? Why do I have to go all the way up there and go to these people and preach this? There's more to the story here, and he just doesn't see himself yet.

**...slow to anger and filled with kindness.** Sounds good. But you know what? The protestant world can say nice things to God, about God. It doesn't mean they believe God. It doesn't mean they agree with God.

**...filled with kindness, one who desires to be comforted from doing harm.** Got that right. But what's your attitude here in saying that?

**Therefore, now, O Eternal, please take my life from me.** Now, I believe he was an old man, and in part I can understand part of this because he wasn't feeling too good right here. He was hurting. Nevertheless, it doesn't matter what you go through in life; you just don't blame God. You blame self. If there's something wrong, again, it's with us. It's never with God.

**Therefore, now, Eternal, please take my life from me, for it's better for me to die than to live.** "I did it. It's over with. Just let me go to sleep." He had more to learn. The learning wasn't over with yet. There's an opportunity to be molded and fashioned more, to be used more later, "Something has to change here. There needs to be some more repentance. You're not there yet. You haven't learned your lessons yet. You're still in a bad attitude. You're in wrong thinking. Let's get this right." Again, he definitely wasn't saying, doing what he said earlier that he wrote, which had to do with what he was feeling when it was written. You know, basically when he said, "with thanksgiving." He wasn't, he didn't have much thanksgiving here at all, really, nada.

**Verse 4—Then the Eternal said, Is it well for you to be angry?** Is this a good thing? **So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade until he might see what would become of the city.** So, was this now toward the end of the 40 days because he's waiting to see if it'll be destroyed. Did they really fulfill and do what they needed to in order for God to not destroy it? So, there had to be some thinking there along these lines.

Again here, these things are said for a reason – that he was in the shade. It wasn't just thrown in there. Because how often have you read about people wanting shade in the Bible? Well, this was pretty important here, so there's reasoning for it. Again, it's because of his skin and the sun and what it was doing to him, and the effect it was having upon him, and how he felt.

**Therefore, he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade until he might see what would become of the city. Now, the Eternal God prepared a plant.** Now, by the words that are used here, it's believed that it was either a kind of castor oil plant or a bottle gourd, what's called a bottle gourd plant. That's why I mentioned earlier about the gourd, the plant we saw in Hawaii, and then thinking about Jonah. And so, when I think of what it was, it was that kind of a plant because it grows fast, it has the leaves, and so forth, that can give shade.

And so, it says here **...prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery.** So, he wasn't just hurting; he felt miserable, really, really bad. And so, maybe he was short on hair like I am, I don't know. But it sounds like he must have been because the sun was hurting him and hurting his head.

**So Jonah was very grateful for the plant.** He was thankful, but for the plant. No mention of being thankful to God here, but he was thankful for the plant.

**But as morning dawned the next day, God prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered.** So, it can get into the base of something to where water can't come up into it anymore. And quickly, with that kind of sun and the heat coming down, it's going to wither quickly. That's exactly what took place here. So, now the sun's back, he's not so comfortable anymore, and the plant's gone.

**Then it came to pass when the sun arose that God prepared a dry east wind and the sun beat on Jonah's head so that he,** it says, **“grew faint.”** But it's a word that means “to cover it.” It has to do with the covering of his head, whether he found something else. It's about Jonah's head and had to put something on it in order to cover it from the sun.

**Then he wished death for himself.** So, here we go again. It's where he was in his thinking. He was feeling so bad during this entire period of warning Nineveh, of crying out to Nineveh like he did, and then going up here to the side of the hill and waiting to see what happens to Nineveh, and he's still hurting a lot. His body hasn't recovered. “Better for me to die than to live.” That's pretty low, I don't care what your age is. Now, understandably so, in many respects, as far as human life is concerned, sometimes there is that

point in life. But this has more in the story here. It's about a relationship with God. And you better be right with God before you die.

**Then God said to Jonah, Was it well for you to be angry about the plant?** “Was it well for you to be angry with Me, or to be angry that Ninevah has responded as they have? And then now a plant?” So, He's saying again here, "Was it well for you to be angry about the plant?"

**And he said, Is it well for me to be angry even to death?** So, not a good attitude for Jonah.

**Then the Eternal said, You have had pity,** in the sense of bemoaning or lament, to lament for, to grieve for, to sorrow for, **for the plant for which you had not labored nor made it grow.** See, that should spark something in his mind. God's a creator, God's all-powerful, and God gives life. And it was here, and he didn't thank God for it, but he was thankful for the plant while it was there, to the plant more than to God. That's so typical of human nature.

**...which came up in a night and perished in a night?** So, “You feel badly about the plant?” This is powerful what God is telling him, and he had to come to see this. **So should I not pity,** “Should I not bemoan, should I not have feelings toward, in that respect,” **lament for that great city of which there are more than 120,000 people who cannot discern between their right hand and their left, and much livestock?** And it was all going to be destroyed? Shouldn't there be greater feeling toward them, toward that?

It's like, “Jonah, do you not understand?” So again here, God doesn't want to see anyone have to suffer. I don't care what era of time it's been, but human beings cause their own suffering. We truly do. The things we do, we bring upon ourselves suffering, sorrow, anguish, pain, hurt, wars, grief, drama, drama, drama. That's the way we are as human beings. God shows us a different way. Incredible.

So again here, I think of lamenting for others (and this will be a part of our next sermon series), but it's some thought we should give to the story as well, about how we think about others. We're about to enter into the most horrific time in all human history, and there is going to be incredible suffering, and things are written about to the magnitude of what is prophesied to come to pass.

And so, these are kinds of things we need to ask ourselves, of how we think about the world and where the world is, and people in the world and what they're about to go through. Anyway, we'll leave that for the next sermon series, but this is a story we need to remember now as we go into that particular series.

Okay. Today, I have time for the news. Last week I didn't. Well, I did, but it was so hot in here. If it gets too hot, I don't function well, so I just quit to that part of the sermon.

I'm going to go through and read a few things. I've cut this down a lot, but I just want to read a few things because these things are shaping the world so fast, mindsets so quickly, of things that a few years ago you wouldn't dream were possible. If we could say certain things are taking place now, a few years

ago, people would have thought you were stark raving mad. That somehow the US would want Canada. I mean, well, Canada, yes, but kind of moved away from that now, a little farther over, Greenland. You think, "Oh, you've got to be kidding. That would be crazy, wouldn't it?" Anyway, here we are, and so many other things that are happening in the world. Absolutely incredible, insane.

You think of in the Supreme Court, you've got to hear something about, questions asking, "Can a man give birth?" You think how could anyone answer that and keep a straight face except one way? Well, no, you know. But, like, they won't even give that answer. So, you think how weird to live in an age when things like this are being discussed, man and a woman. And to think we've gone so far that we have to be a laughingstock of so many in the world, you'd think. At least to certain people in the world.

Also, just what's happening in other nations and things that are taking place. And just like Ukraine. You know there's never going to be peace in Ukraine and Russia. And the way Russia is, and how he thinks... Anyway.

This is from two to three weeks ago, just a few. I just want to read about, I guess, two main articles here. The question is asked: **How should Europe prepare for 2026?**<sup>1</sup> This was in the Kyiv Post, Ukraine, and it's about a matter of what's going to go on through 2026. And it states here: "It's time for the EU to switch to majority voting." Now, this is something that was stressed by an individual in Finland, but it's quoting this, and the point is Europe is talking now in ways that they have never talked in the past.

Things are being discussed that you think would never have come to the surface like this, but now they are. And it's all part of a change in mind and a change in thinking. We've always known they're going to be ten nations eventually. But how we would get there, we haven't fully known or understood. But more and more, there's this rhetoric going on that the EU is being pushed into a corner in a sense, because they're iron mixed with clay, but they won't make a decision. They won't make a final choice until they're just shoved right into it. And then finally, it will come out.

This is what's taking place, a change in thinking and being pushed to do something that they really haven't wanted to do because of past history, especially with Germany at the helm. And they're almost to the point where they're begging Germany now. Amazing, what's taking place. Because it's a different mindset, different way of thinking, especially when it comes to military, the use of power.

The article says: "The EU itself has great difficulties defining or even properly understanding its position in world politics—" Iron mixed with clay. How much more awesome of an example of something could you give prophetically so, to show what was going to take place at the end time in Europe, the last time? And this is what it's going to be, iron mixed with clay. Powerful, but so disorganized, and not in agreement, lacking agreement ability,

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<sup>1</sup> Eurotopics. "How Should Europe Prepare for 2026?" *Kyiv Post*, 4 Jan. 2026, <https://www.kyivpost.com/post/67389>.

“— let alone doing anything to strengthen that position. If the EU wants to strengthen its position in global politics and decide on its own affairs, it must get its act together.” So, there are people who see, “We got to make some changes if we want this to work, or it’s going to disappear.”

“— and at least in matters of security and foreign relations, move from the unanimity rule to qualified majority voting.”

Anyway, “Defying the new world order,” going on here, it says, “The new friends of the US in Europe are Hungary, Slovakia, and Belarus.” I had to take a double look at that. What do you mean Belarus, if you know what's going on there with them and Russia? But this is some of the thinking here, and it's like these are okay because they're kind of in the middle ground and you can work with them, but you can't work with Europe, the rest of Europe. That's a horrible state of affairs to come to that point where you feel that way. But this is how they feel about the United States.

“In countries such as Germany or the UK, the US regards the local pro-Russian right-wing extremists as its new allies.” Now, we see this happening in part because there are some who are saying things along those lines, totally. We know it's far from the majority, but it's still there. But Europe, this affects them powerfully, so it's changing the way they think, and this is what's in their mind and their mindset.

“There already are recognizable efforts to support forces that want to weaken or destroy the EU and its common defense structure — with the aim of fragmenting Europe by promoting national counter movements, bilateral agreements, protectionism, and the logic of geopolitical spheres of influence. ... Europe is increasingly falling into a trap in which the only chance of survival lies in mobilizing democratic forces and fighting fiercely to protect its principles, norms, and political realism.”

Cut to the short, basically, it's saying here they need to rely on themselves because they know they can't rely on the US anymore. And so, there's this divide that's taking place and this shift in their thinking, and they're talking about it more and more and more.

Then under the heading here: “Berlin must lead the way.” Mindboggling! “*Whether Europe can hold its own on the international stage depends above all on Germany, writes Spiegel columnist Henrik Müller (Germany):*” So, obviously, coming out of Germany but voicing this to the rest of Europe, and the rest of Europe kind of understands that's probably true if they're going to make any move at all.

“In 2026, it will become clearer than ever that the EU relies on its largest member state, or it will become even weaker. Germany faces the hegemonic question of whether to invest massively in stability and security – or risk chaos and war. Because there is no one else who can fulfil this role. Germany is the only country that is large and financially strong enough to guarantee European security. ...This is an enormous burden.” So, again here, there are those who have wanted to keep away from pushing Germany in the forefront, but now it's, to me, an awesome thing to understand they're actually thinking more in the

terms of no, they need to be pushed more in the forefront. “If we’re going to survive as a system,” the EU, “they need to take more of a role, and we need to take more of a role with them. But they need to be at the forefront of all this.”

It goes on to say, “Kyiv is the EU’s security guarantee.” “Since hopes for America’s protection rest on uncertain, if not illusory, notions, [Europe’s] leading capitals are already deeply pondering the design of a European collective security system –” Yeah, I guess I’ve seen too many sci-fi things. When you read about “the collective”? Anyway. “European collective security system – a kind of ‘European Nato’.” In other words, Europe, but not the US. “However, as creating this model would take years even if the political will were there, the key EU states and the UK are confronted with an obvious fact: the only real security guarantee for the EU at present is Ukraine and its armed forces. It is Ukraine that is delaying Russia’s aggressive plans against Europe.”

So, I can't imagine what it's like to be in nations over there and to realize Russia keeps pushing, and he wants back more and more, and all these things that happened before World War II. That's their life. That's their history. That's their thinking. And so, they're going to begin reacting to that more and more because this is what is at the forefront, and they want to survive, and they want to have this power, and they know they can't rely on this country anymore. At least that's what they, as a whole, totally feel.

Another one here: **German Chancellor Merz Says Germany Will Accept Responsibility for the Security of Ukraine and the Continent as a Whole.**<sup>2</sup> So, they're stepping up to the plate. “We're ready.” “German Chancellor Frederick Mertz signaled a landmark shift in the country's defense posture on Monday.”

Because it's kind of like Japan. They've held back a long time from wanting to be a powerful military again because of how the world saw what happened, because of World War II. And Germany has done much of the same because of the stigma that's gone along with all the atrocities that took place with Hitler and so forth. But now they're being pushed into a corner of “No, we're way past that. Let's get on with things.” And they're the ones to do it. Just like Japan's wanting nuclear weapons now.

So, it says, again here: “...the country's defense posture on Monday, declaring that Berlin is prepared to shoulder the responsibility for the long-term security of Ukraine and the European continent. Speaking at a high-level summit in Paris, Merz emphasized that Germany’s commitment would extend well beyond any potential ceasefire with Russia, marking a significant evolution in Berlin’s role as a regional leader.” So, they're stepping up more, and you can see how that, at some point here, they're just going to make a decision after something horrible happens in this world, whatever that is.

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<sup>2</sup> Kurt Steffens, “German Chancellor Merz Says Germany Will Accept Responsibility for the Security of Ukraine and the Continent as a Whole,” *NewsBreak*, 7 Jan. 2026, <https://local.newsbreak.com/altitude-post-361905032/4428534292720-german-chancellor-merz-says-germany-will-accept-responsibility-for-the-security-of-ukraine-and-the-continent-as-a-whole..>

Another one here: **German president says US is destroying world order.**<sup>3</sup> This is what they feel over there.

Another one here: **It may be a choice between NATO and Greenland.**<sup>4</sup> Who would have thought this day would come? This is what they're talking about. It's a choice between NATO and Greenland. What's it going to be?

Again, reading through these things because to see them in the perspective of their eyes, to think about those, and to realize we're nudging closer and closer and closer. At some point here, this is going to happen so quickly because that's what it's all about. So, in many ways, I know we want to see these things come to pass so we can be in God's Kingdom, have God's Kingdom begin to rule, recognize the world needs it, needs the Messiah. We're getting closer and closer to that, but it's in God's time, whatever that is.

That's why I marvel—I've talked to a few here today—marvel how that the economy of the world is still holding up. Some crazy stuff out there. Just insane stuff. Far, far worse than anything in 2008. And you look at it, and you think, "How is this...?" Well, there's a way God's allowing it to be sustained, to hold on, and then when everything goes, it goes all at one time.

Anyway, this past week, it says, **EU troops might be needed to stop a US showdown in Greenland.**<sup>5</sup> They already sent a few over. I think it was just a handful. And that one article, or the one thing that was said about "They have two dog sleds," it's like let's just get a whole bunch of salt and rub it in the wound now. Well, anyway, in some ways, kind of the truth is the truth.

"If cooperation or Greenlandic independence fails, a preventive EU troop deployment could avert a US confrontation on the island, German Green MEP Sergey Lagodinsky argues in an opinion article for Euronews. To counter this scenario, European troops, Danish or otherwise, should be positioned in Greenland in advance. This would raise the threshold for presenting Europe with accomplished facts on the ground." You think, to even be talking in those terms seems insane, but it looks like this is what they really feel, they really believe this, that it would be better to have a confrontation to keep the US away, than not.

"Second, clarity about consequences is essential. No one believes a war between the US and Europe is desirable or winnable." To even talk about that. "But a military move against the EU," which, if it's Greenland, this is what they're saying, "would have devastating consequences for defense cooperation,

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<sup>3</sup> "German President Says US Is Destroying World Order," *Reuters*, 8 Jan. 2026, <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/german-president-says-us-is-destroying-world-order-2026-01-08/>..

<sup>4</sup> Aleksandar Brezar, "'It May Be a Choice' between NATO and Greenland, Trump Says," *Euronews*, 9 Jan. 2026, <https://www.euronews.com/2026/01/09/it-may-be-a-choice-between-nato-and-greenland-trump-says..>

<sup>5</sup> Lagodinsky, Sergey. "EU Troops Might Be Needed to Stop a US Showdown in Greenland." *Euronews*, 9 Jan. 2026, <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2026/01/09/eu-troops-might-be-needed-to-stop-a-us-showdown-in-greenland..>

markets, and global trust in the United States. Not just in administration, but in the country itself. Preparing a list of consequences is grim but necessary.” Crazy stuff.

Another one here: **EU leaders appear more scared of Trump than apocalypse that will engulf the Earth in flames.**<sup>6</sup>

**Trump says US to 'start now hitting land' in Mexico targeting drug cartels.**<sup>7</sup> So, we're just receiving more and more the admiration of other countries in the world. I hope you see what's taking place. More and more, it's like, is there really any difference between them and China? Is there really any difference between them and Russia? I mean, this is what people are thinking out there. If you live in certain parts of the world, it says, "Well, if they can talk about taking Greenland, and Taiwan's far more closely associated with China, what would stop them then? Why wouldn't they think in the same way that 'This is fair,'" you know. This is exactly where we are in the world, and more and more of these things are going to happen, and we're going to see some dumb, crazy things take place.

**EU should consider forming combined military force, bloc's defense chief says.**<sup>8</sup> “EU countries should weigh whether to set up a combined military force that could eventually replace US troops in Europe, the bloc's defense chief said Sunday. European Union defense commissioner...” You know, and if you think about that, you think that “If another president comes along who was like one who pulled out of one area real fast, what if we get in more trouble, and they just pull them out,” again, “out of Europe? So, who do we trust?” Well, they have to trust in themselves. That's what they're being shoved in the corner on.

“European Union defense commissioner Andrius Kubilius floated creating a “powerful, standing ‘European military force’ of 100,000 troops” as a possible option to better protect the continent. ... In his speech, Kubilius also advocated for the creation of a ‘European Security Council’ of key powers — including potentially Britain...” It's amazing how Britain stays in there. Because they're still a part of this, and they have a powerful nuclear umbrella as well, in that respect, that can be used. But they keep meddling, or they keep working their way into this, and they're the ones probably pushing at Ukraine, with Ukraine, more than the rest of the continent – which is kind of mindboggling what's taking place with Ephraim. Strange.

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<sup>6</sup> Loftus, John. “EU Leaders Appear More Scared of Trump than Apocalypse That Will Engulf the Earth in Flames.” *The Daily Caller* via *MSN*, 12 Jan. 2026, <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/eu-leaders-appear-more-scared-of-trump-than-apocalypse-that-will-engulf-the-earth-in-flames/ar-AA1TUcSK..>

<sup>7</sup> Brezar, Aleksandar. “Trump Says US to ‘Start Now Hitting Land’ in Mexico Targeting Drug Cartels.” *Euronews* via *MSN*, 12 Jan. 2026, <https://www.msn.com/en-xl/news/other/trump-says-us-to-start-now-hitting-land-in-mexico-targeting-drug-cartels/ar-AA1TSY26?ocid=BingNewsSerp..>

<sup>8</sup> AFP, “EU Should Consider Forming Combined Military Force, Bloc's Defense Chief Says,” *The Times of Israel*, 12 Jan. 2026, [https://www.timesofisrael.com/eu-should-consider-forming-combined-military-force-blocs-defense-chief-says/..](https://www.timesofisrael.com/eu-should-consider-forming-combined-military-force-blocs-defense-chief-says/)

“— including potentially Britain — that could help the continent make decisions over its own defense more quickly. ‘The European Security Council could be composed of key permanent members, along with several rotational members,’ he said. ‘In total around 10-12 members, with the task to discuss the most important issues in defense.’” This is exactly what they're going to end up doing; what they have to do (and will fulfill the prophetic part of it), that they know that this is what they need to have. “The others can have part with the EU, but there has to be a core group who can make these decisive decisions for all when it comes to military and the use of it, and what we do.” They make the decision, not the rest of the nations. They don't have a vote like they all do right now.

**Ukraine War Latest: UK to Develop ‘Nightfall’ Missiles for Kyiv.**<sup>9</sup> So again here, they keep pushing their way in there. It's insane, but it's almost like they want a war. That's how their thinking seems to be more in the UK than any place else right now. I don't understand it fully, but it's there.

**European Defense Commissioner Calls for European Army to Replace American Allies.**<sup>10</sup> So, this is gaining momentum, and the more we talk about wanting Greenland and making efforts to get it, the more this is going to happen.

Another article here: **“What Will They Do?! Nuke the US?”** I mean, this is kind of profound when you realize, well... **...Russia Mocks Emasculated Europe As Trump Eyes Greenland**<sup>11</sup> So, they're throwing this out there. “It's interesting that Kremlin officials are **focusing their harsh rhetoric and condemnations on Europe and not the Trump White House**, and the reasons are clear. Moscow is trying to improve its bilateral relations with Washington, and to have Trump's ear related to the Ukraine war and crisis. ... He then mocked Europe's total inability to defend the island, asking: **‘What [will they] do?! ... Nuke the U.S.?’”**

Another one here: **Nato giant warns ‘it’s the end of the world’ if alliance crumbles over Trump Greenland threat – as troops land on island.**<sup>12</sup> Well, we know there aren't very many.

“POLAND has warned a Nato alliance collapse over Trump’s Greenland threats would be ‘the end of the world as we know it.’ It comes after crunch talks between America, Denmark and Greenland in

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<sup>9</sup> “Ukraine War Latest: UK to Develop ‘Nightfall’ Missiles for Kyiv – as Russia’s War Passes New Milestone,” *Sky News*, 12 Jan. 2026, <https://news.sky.com/story/ukraine-war-latest-moscow-uk-position-of-destructive-nature-says-russia-but-moscow-hails-step-forward-in-europe-12541713> (news.sky.com in Bing).

<sup>10</sup> Armstrong, Martin. “European Defense Commissioner Calls for European Army to Replace American Allies.” *Armstrong Economics*, 13 Jan. 2026, <https://www.armstrongeconomics.com/international-news/europes-current-economy/european-defense-commissioner-calls-for-european-army-to-replace-american-allies>.

<sup>11</sup> Tyler Durden, “‘What Will They Do?! Nuke the US?’: Russia Mocks Emasculated Europe As Trump Eyes Greenland,” *ZeroHedge*, 15 Jan. 2026, <https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/what-will-they-do-nuke-us-russia-mocks-emasculated-europe-trump-eyes-greenland..>

<sup>12</sup> Claudia Lee, “Nato Giant Warns ‘It’s the End of the World’ if Alliance Crumbles over Trump Greenland Threat – as Troops Land on Island,” *The Sun*, 15 Jan. 2026, <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/37924582/nato-warns-end-world-if-alliance-crumbles-trump-greenland-threat..>

Washington on Wednesday which failed to resolve the ‘fundamental disagreement’ over the mineral-rich island.”

“As tensions build, Poland’s Prime Minister Donald Tusk has issued a chilling warning. Speaking at a press conference he said: ‘An attempt to take over (part of) a NATO member state by another NATO member state would be a political disaster. It would be the end of the world as we know it, which guaranteed a world based on NATO solidarity, which held back the evil forces associated with communist terror or other forms of aggression.’”

Again, I hope we are moved by and understand these are not small things. That's why I'm taking all this time to go through all these articles, so that we're well aware of what's taking place in the world and to be on guard, to be alert. And then we'll have the sermons that follow this as well. But anyway.

Another one here; one last one: **Polish president slams EU as a 'fading star' while warning of Russian imperialism.**<sup>13</sup> That's from Euronews. Iron and clay. Incredible.

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<sup>13</sup> “Polish President Slams EU as a ‘Fading Star’ While Warning of Russian Imperialism,” *Euronews*, 16 Jan. 2026, <https://www.euronews.com/2026/01/16/polish-president-slams-eu-as-a-fading-star-while-warning-of-russian-imperialism..>