

# Jonah 4

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## Jonah's Anger at the LORD's Compassion

<sup>1</sup>But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. <sup>2</sup>And he prayed unto the LORD, and said: 'I pray Thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in mine own country? Therefore I fled beforehand unto Tarshish; for I knew that Thou art a gracious God, and compassionate, long-suffering, and abundant in mercy, and repentest Thee of the evil. <sup>3</sup>Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech Thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.' <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said: 'Art thou greatly angry?'

<sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his evil. So Jonah was exceeding glad because of the gourd. <sup>7</sup>But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd, that it withered. <sup>8</sup>And it came to pass, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and requested for himself that he might die, and said: 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

<sup>9</sup>And God said to Jonah: 'Art thou greatly angry for the gourd?' And he said: 'I am greatly angry, even unto death.' <sup>10</sup>And the LORD said: 'Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow, which came up in a night, and perished in a night; <sup>11</sup>and should not I have pity on Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand, and also much cattle?'