

Jonah – A Poem

There once was a young man called Jonah,
He owned not a mobile phone a
Fax or even 2 tins tied together with cord
But in his innermost being,
You know, without ever seeing
He knew he could hear from his Lord.

But when God told him his mission
You know he just didn't listen
He closed up his ears to the Lord
The word was to Nineveh
Biggest city of sin ever
God wanted that city restored.

He got on a boat Jo
He paid with his own "dough"
He hurried to climb right on board
To Tarshish they went west
But it blew up a tempest
Our Jonah just laid down and snored.

The seamen were scared mad
The sea it was so bad
The boat it was breaking apart
Their cargo they grew off
But it just wasn't enough
They were scared to the depths of their heart.

They woke up old Jonah
Who said "Throw me over"
It's my fault God's rocking this boat
They were worried to do this
So they rowed the boat - hopeless !!!
The boat was now barely afloat.

They prayed "Lord don't take us
It's Jonah who makes us
We believe that we do what you wish"
So Jonah they threw out
And the storm it just blew out.
And Jonah was ate by a fish

From inside it's tummy
He cried "I want my mummy"
No Jonah cried out to his God
For three days and nights there
He just offered this deep prayer
I will do what you tell me my God.

Now then Jo got his wish
'Cause God spoke to the fish
Who out of its mouth did Jo spew
But where should Jo go
He just wanted to know
I think deep inside that he knew.

So now Nineveh bound
I'm sure Jonah found
Great strength cause he followed God's way
T'was o such a pity
He'd not gone to the city.
It's a strange way to learn to obey.

But at last he had got there
And strengthened by much prayer
He delivered God's word straight and true
"Because of your bad ways
You've got just forty days
Before God destroys all of you".

The people of course
Were filled with remorse
And fasted and prayed that the Lord
Might not keep to his plan
To destroy every man
They hoped they might yet be restored.

You know even their King
To the Lord did he bring
His prayers and his cries from his heart
They turned from their sin
God just had to give in
As they promised to make a new start.

So then God spared the city
And again such a pity
Cause Jonah got angry and cried
God I knew cause you're kind
That you'd change your mind
You know I just wish that I'd died.

God said don't get up tight
To be angry is not right
You've got so much to learn of my love
So that Jonah would know
A plant did just grow
Giving shade from the hot sun above.

The next day a worm ate
The plant that had been great
And Jonah got all hot and fraught
For the plant he had cared
More than those God had spared
A lesson by God he'd been taught.

Now the lesson for us then
Is to keep our ears open
For the word of the Lord and just listen
To the nations to go
Or to stay home and show
How to live life for God - What's your mission?