

**THE PROPHETE JONAS WITH AN  
INTRODUCTION BEFORE  
TEACHING TO UNDERSTONDE  
HIM AND THE RIGHT USE ALSO  
OF ALL THE SCRIPTURE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649369232

The Prophete Jonas with an introduction before teachinge to understonde him and the right use also of all the Scripture by William Tyndale

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**WILLIAM TYNDALE**

**THE PROPHETE JONAS WITH AN  
INTRODUCTION BEFORE  
TEACHINGE TO UNDERSTONDE  
HIM AND THE RIGHT USE ALSO  
OF ALL THE SCRIPTURE**



**THE PROPHETE JONAS**

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BEFORE TEACHINGE TO

UNDERSTONDE HIM AND THE RIGHT USE

ALSO OF ALL THE SCRIPTURE,

Etc. Etc.

**BY WILLIAM TYNDALE.**

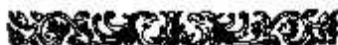
REPRODUCED IN FACSIMILE.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

**COVERDALE'S VERSION OF JONAH,**

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

**FRANCIS FRY FSA**



**LONDON:**

**WILLIS AND SOTHERAN.**

**BRISTOL: LASBURY.**

**1863.**



## INTRODUCTION.

**F**ROM the lively interest which has ever been taken by English Protestants in the productions of William Tyndale, the discovery of a long lost work from his pen must be regarded as of no little importance. It is therefore with pleasure that I present to the public, for the first time since the issue of the original edition, a version of one of the Prophets by this eminent man.

Tyndale, after the completion of his translation of the New Testament in the latter part of the year 1525, proceeded with the Pentateuch, which was printed in the year 1530. The only other portion of the Scriptures which he is known to have published, is this recently discovered version of the Prophet Jonah. It is generally admitted that, besides these published portions, Tyndale translated the Old Testament as far as the end of the second

book of Chronicles : these books were first printed in the folio Bible, 1537, under the assumed name "Thomas Matthew," edited by John Rogers, to whom Tyndale is known to have given his manuscripts before his martyrdom in 1536.<sup>1</sup>

As no copy of the Jonah, nor any reprint or quotation from the text, had been known to exist until the present day, it was doubted by some whether Tyndale *actually published* a translation of this Prophet. A few notices of Tyndale's book of Jonah, which appeared at an early period, had given rise to the belief that it had been published, though nothing was certainly known on the subject. Thus Sir T. More says, "Then have we Jonas made out by Tyndale/ a boke y<sup>t</sup> who so deleyte therin shall stande in parell y<sup>t</sup> Jonas was neuer so swalowed uppe wyth the whale as by the deleyte of that booke a mannes soule maye be so swalowed uppe by the deuyll, that he shall neuer have the grace to gett out agayne."<sup>2</sup> It is also mentioned in the List of Books denounced by Stokesly, Bishop of London, in a MS. in Lambeth Library. Anderfon says—"The proof of the existence of Jonas, and upon English

<sup>1</sup> "Anderfon's Annals of the English Bible," vol. i. p. 569.

<sup>2</sup> "The cōfutacyon of Tyndale's answere made by Sir Thomas More, knight, lorde chancellour of Englonde. Prentyd at London, by will. Rastell 1532." folio. Preface B-4 reverse.

ground *this year* (1531), is to be found in the list of books denounced by Stokesly, on the 3rd of December. It is the last on the list, 'Jonas in English,'—See Lambeth MS., No. 306, fol. 65."<sup>1</sup> Fox, giving a list of Tyndale's Works, says, "Item a boke called the prophet Jonas teching to understand the right use of scripture."<sup>2</sup> The Prophet Jonah is also noticed in the list of Tyndale's Works by Bale.<sup>3</sup> Burnet gives a document in his "Collection of Records," "The Names of Books Prohibited, delivered to the Curates, Anno 1542. to the intent that they shall present them with the Names of the Owners, to their Ordinary if they find any such within their Parishes." In the list is "The Book of Jonas in English."<sup>4</sup> Ames places it after the year 1537, without a date, 8vo.<sup>5</sup>

The prologue, preceded by the title, has come down to us in four editions of the Bible, and likewise in the collected works of Tyndale, by Daye.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Anderfon's Annals," vol. i. p. 290.

<sup>2</sup> "Fox's Acts and Monuments," 1st edit. p. 573.

<sup>3</sup> "Prophetiam Jonæ," Scriptorum Illustrum, &c., Bale, folio, 1559, p. 659.

<sup>4</sup> "History of the Reformation," 4th edit. 1715, vol. i. A Collection of Records, p. 240.

<sup>5</sup> "Ames' Typographical Antiquities," p. 497.

<sup>6</sup> "The Whole Workes of W. Tyndall, John Frith, and Doct. Barnes, &c., London, John Daye, 1571." folio.



It first appeared in 1549, in the second edition of Matthew's version, printed by "Thomas Raynalde, and William Hyll," and "Edmunde Becke's" revision of Matthew's version, printed by "John Daye, and William Seres." In 1551 it was inserted in the Bible printed by "John Daye," and in the last edition of Matthew's version, by "Nicholas Hyll" and others.

It has also been reprinted in the following modern editions:—

"Writings of Tindal, Frith, and Barnes. Religious Tract Society," 12mo., no date.

"The works of W. Tyndale and J. Frith, edited by T. Ruffell, A.M." in 3 vols. 8vo., London, 1831.

"Doctrinal Treatises, by Tyndale. Edited for the Parker Society, by the Rev. Henry Walter," 8vo., Cambridge, 1848.

The "Prologue" in the first and second of these works appears to be taken from Daye's edition, 1573; and in the third chiefly from the same, but compared with some of the editions of the Bible. The marginal references were first introduced by Daye, in 1573.

Henry Cotton, LL.D., Archdeacon of Cashel, in his very valuable work, is of opinion that the Jonah had been published. Under the year 1531,

he gives "The Prophete Jonas; translated by W. T. (Tyndale); with a Prologue or Introduction. No copy *certainly* known to be in existence at present. 8vo.:" and in a note is added, "the book has so completely disappeared, that I am not aware of a single copy remaining at this day." "From its total disappearance, some writers have imagined that the *Prologue alone* was put into print by Tyndale. But I think it is beyond all doubt that the text was also printed." Dr. Cotton also states that "Bishop Tanner, in his '*Bibliotheca*,' p. 403, mentions 'Prologus in Jonam cum *Jonâ* impress. seorsum in partibus transmarinis. 12°.'" "Mr. George Coningsby, who upwards of a century ago presented his fine collection of ancient Bibles to Baliol College, Oxford, affirmed that he actually possessed a copy."<sup>1</sup> The copy alluded to is not known to exist. Anderson<sup>2</sup> had no doubt that Jonah had been printed, but he argues from the evidence afforded by the Title and Prologue. Undoubtedly Tyndale intended that the translation should follow the Prologue. I can find no other notices relative to the publication of the Prophet Jonah.

On the other hand it appears certain that Tyn-

<sup>1</sup> "Cotton. Editions of the Bible in Eng. 2nd ed. 1851, p. 5."

<sup>2</sup> "Anderson's Annals," vol. i. p. 289.

dale's *Jonah* was but little known even in 1537: for the first edition of Matthew's version does not contain his translation, but that of Coverdale, word for word, as in the folio Bible of 1535.

It is not probable that Rogers would have rejected Tyndale's version of *Jonah*, if he was aware of its existence, and could have obtained a copy; it is possible that, as Rogers was superintending the printing of the Bible on the Continent, he could not procure a copy for his purpose.

It may be interesting to some readers to compare these two versions: with this view a facsimile copy of *Jonah* from the first edition of Coverdale's version is appended. There are about one hundred variations between the two versions. It has been generally supposed that John Rogers, the editor of Matthew's Bible, had received from Tyndale, before his martyrdom, all that he had translated of the Scriptures, and would therefore have inserted in that Bible as much of the text as Tyndale had completed. Professor Walter, who edited Tyndale's *Doctrinal Works* for the Parker Society, inferred that, as his version of the Prophet *Jonah* is not in that Bible, Tyndale could not have translated it. He held this view so strongly, that after giving some arguments on the subject, he concludes that the editors of Matthew's Bible would not "have preferred