



***The Book of Jonah - Word for Word Bible Comic* illustrated by Simon Amadeus Pillario**

My second venture in to the world of Word for Word Bible Comics (a genre I am not especially acquainted with) took on the story of Jonah. Unlike the first venture (see my review on [The Gospel of Matthew](#)), this is a much shorter and more straightforward read.

The comic presents every word of the NIV translation of the Book of Jonah and provides additional text giving its historical, cultural and geographical contexts. There are useful comments drawing parallels between Jonah and Jesus - and the book doesn't avoid the fact that Nineveh (now modern day Mosul in Iraq) is several hundred miles from the sea!

The illustrations are bold and contemporary and the publishers are keen to state their historical accuracy in their aim to bring out the impact and excitement of the scriptures.

Compared with the *Gospel of Matthew*, with its dense and lengthy text, the much shorter *Book of Jonah* comes to life with its use of colour and spacious drawings. One can sense the panic of Jonah's fellow shipmates, the darkness of the belly of the fish, the heat of the desert and the confusion of the people of Nineveh.

Many of the seven Word for Word Bible Comics published so far are aimed at a 'more mature audience' and this one on Jonah is advised for those aged 12+. Had it not contained images of execution in the first couple of pages it could easily be appropriate for children of a younger age so perhaps presents a missed opportunity that the publisher may wish to reconsider in a future edition.

This is a very manageable and stimulating re-telling of a well-known and meaningful story.

Word for Word Bible Comic: Book of Jonah Is available to order, price £6.99 from <https://www.wordforwordbiblecomic.com/shop/the-book-of-jonah>

Reviewed by Richard Frost

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