

(THE BALLAD OF) JONAH

Words & Music by Bob Watson

Rhythmically with Spirit; Not too fast

Verse



Come Breth - ren all from ev' - ry hand and hear the word of the



Lord's com - mand. His mer - cy's prom - ised if you heed His say, But His



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Chorus



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wind and the sea, have mer - cy on sai - lor - men such as we, Oh!



Lord who made the wind and the sea, have mer - cy on such as --- we.---

(THE BALLAD OF) JONAH

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1. Come Brethren all from every hand, and hear the word of the Lord's command;
His mercy's promised if you heed His say, but His wrath is fierce if you disobey.
It's in the Good Book there to read, and the tale of Jonah well you now should heed –
How to flee from his sinning so he did set sail, and his trip got finished in the guts of a whale.

Chorus: Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on sailormen such as we,
Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on such as we!

2. Now the Lord told Jonah of a task that's due, it's a task old Jonah didn't want to do;
So he slipped his cable and he slung his hook, and he sailed away where the Lord won't look.
Poor foolish man to think that he could hide from his sinning on the rolling sea –
'Cause there ain't no place in the dark or the light that ain't forever in the good Lord's sight!

Chorus: Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on sailormen such as we,
Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on such as we!

3. So the Lord in fury well He sent a gale, and it filled the scuppers and it tore the sail,
And the sailors trembled in a mighty dread, and they heaped their curses on Jonah's head.
He's a bad luck bringer and he's riled the Lord, so they heaved poor Jonah right overboard;
There's a whalefish cruising with his mouth all round, and he see'd old Jonah and he gulped him down.

Chorus: Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on sailormen such as we,
Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on such as we!

4. There's a whalefish belly with Jonah in, saying "Lord have mercy, 'cause I know I've sinned.
Of this whalefish belly, Lord, I've had my fill, and it's now henceforward that I'll do your will!"
So the whalefish swam till he's close to land, then he spat old Jonah back upon the sand;
He's sadder & he's wiser with his feet on sure, and he's learned his lesson and he'll sin no more.

Chorus: Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on sailormen such as we,
Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on such as we!

5. So Brethren hearken and remember well that sin don't pay as you've just heard tell;
Like a mighty cable so the scriptures stand, and the yarn of Jonah's only just one strand.
If sin you should, then you must repent, and don't go running from His judge-i-ment,
'Cause the Lord's got savvy and He's far too wise, and a man can't trick Him, however he tries!

Chorus: Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on sailormen such as we,
Oh Lord, who made the wind and the sea, have mercy on such as we!