## Jonah & Nineveh Background NIV Study Bible – Zondervan

Israelites traditionally rejoiced in God's special mercies to Israel, but wished only God's wrath on their enemies. Jonah is sometimes viewed as a representation of Israel, the people called out from the nations by God to be a channel of his redemptive purposes. In this book they are to see themselves as in a mirror: their unique position as the people to whom God had revealed himself in a special way, their particular vocation as God's chosen kingdom people, their stubborn resistance to fulfilling that vocation, the reason Israel must die as a nation (judgment) and be raised up again, refined and renewed.

Internet: Modern Nineveh: On 15 October 2005, the province of Nineveh (Ninawa) cast the deciding votes in the referendum for Iraq's Constitution. One of three mostly Sunni Arab provinces whose veto could defeat the constitution, Nineveh was closely watched through the extended electoral count. Home to a majority Sunni Arab population and ethnically diverse minority which includes Kurds (Yezidi and Sunni) and Assyrian Christians, as well as the oil processing center Mosul (which is often considered to be modern Nineveh city, and is called so by Aramaic-speakers), Nineveh promises to play a large role in Iraqi politics into the future.