

Jonah 2:9 "I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. Salvation is from the LORD."

Worship is more than a feeling.
It is sacrifice and speech.

This song of Jonah is poetic parallelism.
The first sentence states there are two parts to worship.
There is something we must give up...
And there is something we must give out.
Sacrifice implies submission... it's all your's LORD.
Verbalizing thanks *GIVING* affects others around us as well as God.

The second sentence is what we call a "run on sentence".
Paying a vow is a good way of saying it costs to serve the LORD.
True worship is giving our LIFE to the LORD.
That is more than money or even a little of our time.
A vow does not have stipulations or cancellation clauses !
You must keep your committment no matter what the future holds.
A marriage vow does not include an escape clause !
It is a living promise to keep as life unfolds, trials come and tempatations grow.
God wants it all, not just a part of our life.
And that is beautiful, like mariage !

But, this second "run on sentence" in Hebrew doesn't end with the word "pay".
Verse 10 is a natural break in the Hebrew.
We have to see that Jonah's thought is not complete without his explosion of thanksgiving.
He shouts in the belly of the big fish, "Salvation is from the LORD !"
The fish heard it !
We hear it three thousand years later !
The LORD heard it and commanded the fish to release Jonah !
Our thanksgiving is not only for God to hear.
It is essential to say "thankyou" with our voice.
"Let the redeemed of the LORD say so !"

So true worship is made of two parts : sacrifice AND song.