

**a Gracious
and Merciful
God**

- Jonah 4:2



a Gracious and Merciful God

- **Jonah's call and response (1:1-16)**
 - "Go" and "No" (1-3)
 - Inherit the wind (4-9)
 - Into the deep (10-16)
- **Jonah's miraculous deliverance (1:17-2:10)**
 - A great fish (1:17)
 - A great prayer (2:1-9)
 - A great deliverance (2:10)

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- **Jonah's second chance (3:1-10)**

- Message for Nineveh (1-4)
- Repentance, grace and mercy (5-10)

- **A graceless and unmerciful prophet (4)**

*“But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? **Therefore** I fled previously to Tarshish...”*

- Jonah 4:1-2

a Gracious and Merciful God

*“..for I know that **You** are a gracious and merciful **God**, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.”*

- Jonah 4:2

God is Gracious

*“But **God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by **grace** you have been saved)”*

– Eph. 2:4-5

- He raised us up together with Christ (vs. 6)
- He established us together with Christ (vs. 6)
- He will eternally show the riches of His grace toward us (vs. 7)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith...” (vs. 8)

God is Merciful

*“Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the **Lord** is very compassionate and **merciful**.”*

– James 5:11

- **In mercy, God intended Job’s restoration - Job 42**

- Job persevered to recognize, repent and a real relationship (1-6)
- The Lord restored Job’s losses (10)
- The Lord made Job’s latter days better than his beginning (12)
- Job enjoyed his children and grandchildren, and greats, etc. (16)
- Job died, old and full of days (17)

God is Slow to Anger

*“Or do you despise the riches of **His** goodness, **forbearance**, and **longsuffering**, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” – Rom. 2:4*

- **God’s slowness to anger demonstrates His goodness**
 - His “slowness” is our opportunity to repent
 - If we fail to change and turn to God, we despise His goodness
- **God is not slow about His promises, but patient...**
 - *“The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance” – 2 Pet. 3:9*

God is Abundant in Lovingkindness

“But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit”

– Titus 3:4-5

- **God’s love motivated His plan to save us (John 3:16)**
 - God’s love should motivate us to love and serve Him

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

God is one who relents from doing harm

*“Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be **saved** by him from the wrath of **God**.”*

– Romans 5:9

- **The wrath of God is revealed from heaven (Rom. 1:18-19)**
 - All are guilty before Him (Rom. 3:23)
 - The guilty are deserving of death (Rom. 6:23)
- **The righteousness of God is revealed too (Rom. 1:16-17)**
 - Those made “just” through faith shall live
 - The gospel is the power of God to save us from eternal harm

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