**JONAH’S RUN-IN WITH GOD TEACHES US THAT…**

**03/21/21**

* **God Compassionate Is Bigger Than We Could Ever Imagine.**

***10****When God saw what they did and how they* ***turned from their evil ways****, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.*

Jonah 3:10

***1 But*** *to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became* ***angry****.*  Jonah 4:1

**Mercy:** Though deserving of punishment, God blesses us instead.

Mercy is the withholding of a just condemnation.

***15****But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger,*

*abounding in love and faithfulness.* ***16****Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength in behalf of your servant;* Psalm 86:15-16

***12****Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,****13****because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.*

 James 2:12-13

***2****He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.*Jonah 4:2

**Paul said, Quoting Deut 32:35:**

*Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.*  Roman 12:19

**Key**: Whom Is God Leading You To Have Mercy and Compassion?

* **Our Anger, Prejudice And Bigotry Lead Us To A DARK Place.**

***3****Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to* ***die than to live****.”* ***4****But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”* Jonah 4:3-4

* **Our Mission / Purpose In Life Is SURRENDER To God’s Way Vs Self.**

***5****Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city.* Jonah 4:5

***6****Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and* ***Jonah was very happy about the plant****.* Jonah 4:6

***7****But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered.****8****When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”*  Jonah 4:7-8

**Jesus said: *20****But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.****21****For where your* ***treasure is, there your heart*** *will be also.* Matthew 6:19-21

***9****But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” “It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”*  Jonah 4:9

***10****But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight.****11****And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh,*

*in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”* Jonah 4:10-11

***9****… Instead he is patient with you,* ***not wanting anyone to perish****, but* ***everyone to come to repentance****.* 2 Peter 3:9-10