

“The Embracing of God’s Gracious Mercy” 6/14/09

Jonah 1:17-2:10

"For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." (Rom 15:4)

"Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come." (1Cor 10:11)

A.J. Wilson, “Sign of the Prophet Jonah and its Modern Confirmations,” *Princeton Theological Review*, October 1927, 630-42.

POINT 1- To embrace God’s Mercy we need to have humble RECOGNITION

A. To embrace God’s mercy we need to recognize God’s SOVEREIGNTY
(God’s response to sin; 1 Cor 6:20; Ezek 18:4; Luke 6:46; Heb 12:3-11)

B. To embrace God’s mercy we need to recognize our RESPONSIBILITY
 (“My affliction”; Galatians 6:7; Job 4:8; Romans 2:6-10; Heb 10:31)

GENESIS 3; Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed Satan

C. To embrace God’s mercy we need to recognize our DEPENDENCE
(John 15:5; Psalm 39:5, 11; 62:9; James 4:14; good model for prayer)

- 1)Honesty- “you brought me down”
- 2)Recognized his need- “behind me forever”
- 3) Gratitude- “voice of thanksgiving”
- 4) Repentance/Action- “I will pay my vows”

D. To embrace God’s mercy we need to recognize our BLESSING
(John 1:12; Ephesians 1:3; 2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Cor 7:1)

*"Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
2 Corinthians 7:1*

Going God wants you to recognize that He is forgiving and merciful!
Deeper

POINT 2- To embrace God’s Mercy we need to have humble REPENTANCE
God’s response to sin; God’s response to repentance

A. To embrace God’s mercy, our repentance brings DELIVERANCE
(Jam 4:6; Ps 34:7, 136:1-26; “from dry land to dry land”; Deut 23:21-23)

"He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them." Psalm 145:19 “For His mercy endures forever.” Psalm 136:1

Going God wants you to embrace His mercy through the Cross! (Eph 2:4-7)
Deeper