

Mercy & God's Ways

- While on Mount Sinai the second time.
- After the disaster of the golden calf.
- Moses asked God to show Himself
- *Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, **show me now Your way, that I may know You** and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people."* Ex 33:13-14

God's Gracious Answer

- *17 So the Lord said to Moses, "**I will also do this thing** that you have spoken; **for** you have **found grace in My sight**, and **I know you by name.**" 18 And he said, "Please, **show me Your glory.**" 19 Then He said, "**I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord** before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." Ex 33:17-19*

Proclaiming the Name

- *5 Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and **proclaimed the name of the Lord**. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "**The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.**" Ex
34:5-7*

God's Name / God's Ways

- *Jehovah, Jehovah (ASV)*
- LORD LORD
- Hard to see where name ends and ways begins
- *a God merciful and gracious,*
- *slow to anger,*
- *abundant in lovingkindness and truth,*
- *keeping lovingkindness for thousands,*
- *forgiving iniquity transgression and sin*
- *that will by no means clear the guilty*

An Inspired Commentary on the Event

- *The Lord executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed. 7 **He made known His ways to Moses**, His acts to the children of Israel. 8 **The Lord is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.** 9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. Ps 103:6-14*
- Like love (1Jn) these four characteristics are a fundamental part of His character.

A Further Commentary on His Mercy

- *For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him. 14 For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. Ps 103:6-14*

As God poured out Wrath He Gave Assurance

- *"For a mere moment I have forsaken you, But with great mercies I will gather you. 8 With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the Lord, your Redeemer. 9 "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. 10 For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," Says the Lord, who has mercy on you. Isa 54:7-10*

An Amazing Description

- Just as Jeremiah is beginning his ministry
- The wickedness of Judah led to their destruction.
- Yet God is already assuring them that repentance is not vain.
- He will never ever stop loving those who are descendants of Abraham if they will return to Him.

God Had Already Given this Promise

- *And the Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord will drive you. 28 And there you will serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. 29 **But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.** Deut 4:27-*

The Covenant Already Sealed

- *When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, **when you turn to the Lord your God and obey His voice 31 (for the Lord your God is a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them. Deut 4:27-31***

The Second Time: The Church in Acts

- *"And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious." 11 It shall come to pass in that day That the Lord shall set His hand again the second time To recover the remnant of His people who are left, From Assyria and Egypt, From Pathros and Cush, From Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the islands of the sea. 12 He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth. Isa 11:10-12*

How to Navigate Through the Maze

- Throughout the OT age, God forgave some and destroyed others. Paul explained why
- *What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! 15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion." 16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." 18 Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. Rom 9:14-18*

The Mystery Revealed

- *What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? Rom 9:22-24*
- God is only merciful to those who are vessels of mercy.
- How do we become a vessel of mercy?

God Had Already Given this Promise

- *And the Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord will drive you. 28 And there you will serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. 29 **But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.** Deut 4:27-*

The Gospel Transforms

- *For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 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 3:3-6***

God's Mercy Through the Gospel

- *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. Eph 2:1-7*

God's Mercy Through the Gospel

● *But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus Eph 2:1-7*

● It is not in Him who wills or runs. It is in God how shows the mercy and sets the conditions. Once we fulfill the conditions we enter into His covenant and all the assurance is ours