

Mercy Season

Jonah 4:2 “He prayed to the LORD, ‘O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee 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.’”

Its surreal having sixty-degree January weather in Missouri. I don't think we can even call this winter...winter. No snowbird envy as I roll the windows down, driving with the sun on my face.

But most Missourians have that little troll in their brain saying, “You just wait! Winter's coming, and you're going to pay!” It's like our bodies and brains don't want accept and delight in the unseasonably great reality, though it's ripe for the taking.

Sometimes we can let thoughts and feelings of what is “deserved” keep us from the blessings of what could be ours. Like the undeserved grace of God.

God's grace and mercy is in season now.

Jonah was being like a troll with the Ninevites. Good earthly reasons mind you, because the Ninevites at this time in Israel's history were so atrociously nasty that they would rape, pillage, and put big fish-hooks through people's noses to drag them off to a life of slavery.

But God's mercy and grace was in season for the Ninevites. He wanted them to know about it because the season was about to end. God wanted them to repent of their evil ways, and told them that if they would not stop, he would put an end to them for good. God's love wanted to give these unspeakably mean people another chance at life.

Jesus is coming back to execute judgment and justice. Right now we have the same opportunity to take God up on this undeserved season of mercy and grace as the Ninevites did. Your season of grace is now. Enjoy God's tender undeserved mercies.