**DIVINE GRACE AND MERCIES**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

In many cases whenever we think of the ALMIGHTY GOD several images comes to mind. Very often people imagine an angry and unforgiving GOD that will punish at the slightest mistake but that is not so.

The ALMIGHTY GOD is the creator, author and owner of all things (visible and invisible)

Gen 1v1: In the beginning GOD created the Heavens and earth

Ps 24 v1: The earth is the LORD’s and the fullness

* There is a constant battle waging trying to break our relationship with the ALMIGHTY GOD by breaking the various holy Altars of the ALMIGHTY GOD and replacing them with false alternatives.

The following are some key points to be noted:

* ALMIGHTY GOD’s mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3v22 -23)
* We live everyday by the grace and mercies of the ALMIGHTY GOD
* GOD so loved the world

1. **WHAT IS GRACE AND WHAT IS MERCY**

Grace: Extra room that the loving FATHER gives HIS children for them to improve

Mercy: The forbearance by the ALMIGHTY GOD in the face of our failures and it is meant to bring us to repentance (Rom 2v4)

1. **A GOD OF SECOND CHANCE**

BIBLE NARRATIVE: Jonah Chapter1 -4

Chapter 1

V1: The WORD of the LORD came to Jonah

+The LORD wants to talk to us if we make ourselves available to HIM

+We need to hear from the LORD

V2: The LORD asked Jonah to arise, go and cry against the great city of Nineveh (north Iraq). Nineveh was the capital of the Assyrians – Israel’s arch enemies

V3: Jonah arose (not to obey the LORD) but to do his own will i.e. flee from the LORD for getting that you can never hide from the ALMIGHTY GOD.

+Ps 139 v7 -12

V13-14: I am fearfully and wonderfully made – that my soul knows very well

V3: Jonah went down to Joppa

V3: Jonah was fleeing to Tarshish (Spain or Britain)

V3: Jonah has to pay a fee/fine ….he went down into the ship

V4: The LORD send a wind

V5: The mariners were afraid …never be in the company of those breaking the law of GOD

+Jonah (the cause of the issue) was lying down sleeping

V6-7: The mariners remembered to call on GOD in the midst of the turbulence

V8: The mariner now did the due diligence the should have done before Jonah entered their ship

+ Be careful those you are letting into your boat

V9: Jonah confessed that he fear the LORD, the GOD of HEAVEN and WHO made the sea and dry land.