

"But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. 2. And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for **I KNEW** that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil" (Jonah 4:1-2).

I like to see the relationship between John and our Good God! What a blessed relationship! Intimate relationship comes out of **KNOWING** each other well. And constant regular fellowship with each other results in such kind of fellowship that they KNOW each other well. Look what Jesus says here, "I am the good shepherd, and **KNOW MY SHEEP**, and am **KNOWN** of mine. (John 10:14).

This is the high time to ask this most important question to ourselves, "Do I KNOW my God?" KNOWING him personally is quite different than **KNOWING ABOUT HIM!** Through the Word of God we can **KNOW HIM** better and be in very intimate relationship with Him. By reading His Word the Bible, and by spending time to talk to Him in prayer and by walking before Him in obedience to His Word! Hallelujah, what a blessed privilege we His Children have!

I asked God in prayer to speak to me what does He wants to talk to me or show to me before entering a new month, October 2020. And the last night as I was having my personal devotion He spoke to me and led me to read the book of Jonah and I did that. And as I was reading the book of Jonah, which I read many times, I stuck to the verse second of the forth chapter, "I KNEW."

Let us read that verse again, "And he (Jonah) prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I KNEW that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil." (Jonah 4:2).

If you are a regular reader and student of the Bible, you will know that God sent Prophet Jonah to Nineveh to preach the gospel because the increased wickedness of the people of Nineveh. But Jonah **KNEW** that if the people of Nineveh repent God will forgive them. And Jonah did not want God to forgive them but to destroy them. And Jonah thought if he does not preach, people will not repent and God will not forgive them and will destroy them. And he took a different route to Tarshish by the way of sea.

I do not want to tell here that Jonah did not know what the David wrote in his Psalms 139:7-12. By running away from God in deliberate disobedience Jonah wanted to show his **resentment** but God in His love teaches us the great lesson that **He is God of (Agape) Love!** (I John 4:8). He is the **God of restoration.** It is not His wish at all that anyone should perish but to get saved and get to **KNOW HIM.** Oh, glory! How privileged we are to have HIM as our **God** and **Savior** of our souls! How privileged we are that He has called us His co-laborers (I Corinthians 3:9), and believed in us to work through us to touch others with His Agape Love!

I love what Jonah said when he was in the belly of a fish, "But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD." (Jonah 2:9). God did marvelous work here, before restoring back the people of Nineveh God restores His servant Prophet Jonah. And there was great celebration in the heaven to see that people of Nineveh turned back to God!

May we **KNOW OUR GOD** intimately, and walk in His Love closely! Especially at this time such as this, we need to love Him with all our mind, soul, and strength and love others as ourselves!

May our good Lord continue to bless you and your families! Prema and I love you so dearly and pray for you daily! Write us for we love to hear from you!



## PRAY WITH US FOR:

Let us turn to our brothers and sisters who need our helping hands! Kindly help us that we may be blessing to those suffering, hurtings! THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP