

The God of Mercy

“To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; For God is my defense, My God of mercy” (Psalm 59:17).

The God of Mercy

- Matt. 5:7 - “Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.”
 - This is a quality that cannot be kept inside for our own use and gain. To possess the quality of mercy, we must give it away to others
 - The immature in faith cannot express this quality; they are focused on themselves or on what’s in it for them

What Is Mercy?

- Mercy and grace are not the same thing, even though often found together
 - Grace is God's provision when one does not deserve it
 - Grace is God's blessing for one who cannot earn it
 - Grace is giving something positive when there is no reason to expect it

What Is Mercy?

- Mercy is different than grace
 - While it does result in positive blessings from God, it is the negative perspective of God's actions toward us
 - Mercy is God not giving us what we do deserve
 - Mercy is God withholding from us what we have earned

What Is Mercy?

- Mercy is the necessary balance to righteousness
 - God is righteous, but if He were only righteousness, He would be hard, demanding, and impossible for man to approach
 - Mercy mitigates righteousness with compassion and understanding
 - Righteousness is based on truth, and although mercy never contradicts the truth, it balances the absolute requirements of justice by acknowledging human limitations and Divine compassion
 - Mercy is the imperative “thou shalt not,” tempered by the supplication of Calvary saying “Father, forgive them.”

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy is an essential part of the character and nature of God
 - Deut. 7:9 - “Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments”
 - 1Chron. 16:34 - “Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.”
 - Joel 2:13 - “So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.”

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy empowers God to be sensitive to man's distress
 - Psalm 4:1 - "Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer."
 - Psalm 9:13 - "Have mercy on me, O LORD! Consider my trouble from those who hate me, You who lift me up from the gates of death"
- Remove mercy, and the only thing that remains is the righteous requirements of Law
 - Without mercy, grace cannot exist, because grace **MUST** be preceded by mercy, without exception!

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy enables God to defer punishment for sin
 - Psalm 25:7 - “Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.”
 - Psalm 51:1 - “Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.”
- Mercy has more power than the righteous requirements of Law, because mercy can overrule Law

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy has more power than the righteous requirements of Law, because mercy can overrule Law
 - Luke 18:9-14
 - Titus 3:4-5 - “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”

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy is the answer to man's hopeless condition
 - Psalm 56:1-2 - "Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up; Fighting all day he oppresses me. 2 My enemies would hound me all day, For there are many who fight against me, O Most High."
 - Heb. 4:16 - "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy exemplified
 - Gen. 19:16 - " And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city."
 - Matt. 15:22 - " And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."
 - Matt. 17:15 - " Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water."

What Does The Bible Say About Mercy?

- Mercy exemplified
 - Luke 10:36-37 - " So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves? 37 And he said, He who showed mercy on him. Then Jesus said to him, Go and do likewise"

Christians Practice Mercy

- Matt. 5:7 - “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”

Christians Practice Mercy

- Mercy regulates the following:
 - The level of compassion and pity you feel for others
 - Your ability to respond to the needs or cries for help of others
 - The harshness with which you judge the actions and motives of others
 - Your ability to show acts of kindness, gentleness to others
 - Your willingness to avoid seeking justice or revenge for the sins of others against you
 - Your ability to stand for the truth and promote righteousness without destroying or discouraging others in the process
- Mercy demands a level of faith and maturity that not everyone achieves.

Christians Practice Mercy

- Do you realize the wrath of God against you is averted by His mercy?
- Do you see that without mercy, there would be no way to stand before God with hope in the Judgment?
- Matt. 18:33 - “Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?”