



BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL

Matthew 5:7

Trilacoochee
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FIRST FOUR BEATITUDES

- **The poor in spirit** (v. 3)
 - Those who recognize their *spiritual poverty*.
- **Those who mourn** (v. 4)
 - Those who *truly sorrow* over their sins.
- **The meek** (v. 5)
 - Those who are *strong yet gentle and submissive*.
- **Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness** (v. 6)
 - The intense desire to *be right* and *do right*.



WHAT IS MERCY?

○ **English Definition** (Random House)

- 1) “Compassionate or kindly forbearance **shown** toward an offender, an enemy, or other person in one's power; compassion, pity, or benevolence.”
- 2) “The disposition **to be compassionate** or forbearing.”
- 3) “**An act** of kindness, compassion, or favor.”



GREEK DEFINITION

○ ἐλεέω

- “1 to have mercy on. 2 to help one afflicted or seeking aid. 3 to help the afflicted, to bring help to the wretched.”
- Note an important distinction:
 - **Compassion and pity** are words that deal more with the **feelings of sympathy** for the condition of another.
- **Mercy is the action** to help relieve the condition. (Ex: Kidney transplant)



W. E. VINE:

- **Mercy** “is **the outward manifestation of pity**; it assumes need on the part of him who receives it, and resources adequate to meet the need on the part of him who shows it.”



OUR GOD IS A GOD OF MERCY

- **Ex. 25:17ff** – Under the old covenant, the lid of the Ark of the Covenant was called the “**mercy seat.**” (Heb. 4:16)
 - **The High Priest** entered the Most Holy Place once a year (Day of Atonement) and brought blood to make atonement for the sins of the nation.



PSALMS OFTEN TALKS OF GOD'S MERCY

- **Psa. 69:16-17** – “Answer me, O Jehovah; for thy **lovingkindness** is good: according to the multitude of thy **tender mercies** turn thou unto me. And hide not thy face from thy servant; For I am in distress; answer me speedily.”



- Psalm 86:5 – “For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in **lovingkindness** unto all them that call upon thee.”
- Psa. 119:156 – “Great are Your **mercies**, O LORD; Revive me according to Your ordinances.”
- Psa. 51:1 – “Have **mercy** upon me, O God, according to thy **lovingkindness**: According to the multitude of thy **tender mercies** blot out my transgressions.”



GOD'S MERCY TOWARD US

- Eph. 2:1-10 – God “**rich in mercy**”
- Former condition: **Dead**
- Present condition: **Alive**
 - **Mercy – Love – Grace**
 - “**Even when we were dead** through our trespasses...” (v. 5)
 - **We did not deserve** His mercy and love, and we need to remember this as we show mercy to others.



AREAS IN WHICH WE SHOULD BE MERCIFUL

1. **The physical needs of others.**

- **The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)**
- “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?”
- **“Who is my neighbor?” (29)**
- “Which of these three, thinkest thou, proved neighbor unto him that fell among the robbers?” (36)
- **“He that showed mercy on him.” (37)**
- **“Go and do thou likewise” (37)**



THE CHALLENGE OF WEALTH

○ Two brothers in Luke 12:13-21

- “Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me” (v. 13)
- “Take heed and keep yourselves from all covetousness: **for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.**” (v. 15)
 - Life is more than things!
 - Remember, someday, they are all going to be burned up (2 Pet. 3:8ff).
 - Why are we so selfish? Why do we hoard?



THE EARLY CHRISTIANS WERE NOT HOARDERS!

- **Acts 2:42-45** – Sold possessions and goods.
- **Acts 4:32-37** – “And not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.” (ASV, v. 32)
 - NASB – “And not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own”



WHAT IS THE SECRET TO THAT KIND OF MERCY & COMPASSION?

- **2 Cor. 8:5** – “And this, not as we had hoped, **but first they gave their own selves to the Lord**, and to us through the will of God.”
- **Gal. 2:20** – “I have been crucified with Christ, and it is **no longer I that live**, but **Christ liveth in me.**”



2. In forgiving others.

- **Matt. 6:12, 14-15** – “And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors... For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.”
- **Matt. 18:21-35** – “How oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? **Until seven times?**”



10,000 TALENTS

- **1 denarii** = one day's wage (\$100)
- **1 talent** = 6000 denarii (6000 x 100 = \$600,000).
- This man owed 10,000 talents.
- 10,000 T. = **6,000,000,000 (billion)**
- The 2nd man owed only **100 denarii**.
- 100 denarii = **\$10,000**



3. We should be merciful to the lost.

- **Matt. 9:35-39** – “But when He saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were distressed and scattered, as sheep not having a shepherd.” (36)
- “The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send forth laborers into His harvest.” (37)
- **Merciful to saints and sinners alike!**



CONCLUSION:

- Matt. 23:23 – “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye tithe mint and anise and cummin, and have **left undone the weightier matters of the law, justice, and mercy, and faith**: but these ye ought to have done, and not to have left the other undone. Ye blind guides, that strain out the gnat, and swallow the camel.”
- We must not neglect the “**weightier matters**” of the Law!



THE BEATITUDES

- Blessed are the **poor in spirit**.
- Blessed are **those who mourn**.
- Blessed are **the meek**.
- Blessed are they **who hunger and thirst after righteousness**.
- Blessed are **the merciful**, for they shall obtain mercy.

