

Blessed are the Merciful

September 4, 2014

Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the **MERCIFUL** (*full of pity, compassionate*), **for they shall receive mercy.**"

- *Mercy is free; not based on what is deserved or earned.*
- *Mercy not only withholds judgment that is just, but extends good instead of the deserved judgment.*
- *Mercy originates from a deeply felt compassion and pity.*
- *Mercy is used interchangeably with "compassion" throughout the Bible.*
- *Mercy functions with and is, many times, the same as forgiveness and grace.*
- *God's justice and God's mercy work in perfect harmony.*

Luke 6:27-36 (Matthew 5:43-48)

27 "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

29 To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either.

30 Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back.

31 **And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.**

32 "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.

35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and **your reward will be great**, and **you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.**

36 **BE MERCIFUL** (*oiktirmon - compassionate, experiencing deep pity [lamentation] for those in need*), **even as your Father is merciful.**

Luke 10:30-37

30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 Now by chance a **priest** was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.

32 So likewise a **Levite**, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

33 But a **Samaritan**, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, **he had compassion** (*to be moved inwardly, to have pity*).

34 He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.

36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"

37 He said, "**The one who showed him mercy.**" **And Jesus said to him, "YOU GO, and DO LIKEWISE."**

Matthew 7:1-6

1 **JUDGE** (*krino - separate, distinguish, to officially pass judgment in a legal way*) **NOT, that you be not judged.**

2 **For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.**

3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye?

5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

6 **Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.**