



MERCY

MERCY DEFINED

Compassion or forbearance shown especially to an offender or to one subject to one's power

Mercy and forgiveness must be free and unmerited to the wrongdoer. If the wrongdoer has to do something to merit it, then it isn't mercy.

TIMOTHY KELLER, *The Prodigal God*

WE NEED MERCY?

- You did not create yourself
- You did not asked to be born
- You are not in charge

Deuteronomy 29:29- The secret thing belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law

- God knows the end from the beginning.
- God knows you
- God knows you need mercy

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MERCY?

Hesed (Hebrew) = God's covenant lovingkindness

Eleos (Greek)= compassion

Mercy

- Intrinsic to God's nature
- Seen as a quality of God that forges us into relationship

Hebrews 4:16

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1 Peter 1:3-4 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

WHY IS MERCY IMPORTANT TO US?

Mercy is the apex of God's glory the way the overflow of a fountain is the apex of the fountain's fullness. God is free to be merciful because he is full and utterly self-sufficient in himself.

JOHN PIPER, *Let the Nations Be Glad!*

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- *Jesus was sent to show God's mercy*
- *Without Jesus we would only be dealing with God's judgment*
- *Jesus has created a way to the God the Father by mercifully dying on the cross*

MERCY

JOB

Rich and Wise

Read Job 1:6-22

- Job sons and daughters were carried off and killed during a feast.
- Camels (3,000) were carried off
- Servants killed
- Fire from the sky killed his sheep (7,000)
- The other children (total of 10) were killed by the house collapsing on them

Read Job 2:9-13

- Painful sores
- Logical wife
- Loyal friends

MERCY

JOB 3:1

After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth

Isaiah 55:8

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD.

Eliphaz the Temanite “Call if you will, but who will answer you?”

Bildad “When your children sinned against him, he gave them over to the penalty of their sin”

Zophar “You say to God, My beliefs are flawless and I'm pure in your sight... Oh, how I wish that God would speak that he would open his lips against you”

MERCY

THE LORD SPEAKS OUT OF THE STORM

CHAPTER 38-39

3. Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.

Have you given orders to the morning?

Does the rain have a father?

Have you entered the storehouses of snow?

Does the hawk take flight by your wisdom

Does the eagle soar at your command

Do you send lightning bolts on their way? Do they report to you, here we are?



HERE WE ARE

MERCY

JOB REPLIED TO THE LORD

CHAPTER 42

“I know that you can do all things;
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³ You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans
without knowledge?’

Surely I spoke of things I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me to know.

MERCY

JOB REPLIED TO THE LORD

CHAPTER 42: 7-11

⁷ After the LORD had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. ⁸ So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.” ⁹ So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the LORD told them; and the LORD accepted Job’s prayer.

¹⁰ After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. ¹¹ All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver^[a] and a gold ring.

MERCY

- God loves humility
- Jesus came for the sick
- Mercy triumphs over judgement
- Be merciful
- Be generous
- Don't worry
- Ask God for Mercy