

Beatitudes—Mercy Comes Running

(Week 5—Feb 17th)

“Blessed are the merciful; for they will be shown mercy.” Matthew 5:7

The Hebrew words for mercy: Hesedh – **lovingkindness**, kindly affection, loyalty; Rahamim/Hemlah – **compassion** or tender affection; Hanan – to show favor, to do kindness, be gracious, have pity; Kaphar – **to treat as forgiven, to forgive**.

The Greek words for mercy: Eleos (noun) 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(used of God toward us)**; Eleeo (verb) to feel sympathy with the misery of another, and **especially sympathy manifested in action** (this is the word mercy used in our verse); Eleemon (adjective) **actively compassionate**; used of those who are like God, **as sons having characteristics that resemble their Father** (this is the “merciful” used in our verse); Oiktirmos – pity, **compassion for the ills of others**; Splanchnon – affections, the heart, kindness, goodwill, pity.

(From Vines Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words)

Look at these verses and write down what you discover about mercy:

In Gods character as He showed His glory to Moses: Exodus 34:6-7

As the Israelites turn to God from their sin....again: Nehemiah 9:26-31

In Jesus ministry on earth: Matthew 9:35-36

Read Ephesians 2:4, 1 Timothy 1:15-17 and Luke 23: 32-46 and then check out this definition of mercy:

Websters Definition: a refraining from harming offenders, enemies; a disposition to forgive or be kind; the power to forgive. (We were the offenders, the enemies of God. By His Grace He Himself provided the just payment to satisfy His holiness and in His character of mercy (disposition to forgive) He offers that gift to us (power to forgive). Talk about active compassion!

**Psalms 79:8 “Do not hold against us the sins of the fathers;
may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need.”**

Mercy Came Running *by Phillips Craig & Dean*
From the album-Favorite Songs Of All

Once there was a holy place
Evidence of God's embrace
And I can almost see mercy's face
Pressed against the veil
Looking down with longing eyes
Mercy must have realized
That once His blood was sacrificed
Freedom would prevail
And as the sky grew dark
And the earth began to shake
With justice no longer in the way

Chorus

Mercy came running
Like a prisoner set free
Past all my failures to the point of my need
When the sin that I carried
Was all I could see
And when I could not reach mercy
Mercy came running to me

Once there was a broken heart
Way too human from the start
And all the years left it torn apart
Hopeless and afraid
Walls I never meant to build
Left this prisoner unfulfilled
Freedom called but even still
It seemed so far away
I was bound by the chains
From the wages of my sin
Just when I felt like giving in
Sometimes I still feel so far
So far from where I really should be
He gently calls to my heart
Just to remind me

Chorus

What does a heart of mercy look like in us?
Micah 6:8, Luke 6:36-38, Jude 22, 23, Proverbs 28:13

**Mercy is not glossing over sin, but coming alongside the person in sin,
lovingly exposing that sin through scripture,
and walking with them from repentance through restoration without judgment**