**Blessed Are The Merciful**

**By**

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**Matthew 5:7—Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.**

**The predominant use of the word mercy in the New Testament is the inclination of compassion on the unfortunate.**

**Examples:**

**The Canaanitish woman with the devil vexed daughter. Matthew 15: 22**

**The man with the lunatic son. Matthew 17:15**

**Special meaning of the word mercy—the sparing of punishment.**

 **I Peter 2:9-10**

**It is quite possible that Jesus’s Beatitude meant both a general use of the word mercy and an extended meaning of the word.**

**That is blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy, that is, happy are those who show compassion on the suffering and those who forgive those who trespass against them, for they in turn shall receive compassion in their suffering and they shall be forgiven of their trespasses.**

**Matthew 9:36—when Jesus saw the multitudes**

**Matthew 14:14—healed the sick**

**Matthew 15:32—wouldn’t send the multitude away for fear of them fainting**

**Matthew 20:34—gave sight to the blind**

**Luke 7:13—had compassion on the woman and said weep not.**

**In light of Christ’s abounding compassion should we as Christians not be the most compassionate of people**

**Our world is fast paced. Sometimes in haste of working, playing, and living, we simply blind ourselves to the sufferings of others who need our concern.**

**In rushing to feed ourselves, we neglect the hungry.**

**In rushing to make ourselves comfortable, we forget the sick.**

**In rushing to make ourselves happy we forget to listen to those who weep.**

**Jesus was busier than all of us but never was too busy to be compassionate and concerned for others.**

**The early church tried to follow Christ’s example by:**

**The church administered to the widows Acts 6:1**

**Paul collected funds for the suffering in Jerusalem. Galatians 2:10**

**James stated that in pure religion we are to visit the fatherless and widows James 1:27**

**If we strive to do the will of God and have love for our fellow man this should prompt us to show mercy to the unfortunate.**

**If we do this we may expect mercy from God and man in our afflictions.**

**Matthew 18—The parable of the unmerciful servant**

**Man could never hope to pay the debt owed to God for his sins against God. Man was in a hopeless, helpless situation.**

**When the son of man came to earth, and by his examples he set before us in his sinless life, and by his sacrifice on the cross for our sins, our debt was forgiven. (That is if we become a Christian through what is taught in the NT).**

**Have we been in the situation similar to the unmerciful servant? Do we know people today that are unforgiving against someone?**

**If we are not merciful to others then how can we expect mercy to be given back to us? Remember Christ in Luke 23:34.**