The Gospel of Matthew

Matthew 5:7



Contrast

People in the Kingdom of Heaven

People in the Kingdoms of the Earth





For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:20





Outward Obedience to Rules

Inward Obedience by the Holy Spirit living in us



The First



Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 5:3

We cannot make it spiritually in life without total reliance upon God.

John 15:5



The Second



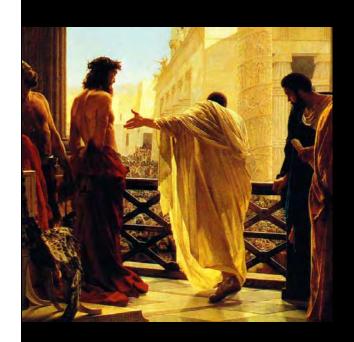
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4

Mourning for personal sin – because we are not like God. Mourning for the sins of those who share this world with us.

James 4:8-10



The Third



Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5

Having all of our power under God's control.

- 1. Fruit in life produced by the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:22-23
- 2. By coming and yoking up with Jesus Christ Matthew 11:28-30



The Fourth



Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6

Having an unquenchable desire for thinking, doing, living God's way, Conforming to the will of God.

- 1. Ask the Lord to make you like Jesus Romans 8:29
- 2. Feed on his word Psalm 119:9-16; Ephesians 5:26



Blessed *are* the merciful For they shall receive mercy.

Matthew 5:7

What does it mean to be blessed?

Happiness springs from

favorable circumstances.

Blessedness is what

God places within the heart.

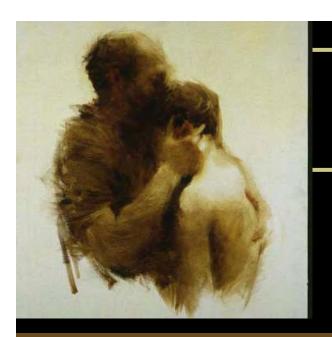
If you are happy, then you must have "good luck".

If you are blessed,

you have God

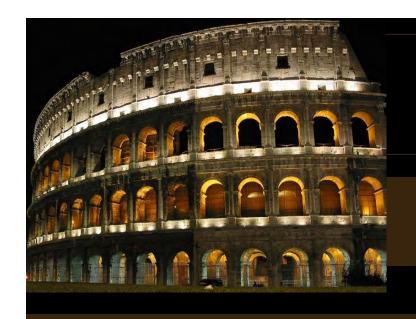
If you are blessed you will not be affected by circumstances

but will make the circumstances of life serve God's central purpose in your life



Blessed are...

The Merciful



Romans Loved

JUSTICE

COURAGE

DISCIPLINE



Romans Despised

MERCY



Mercy is a disease of the soul



Mercy is a disease of the soul

SLAVES

A slave is a living tool – when displease master discipline harshly

Old slaves are simply discarded when used up

CHILDREN

Girl or deformed boy set outside to die of exposure



Mercy is a disease of the soul

ENEMY

The only good enemy is a dead enemy

NO MERCY!!



Words of Jesus

Blessed are the merciful

For they shall obtain mercy.



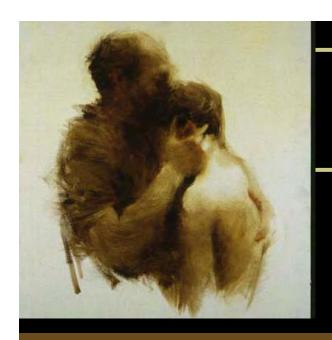
What is Mercy?

Almost untranslatable

Feeling of sympathy or empathy

+

Doing something about it



What is Mercy?

Two areas where mercy displayed



Showing Mercy

1. Where there is hurt and miserable situation



Bringing comfort and help to someone who is hurting



Job's friends helped at beginning

Job's friends added to his pain before they were finished.





Elijah raises the widow's son 1 Kings 17



Jesus heals 10 Lepers



Good Samaritan

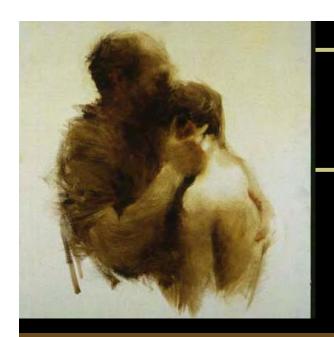




Showing Mercy

1. Where there is hurt and miserable situation

What are ways today?



Showing Mercy

2. Forgiving for wrong



Joseph forgives his brothers









The father forgives

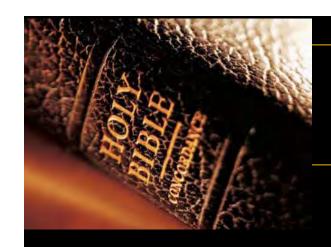




Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31-32



How does mercy come?

1. Read the Gospels

See the compassion and mercy of Jesus

Ask the Father in heaven to make you like Jesus - - merciful

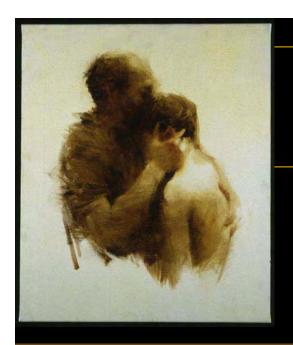


How does mercy come?

2. Go and give compassion

— mercy—

to those who are in need.



The Result?

You will receive mercy.

Sometimes from others.

Always from God.



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Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5



Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

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