

The Mercy of God

Introduction

A. We all realize that we have a moral standard and we all realize that we have violated that moral standard.

1. When an organization acts unrighteously all people condemn such action.

2. The Bible explains why this attitude is found among men.

For . . . the Gentiles (non-Christians) . . . shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another. Romans 2:14,15

For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Rom. 3:23

B. The Christian understands something about the mercy of God -- we know we deserve judgment. It is God's mercy that keeps us from judgment.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities . For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him. Psalm 103:10,11

I. The Definition of Mercy.

A. It is mercy that stands between a person and his destructive judgment, Lamentations 3:22.

It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness.

B. It is mercy that performs deeds of kindness to those in need, Luke 10:37.

(the story of the Good Samaritan) . . . And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go and do thou likewise.

C. It is mercy that pardons sins, Luke 18:13.

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

II. The Basis of Mercy.

A. Negatively: we do not earn the mercy of God, Gen. 32:10.

I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which Thou hast shewed unto Thy servant

B. Positively: God chooses to freely bestow His mercy in lovingkindness.

Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
and let him return unto the Lord and He will have, mercy upon him,
and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. Isaiah 55:7

But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved
us Ephesians 2:1

Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His
brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in
things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of
the people. Hebrews 2:17

III. The Explanation of Mercy.

A. Divine guidance is an evidence of God's mercy, Gen. 24:27.

And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, Who hath
not left destitute my mother of His mercy and His truth. I being in
the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master's brethren.

B. Divine forgiveness is an evidence of God's mercy, Nehemiah 9:31.

Nevertheless for Thy great mercies' sake Thou didst not utterly
consume them, nor forsake them, for Thou art a gracious and
merciful God.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness;
according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my
transgressions. Psalm 51:1

C. Divine acceptance in salvation is an evidence of God's mercy, Titus 3:5.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to
His mercy He saved us, but the washing of regeneration and renewing
of the Holy Spirit.

D. Divine provision through prayer is an evidence of God's mercy, Heb.4:16.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may
obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

E. Divine transformation is an evidence of God's mercy, I Peter 1:3.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which
according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a
living hope by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Conclusion

While mercy can only be received – we can forsake our own mercy by refusal
to admit our need. Sin must be confessed to be forgiven!

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