

Blessed are the Merciful
Matthew 5:7

Each beatitude that we have looked at thus far is a _____ to our sinful way of thinking. Being poor in spirit is the opposite of being _____-confident. Being one who mourns is the opposite of being happy all the time and never facing the reality of our _____ state. Being humble goes _____ one's feeling strong and self-confident. Hungering and thirsting after righteousness seems _____ and not productive for the unsaved person. Now we look at being merciful.

- I. *Blessed-Experiencing God's goodness, love, compassion, mercy, grace, and longsuffering*
- A. It is the inner confidence that all is well between God and me because the Holy Spirit _____ such a relationship exists.
 - B. It is the peace of _____ that no matter what I am going through, God will never forsake me, but will enable me to come out on the other side more like Christ.
- II. *Blessed are the merciful*
- A. *Mercy-it is compassion or _____ shown toward others*
 - 1. God is the author of and _____ of mercy Ephesians 2:4 *But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us,*
 - 2. God _____ us because his being merciful Titus 3:5 *He (God) saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*
 - 3. We should ask God for his _____ mercy for ourselves and others
 - a. Hebrews 4:16 *Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.*
 - b. 1 Timothy 1:2 *To Timothy, my true son in the faith. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*
 - c. 2 Timothy 1:16 *May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains.*
 - d. Jude 21 *Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting expectantly for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ for eternal life.*
 - B. *Merciful-that quality that marks a person's _____*
 - 1. _____ that are contrary to merciful
 - a. "I have forgiven you too many times, and I will not do it again"
 - b. "I don't get mad, I get even"
 - c. "They got what they deserved"; "They are just reaping what they sowed"; "They had that coming to them."
 - 2. _____ that are contrary to merciful
 - a. A refusal to help someone because we think they don't _____ it
 - b. Seeing someone in difficulty due to their own sinfulness, and feeling a sense of _____ for their difficulty
 - 3. Being merciful goes _____ to our natural way of thinking, because our natural way of thinking is tainted by our own sinfulness
 - 4. Being merciful is treating other _____ people the same way God shows mercy to us underserving people
 - 5. Merciful actions on our part do not _____ sinful behavior on the part of others, it does however look beyond their sin and see the sinner in need
 - 6. Being merciful is presenting a God-like characteristic to those who _____ to see God and their need of him in their life

7. Being merciful will not always be received _____, and may even cause the needy one to reject the mercy shown
- C. A classic Biblical account of mercy gladly received, but _____ given Matthew 18:23-38

III. The _____ to the merciful *They shall obtain* (be shown) *mercy*

- A. How often do we want, and even _____ God to show us mercy and forgive our sinful behavior?
- B. How often do _____ forgive the sinful behavior of others?
- C. To obtain mercy we must be merciful, and _____ our mercy to others
1. Mercy cannot be earned, it can only be _____
 2. As we are willing to give mercy to others, so _____ will give of his mercy to us

Depth of Mercy!

By Charles Wesley

Depth of mercy! Can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God his wrath forbear,
Me, the chief of sinners, spare?

I have long withstood his grace,
Long provoked him to his face,
Would not hearken to his calls,
Grieved him by a thousand falls.

I my Master have denied,
I afresh have crucified,
Oft profaned his hallowed name,
Put him to an open shame.

Whence to me this waste of love?
Ask my Advocate above!
See the cause in Jesus' face,
Now before the throne of grace.

There for me the Savior stands,
Shows his wounds and spreads his hands.
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.