

OUR UNCHANGING GOD IN AN EVER CHANGING CULTURE



God is Merciful

(How Does God's Mercy Affect our Lives?)

He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justly [mishpat], to love mercy [chesed], and to walk humbly with your God? [Micah 6:8](#)

A. God Is Merciful

1. God's Mercy is rooted in His nature ([Psalm 116:5](#))
2. God's Mercy Can Never be Exhausted ([Psalm 118:1](#); [Lamentations 3:22-23](#))
3. God's Mercy can be seen and hoped for in judgment and discipline ([Psalm 51:1](#))
4. God's mercy is seen in His grace and forgiveness ([1 John 1:9](#))
5. God's mercy is patient ([Psalm 103:8](#); [2 Peter 3:9](#))

B. The Reality of Mercy in Our Lives

1. Without God's mercy there is no hope - it is the foundation of salvation ([Ephesians 2:1-10](#); [Titus 3:3-5](#); [1 Peter 1:3](#); [2:10](#))
2. Choosing mercy leads to the abundant "life, righteousness [tzedaquah], and honor" ([Proverbs 21:21](#))
3. Mercy triumphs over judgment, but refusing mercy is disastrous, inviting judgement. ([James 2:12-13](#))
4. Mercy is obtained through transparency with God and each other ([Proverbs 28:13](#))
5. Mercy should be the distinguishing virtue of the Church ([Romans 12:1-2](#))

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous [tzadequah]; Yes, our God is merciful [chesed].

[Psalm 116:5 \(NKJV\)](#)

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy [chesed] endures forever. [Psalm 118:1 \(NKJV\)](#)

Through the Lord's mercies[chesed] we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

[Lamentations 3:22-23 \(NKJV\)](#)

Have mercy [chanan - be gracious] upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness [chesed]; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. [Psalm 51:1 \(NKJV\)](#)

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. [Psalm 103:8 \(ESV\)](#)

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. [2 Peter 3:9 \(ESV\)](#)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, . . .

[1 Peter 1:3 \(ESV\)](#)

Let not mercy [chesed] and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, . . . [Proverbs 3:3 \(NKJV\)](#)

He who follows righteousness and mercy [chesed] finds life, righteousness [tzadequah], and honor.

[Proverbs 21:21 \(NKJV\)](#)

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. 13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment .[James 2:12-13 \(ESV\)](#)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Psalm 118:1 and Lamentations 3:22-23. Has there been a time where you thought God was done with you? What are the reassurances these verses give us as believers?
2. Read 2 Peter 3:9. Where in your life has God been patient with you? Discuss.
3. Read Proverbs 21:21. What are the benefits of choosing mercy? Where do you see these three things Solomon shares in your life (abundance, righteous living, and