

UPSIDE DOWN: The Beatitudes

Lesson Six • Matthew 5:7

The Surplus of Mercy

The Fifth Beatitude

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”
Matthew 5:7

Our Disconnect with Mercy

We love mercy shown to US, but we do not love showing mercy to others.

The Surplus of Mercy

1. Be MERCIFUL in a Merciless World!

The Mercy of God

Mercy is God’s love RESCUING sinners from their misery.

“But You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. ... You in Your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. ... And in the time of their suffering they cried out to You and You heard them from heaven, and according to Your great mercies You gave them deliverers who saved them from the hand of their enemies. ... Yet when they turned and cried to You, You heard from heaven, and many times You delivered them according to Your mercies. ... Nevertheless, in Your great mercies You did not make an end of them or forsake them, for You are a gracious and merciful God.” Nehemiah 9:17,19,27,28,31 ESV

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:3-7 NIV

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV

Justice and Mercy Collide

At the CROSS, we see justice and mercy collide as God chooses to absorb the debt of sin we owe Him in the death of His Son Jesus.

The Difference God’s Mercy Makes

People who EXPERIENCE God’s mercy in the Gospel of Jesus Christ are so blessed that they EXTEND mercy to others.

The Marks of Mercy

- In one hand, mercy shows KINDNESS to the suffering. *Luke 10:25-37*
- In the other hand, mercy grants FORGIVENESS to the guilty. *Matthew 18:21-35*

2. Being Merciful Results in Receiving More MERCY!

The Blessing

Those who have received God’s mercy, show mercy, and those who show mercy are greatly BLESSED because they will receive more mercy from God.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life... Psalm 23:6 NKJV
Through the LORD’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23 NKJV
Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. Jude 21 ESV

The Warning

If we are not MERCIFUL, then we are giving evidence of not receiving God’s mercy in the Gospel, and therefore we cannot look forward to receiving God’s mercy in the Judgment Day.

For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. James 2:13

Are You Merciful Or Merciless?

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”
Matthew 5:7