



Blessed are the Merciful Matthew 5:7

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

I. GETTING OUR ATTENTION

A. Mercy: *The definition of **mercy** is compassionate treatment, having a capacity to forgive or showing kindness. Compassion or forbearance, shown especially to an offender or to one subject to one’s power also. Lenient or compassionate treatment [**begged for mercy**]. The power to forgive or be kind. The main difference between **Mercy** and **Compassion** is that **Mercy** is a broad term that refers to benevolence, and forgiveness, and **kindness** and **Compassion** is love. **Compassion** motivates people to go out of their way to help the physical, mental, or emotional pains of another and themselves.*

1. ***Merciful:** Treating people with kindness and forgiveness: not cruel or harsh: Having or showing mercy. Giving relief from suffering.*

B. Physical Touch for Full Attention (Mobile Prayer Closet Thought): Find a person engaged in something that requires their full attention, whether it be one-on-one conversation, watching something on T.V./ movie...studying...they are focused. If you were to call out to them especially by their name, they may or may not break their attention and turn towards you to respond. However, you may decide to try one thing that rarely fails...walk up and **Tap** the person on the shoulder...**Physical Touch...Garnered full Attention.**

1. ***Personal Application:** In this season of my life God has approached me and tapped me on the shoulder of my soul...Joint Experience with the Church Body in America...*

- You have been distracted long enough...**attention on worthless things.**
- I am requiring your full attention—not just in this season—**but moving forward.**
- It will require an earnest commitment on your part which only you can uphold...**return to your first love.**

2. *“When obstacles arise you change your direction to reach your goal; you do not change your decision to get there.” Zig Ziglar*

II. MOVED TO ACTION

A. A Change of Direction: Heavenly Father desires nothing more from us than a drastic change of direction...with a greater clarity and receptivity of His goal for us”—be conformed to the image of His Son.” Romans 8:29; 12:1-2.

B. Shema Overtones...I love you; you love Me now together, lets love your neighbor!

C. Compassion: [*splanhizomai*]-A mercy that does more than feel, a mercy that takes action. Jesus’ examples: invites Himself to be the social guest at the house of a despised little tax collector (Lk.19:1-10). He cleansed lepers (Mk 1:41), taught the ignorant multitudes, was moved with compassion and healed the sick, relieved their hunger with a boy’s small lunch (Mt.14:14-21), Jesus gave sight to the blind (Mt.20:34), made the lame to walk (Jn.5:2-9), and raised the dead (Lk.7:2-15). His words sent back to John the Baptist about His identity summarize the scope of His ministry. “Go and report to John the things you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news preached to them.” (Lk.7:22)

D. “Blessed are the Merciful...”

- Being consistently merciful (even to our enemies) is impossible without the life of Yeshua ruling and reigning in our hearts. cf. Col.3:15...let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
- The question is this: Is our Heavenly Father moving us (with our cooperation) to a greater display of being merciful?

- E. Mercy Generally Extended from the Greater to the Lesser:** In both the OT and NT mercy is always extended by the larger to the smaller, the rich to the poor, the strong to the weak and the righteous one to the sinner. God's chief disposition towards sinful man is mercy, spawned by His love, which exerts His power to bring sinful man back to Himself. Mercy from God is never deserved and is always generated by His character and not man's. The word *hilaskomai*, "to be merciful," to be propitious expresses God's mercy that makes atonement for undeserving man's sin. Salvation is God's merciful act of withholding His wrath and eternal punishment as well as His grace in granting forgiveness and eternal life. Dan Parker
1. Tales from The Big House: Freedom in Christ unlimited...never before experienced...unity among the brethren...spiritually powerful and impactful season...not without challenges, especially within the brotherhood...grooming period for a far greater test...Metal Products-expound.

III. YESHUA'S GREATER MERCY

- A. Mercy Extended from the Lesser to the Greater:** If mercy is action of the stronger based on response to plight or need of the weaker, it could be asked if mercy can be expressed in the opposite situation. The NT shows that it can be. The ethic that Jesus calls for is "turning the other cheek," "walking the second mile," and "blessing those who curse you." Thus mercy is a feeling calling for action even by the oppressed towards the oppressor, the weak towards the strong, the victim towards the victor. "But I say to you who listen: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you"(Lk.6:27-28) Dan Parker
1. Yeshua's Example: Jesus Himself embodied this very teaching. Mercy can be expressed by the person on the bottom towards the person on the top. This is the very genius of the Christian faith. See for example the words of Jesus uttered in dying agony from the cross, "Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing"(Lk.23:34).
 2. Stephen's Example: Then there are the similar words of Stephen as the stones pounded upon his head and body: "Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, 'Lord, do not charge them with this sin!' And saying this, he fell asleep"(Acts 7:60 HCBS).
- B. Will We Answer this Call?** Our Heavenly Father is searching for those who are willing to change their methods of life with Him and are wanting to grow their decision to love Him with all their Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength.
1. Yeshua modeled both mercy and compassion but he took it further by being merciful towards his enemies. WDJJ

IV. YESHUA'S GREATER WORKS

I assure you And most solemnly say to you, anyone who believes in Me [as Savior] will also do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these [in extent and outreach], because I am going to the Father. John14:12 AMP

- Yeshua maximized His life's purpose on planet earth.

A. Funeral Analogy (Les Brown exhortation)

1. "Work on yourself more than you do on your job." Jim Rohn

B. A Tendency to Gravitate to Wrong Things (Mobile Prayer Closet Thought): I have tendency to resurrect a self that should not exist. I then attempt to flee from my creation, only it is right there, very present, staring me down, challenging me for its right to exist. This self-creature harasses me, as it chides my existence.

C. God's Mercy Towards Us

"I am really not such a great man, No prophet with a powerful voice,
If I am a light to my brethren, It is clearly by God's own choice.
Surely, I was not ever worthy, To be called into the Lord's fold,
My sins and failures are so many, I'd be shamed if they're ever told.
But that is the beauty of God's mercy, He takes each one of us as dirty as we are,
And washes us in the Blood of His Son, So, we shine like the brightest star. Bill Kochman

D. Blessed are those who choose to remember God's goodness, for they shall live accordingly