

God's Great Mercy!

KJV John 3:27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

Have you ever wondered why God lets things happen, why God lets people, nations and communities do wrong and seemingly get away with it!

Why people can do wrong and still advance and prosper?

It's because of God's Great Mercy!

Mercy is one of the greatest attributes of God!

- Mercy like love is very deep, personal and private!

Exodus 33:18-19 And Moses said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

19 The LORD said, "I will let all my goodness pass in front of you, and there I will call out my name 'the LORD.' I will be kind to anyone I want to. I will be merciful to anyone I want to.

❖ God's glory can only be understood in light of His mercy!

When Moses asked to see God's glory, God showed him His Goodness & Mercy!

Moses, I've been good to you and showed you mercy! I didn't have to do anything for you, I created you for my pleasure.

There wasn't anything special about you I didn't put in you!

The only reason you weren't murdered along with all the other boys (Ex 1:16) is because of my mercy!

The only reason you survived the wilderness, challenging Pharaoh and made it this far—was because of my mercy on your life!

My glory manifests in your life as Mercy! My love, favor and goodness!

- The NT word that describes the mercy of God is **compassion!**

KJV Matthew 14:14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

In *Mark 1:41* Jesus encounters a leper who falls at His feet and begs Jesus to heal him.

"And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean."

Jesus could have spoken the words and healed the man, but He reaches out and touches the man.

Leprosy was so contagious people would run from them for fear to coming in contact with anything they touched.

Lepers would lose their sensation of touch and couldn't feel anything, for this man it may have been years since he had any human contact.

So, Jesus moved with compassion **“touches”** him! Jesus didn't have to touch him to heal him, but it was a **small yet powerful gesture** of the mercy of God!

Moved with compassion literally means “to be moved in one's bowels”!

- ❖ If God is kind to you, blesses you or raises you up it's **only** because of His mercy!

God tells Moses He will be kind to whomever He chooses and be merciful to whoever He wants.

- ❖ **It's personal and private, it's God prerogative!**

Romans 9:13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

14 What can we say-that God is unfair? That's unthinkable!

15 For example, God said to Moses, "I will be kind to anyone I want to. I will be merciful to anyone I want to."

God's mercy is His business, He shows it to whomever He chooses!

But there are somethings we can do to get God's mercy!

1. **We can humble ourselves ask for it!**

GWN Luke 18:9 Jesus also used this illustration with some who were sure that God approved of them while they looked down on everyone else.

10 He said, "Two men went into the temple courtyard to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector.

11 The Pharisee stood up and prayed, 'God, I thank you that I'm not like other people! I'm not a robber or a dishonest person. I haven't committed adultery. I'm not even like this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'

13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, '**God, be merciful to me, a sinner!**'

14 "I can guarantee that this tax collector went home with God's approval, but the Pharisee didn't.

2. **We can show mercy to others!**

ESV Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

The opposite of mercy is intolerant, cruelty, mean, unkind, unforgiving and unloving!

The fastest way to get God's glory in our lives is to show mercy to others!

That makes way for all of God's goodness to pass before us and enter our lives!