

**BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL!**  
**Matthew 5:7**

You've blown it, you messed up, you know it, and so do "they". What do you want, what do you hope for, what do you pray for, Justice... or Mercy?

New Webster's Dictionary defines *mercy*: "Benevolence, mildness, or tenderness of heart; a disposition that tempers justice and leads to the infliction of a lighter punishment than law or justice will warrant; clemency; an act of or exercise of benevolence or favor; a blessing; compassion or pity, or the power to display either."

Do not miss the \_\_\_\_\_ between being merciful and receiving mercy!

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ On Mercy**

*"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)

Justice vs. Mercy - What is \_\_\_\_\_ vs. what is \_\_\_\_\_. (C.f. Exod. 34:6; Ps. 26:11; 41:4)

**II. One Must \_\_\_\_\_ To Be Merciful**

(C.f. Psalm 51:1-4; 17 & Psalm 103:8-13)

**III. Why \_\_\_\_\_ Merciful To Others?**

Being merciful to others is not a suggestion any more than forgiveness is; it's a commandment!

A. We must be merciful to others in order to \_\_\_\_\_  
in our own lives. (C.f. Matt. 5:7 & 6:14-15)

B. We must be merciful to others or \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (c.f. Matt. 18:34).

"Bitterness is an acid that does more harm to the vessel in which it is stored, than to the vessel upon which it is poured."

- C. We must be merciful to others because other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (C.f. Matt. 5:43-44; John 13:34; Heb. 12:15)

#### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Be Merciful To Others?

Mercy, like forgiveness, is not a feeling, or forgetting, or excusing; it is a \_\_\_\_\_ that is made regardless of the circumstances, actions or attitudes of others.

- A. We are to be merciful to \_\_\_\_\_, whether they \_\_\_\_\_ it or not.
- B. We are to be merciful to \_\_\_\_\_ what they did or didn't do. Our mercy is to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. We are to be merciful \_\_\_\_\_ (whether it is asked for or not).
- D. If you have offended anyone (whether real or perceived), then \_\_\_\_\_ must \_\_\_\_\_ that person and sincerely \_\_\_\_\_ for their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*"People who cover over their sins will not prosper. But if they confess and forsake them, they will receive mercy. Blessed are those who have a tender conscience, but the stubborn are headed for serious trouble."* (Proverbs 28:13-14 NLT)

#### Conclusion (Eph. 2:4-9)

In His parable on forgiveness, Jesus said, *"Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?"* (Matthew 18:33 NLT)

*"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."* (Rom. 12:21)