

## No Frills Service

### Mt 5:7 Blessed are the Merciful

Showing mercy in the New Testament is a translation of the act of “giving alms”  
Whoever gives to the beggar shows him mercy.

There is an interesting use in the Old Testament of the word “**noble**” worth looking at. To be noble is synonymous of being generous because the word signifies a quality of “willingness” An offering made thus to God is called the Freewill Offering.

**Exodus 35:29** [NLT] “So the people of Israel—every man and woman who was **eager to help [willing in heart]** in the work the LORD had given them through Moses—brought their gifts and gave them **freely** to the LORD.”

In English “nobility” is both quality and rank [the quality of being noble in character, mind, birth, or rank.]

In our Old Testament **grace leaned too far toward** showing **favor** and could be seen as a quid-pro-quo; so, the prophets and later writers replaced the Old Testament word for grace with the word mercy. It is that big a word!

The force of the New Testament word for mercy is the act of showing compassion or pity on some concrete way. If we want our actions entered in the Divine record or chronicled with angelic applause someday. They find a way to lessen **the suffering of others**.

### God is Merciful by Nature

**Luke 1:76-78** [John the Baptist] And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the **tender mercy [the heart of mercy]** of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven.

When He saved us, He poured in the oil and the wine.

*Isaiah 50:4* [ESV] The Lord GOD has given me [**Jesus**] the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with **a word him who is weary**. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

Dan 9:20-21 [NASB] Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God, while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, **came to me** [Latin & Greek say “touched me”] in my **extreme weariness** [most versions say “flew” but this is a passive form] about the time of the evening offering.

## **CHESED**

Bible Dictionary: Kindness and doing favors and benefits.

There are words in Scripture that are descriptive of God, alone. We decided to use the **plural** of mercy (**mercies**) to describe His love toward us.

**Lamentations 3:22** “Through the LORD’s **mercies** we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.”

Translators use words like “kindness,” “lovingkindness,” “love,” “Godly,” “goodness,” and it represents the New Testament idea of God's “grace.”

Trying to measure the grace of God is like marking out the boundary of a lake

## **He is A Covenantal God**

**Psalm 89:49** written into the Davidic Covenant [and the New covenant under Christ] [NLT] Lord, where is your unfailing love? You promised it to David with a faithful pledge.

**Isaiah 55:3** “And I will make an everlasting covenant with you—The sure mercies of David.”

**Romans 9:15-16** For he says to Moses, “**I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,**

**Romans 8:32** “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

**Matthew 6:1** Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

**2** “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **3** But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, **4** so that your giving may be in secret. Then

your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

There is a ministry of mercy Paul speaks of in **Romans 12:8** show mercy, with **cheerfulness**. The word means in general to lessen one's pain like a nurse puffs your pillow. [**don't pound the pillow in anger**] Vs. 9: sincere love; vs. 10 kind and affectionate; vs. 11 zealously serving the Lord... vs. 12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

If there is a ministry, how can it be said we are *all* to show mercy?

### **Remember Not Conduct but Character**

The Beatitude is not as an action, but—a **virtue**, a quality.

If obedience without faith [working for the Lord without the calling] is legalism, is it not more true that giving without cheerfulness and hilarity of spirit [2 Corinthians 9:7 “give as he purposes in his heart”] is the worse form of legalism.

### **Servants of The Great Heart**

It isn't possible to hunger for righteousness, to desire to live the Word and to be like Christ toward God and the saints without wanting in the next moment to show mercy!

We must put such a **value on giving** that we fail to see the benefit in enlarging our own borders, of spending time or energy on personal comfort—beyond what is reasonable for life and safety. oh, to be His hand extended! Make me an instrument,

May we resolve to **take no ownership of things** [poverty of Spirit ] we know belong to God. Lord, may we abhor greed and repulse hoarding what can be distributed to others in need of those things. More blessed to give than receive.

### **Summary**

True happiness begins when a believer realizes how destitute they are without God.

1. They have taken to heart God's concerns and burdens realizing that carrying these is true communion with Him.
2. They find themselves more and more desirous of giving God His way in their lives.
3. They are passionate about living and experiencing God's Word in relation with others.
4. This is a servant's heart like the Savior's toward need.