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BEATITUDES

Blessed Are The Merciful, For They Shall Receive Mercy

Matt. 5:7

What is mercy?

- Mercy must not be confused with grace.
- Grace (Gr. charis) means "kindness which bestows upon one what he has not deserved" Thayer.
- Mercy (Gr. eleos) means "mercy, kindness or good will towards the miserable and afflicted, joined with a desire to relieve them" Thayer
- Mercy not only involves an attitude of compassion, but also action.

- Examples of being merciful:
 - The good Samaritan, he showed mercy.

 Luke 10:30-37
 - The tax collector, he wanted mercy.

 Luke 18:9-14
 - The ten lepers, Jesus showed mercy to them.
 Luke 17:11-19

- How do we show mercy?
 - It is more than just being aware of someone's need.
 - It is to share in their sorrow.
 Gal. 6:2; Rom. 12:15; 1 Cor. 12:25-26; Gal. 6:10
 - It is to care for their physical needs.
 James 2:14-17; 1 John 3:17-18
 - It is to care for their spiritual needs.
 James 5:19-20; Gal. 6:1
 - It is to grant forgiveness. Matt. 18:21-35; Col. 3:12-13

- The result: they shall receive mercy.
 - This is God's law of reciprocity. Gal. 6:7-8; Col. 3:25
 - To the extent that we help others, we shall be helped. Prov. 21:13
 - If we forgive, we shall be forgiven. Matt. 6:14-15
 - If we are merciful to others, God will be merciful to us. James 2:13; Luke 6:35-38

