

## The Mercy of God

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Wed., August 11, 2021

### Opening Summary

'Is mercy *always* available for me?' God has plenty of mercy for you. But there can be a time when mercy runs out. In this lesson, you will see how God provides mercy when you call on Him and what you must do to shun sin and live by faith.

- I. Mercy (Gk. *eleos*) means compassion, the greater giving a pass to the lesser.
  - A. Grace is the name of the Holy Spirit Heb. 10:29, 4:16 – God's power to assist us after mercy is shown, it is the manifestation of the power of God.
  - B. Many times, when people mention grace, they really mean mercy.
- II. God is plenteous mercy to those that call upon Him (Text: Psa. 86:5).
  - A. The Lord is slow to anger—it takes a while to get God mad (Psa. 103:8).
  - B. You can use up whatever mercy is available.
- III. The term "mercy" implies someone made a mistake (Deu. 7:9).
  - A. The key to 1,000 generations of mercy is loving God and obeying Him.
  - B. David didn't always walk uprightly (1 Kings 3:6).
  - C. David repented and God treated Him as though nothing ever happened.
- IV. The key to the verse: He is *my* shepherd (Psa. 23:1; Psa. 23:2-6).
  - A. David has goodness and mercy because the Lord is *his* shepherd.
  - B. The Word works for you individually, family level, national level.
  - C. Blessing or cursing depends on what you/your group does about the Shepherd.
- V. Paul grossly attacked the body of Christ but obtained mercy because he did it ignorantly (1 Tim. 1:12-13). You can be right in the heart and wrong in the head.
- VI. We were saved because mercy was shown to us (Titus 3:5).
  - A. Part of the reason you're saved is because of your family.
  - B. I'm saved because my grandmother prayed for me.
- VII. God took away mercy that was extended to Saul (2 Sam. 7:12-15).
  - A. When reading His mercy is *everlasting*, find out to whom is it *everlasting*.
  - B. Read what happened to Saul. He came to a place where mercy ran out.
  - C. Study David. Mercy was extended to David.
- VIII. You can get to a point where there is no more mercy for you.
  - A. I was on the golf course and the Lord led me to witness to a man who was around 70 years old). The Lord said this is the last time He would speak to that man. After which, he would be lost. He refused God (1 John 5:16).

- B. God hardened Pharaoh's heart (Rom. 9:15,18, 20-21; Exo. 7:13).
    - 1. During the plagues, God was giving him time to let the people go.
    - 2. Don't think you're okay because the house didn't fall on you (Rom. 2:4).
    - 3. God is giving you opportunity to turn.
    - 4. After mercy, grace will help you change (Heb. 4:16).
- IX. If you sin, don't pretend it didn't happen (Pro. 28:13).
- A. You must confess and forsake sin. Turn away from it (1 John 1:9, 2:1).
  - B. When you acknowledge your sin, mercy will help you (Psa. 94:18).
  - C. Every human being needs mercy. Daily, I ask God to forgive me of my sin.
  - D. Sins of omission have as much consequence as sins of commission.
- X. The high priest offered sacrifice for people's sin (Heb. 4:14). Now we have Jesus, the Son of God, who paid the full price for our sin (Heb. 4:16).
- A. We can go to God's throne unashamedly and Jesus will meet you there.
  - B. At God's throne is power get to overcome our weakness (Php. 4:13).
  - C. They came to Jesus in a certain way (Mat. 9:27; Mark 10:47).
    - 1. He acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah (Mark 10:47)
    - 2. Mercy followed acknowledgment (Mark 10:48)
    - 3. Faith and belief followed mercy (Mark 10:51-52)
- XI. What you give will be given to you (Mat. 5:7).
- A. Always extend mercy (Gal. 6:1-2).
  - B. They who despised what Moses gave them died without mercy (Heb. 10:28).
  - C. Today, the prayers of the saints preserve those who hate God's law.
  - D. Satan would kill you now if he could. Mercy, grace and faith keeps him from it.
  - E. God holds you responsible if you don't pray (1 Tim. 2:1-4).
- XII. The rich man is asking for mercy, but it's too late (Luke 16:22-31).
- A. People don't know that they'll have another opportunity to accept Christ.
  - B. If you love people, do what you can to help them shun hell.
  - C. Be wise when witnessing to people. When I was first born again, I and a friend of mine would witness on the campus of Eastern Michigan University, telling people "Get saved or else you're going to hell!" Although we should have used wiser tactics, when there was a young woman on campus who was demon possessed, they called on us. A crowd had gathered outside her room. We went in and saw that she was demon possessed. My friend cast the devil out of her, and she was delivered. That kicked off our ministry: United Students for Christ, a ministry that went on for 20 years. Thousands were born again through that ministry.
  - D. You are not supposed to live from mercy to mercy (Heb. 10:38).
  - E. If you live from sin to sin, mercy can run out and you can be lost forever.

### **Closing Summary**

It's time to obey God, repent from not doing what He told you to do and get busy doing His will. God provides mercy for all those who call on Him. So, when you daily receive His mercy, decide to shun sin and live by faith. Thank God for His mercy!