

Mercy Series: **The Meaning Of Mercy**

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 09/30/2018



Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

Mercy is in some ways like money—everybody wants as much as they can get & most are quite reluctant to give any away. People want mercy when they are the guilty offender & justice when they are the offended victim. Unlike money, mercy is not a limited resource that runs out when it is readily & frequently shared. Ideally, mercy should be given with the same enthusiasm & willingness with which it is received.

Mercy means freedom—from condemnation, separation & destruction. It means not getting the punishment one justly deserves. If you are a follower of Christ, you are a beneficiary of the greatest act of mercy in all of human history. Jesus suffered & died in order that you can be spared the condemnation of an eternity apart from God.

Consider for a moment how you have benefitted from the mercy of others. How has the mercy you have been shown translated into mercy that you are willing to extend to those around you? Are you generous or greedy with mercy? When wronged, is your first inclination toward revenge or reconciliation? Is your belief in the virtue of mercy merely academic or do you put it in practice in your day-to-day life?

Prayerfully reflect on the many mercies God has shown you throughout your life. Ask Him to bring to mind those times in which you were unquestionably guilty but He nevertheless did not leave or forsake you. Express your thankfulness for His forbearance & love. Acknowledge your ongoing need for His unfailing & limitless mercy. Praise His goodness, patience & provision as you revel in the perfect mercy of your Lord & Savior.

I. Forbearance

II. Eschatology & Ethics

Jude v. 17-23

v. 17-19

Scoffers & Dividers

v. 20-23

Mediators Of Mercy

III. Bearers of Mercy
