

Review and Introduction: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. “Those words like the stairs of Solomon’s Temple, cause our ascent to the holy of holies. We are now mounting up a step higher.” Thomas Watson.

I. The Definition and Significance of Mercy...

A. Some common misconceptions considered...

B. Mercy generally defined...

1. Compassion in action... *Luke 10:25 ff, the “Good Samaritan...”*
2. Implies forgiveness, i.e. *Joseph in Genesis 45...*

C. The Significance of Mercy...

1. God is merciful, *Micah 7:18...*

Some vital considerations:

2. Mercy is God’s desire to make a people dead in sins, alive again in Christ Jesus, *Ephesians 2:4*
3. God’s mercy is always “effectually applied...” *Isaiah 49:13*

Lesson:

1. Mercy is essentially spiritual...
2. God’s mercy actually delivers... *Titus 3:5*

Observations:

1. Mercy is not the same as easy tolerance... *I Corinthians 2:14-16 cf. 7:25, 39-40; Colossians 1:25-28; 3:16*
2. Mercy is an expression of true love... *I Corinthians 13:4-6; Ephesians 2:1-7*
3. Mercy is concerned first with the issue of man’s misery in and on account of sin... *Isaiah 52:1-10; Luke 4:16-21; Acts 13:14-39; I Corinthians 9:19-23; II Corinthians 4:1-5*
4. Mercy applies the Gospel... *Galatians 4:1-20; Colossians 1:24-29*

II. The Source and Objects of Mercy Discovered...

A. Mercy’s Source...

1. Real mercy is not found in natural unregenerate man... *Proverbs 12:10*
2. There is the Devil’s wicked influence... *Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 12:3*
3. The source of mercy is a “regenerated heart...”
It proceeds from a work of grace... *Colossians 3:12*

Lesson:

B. The Objects of Mercy...

1. Christians are merciful to one-another; *Hebrews 10:19 ff...*
2. Christians are merciful to unbelievers...

III. The Promise of Mercy Received...

A. On the Day of Judgment...

B. In the present day...

C. The certainty of Mercy Received...

Application: