

TEXT: Ephesians 2:4

TITLE: "God is Merciful!" (part 2) (Series: Attributes of God)

Last time we studied God's mercy, we considered a New Testament word—"eleos" (ἔλεος) "mercy; kindness or good will toward the miserable and afflicted, joined with a desire to relieve them" (THAYER).

Now, let's focus on an Old Testament word regarding God's mercy. It is the Hebrew word "raham" (רחם), "compassionate;—always of God" (BDB). Very interestingly, it is related to the word "reham" which means "womb" (רחם, רחמי).

As a mother shows such tenderness, compassion and mercy to her children, so God is compassionate toward His creation and His children and to sinners!

1. God was Merciful to R_____ Himself

Exodus 34:6 And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

2. God was Merciful to Not F_____ Israel

Deuteronomy 4:31 (for the LORD your God is a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.

3. God was Merciful to R_____ (Repentant) People

2 Chronicles 30:9 "For if you return to the LORD, your brethren and your children *will be treated* with compassion by those who lead them captive, so that they may come back to this land; for the LORD your God *is* gracious and merciful, and will not turn *His* face from you if you return to Him."

4. God is Merciful to the P_____, Hard, Disobedient & R_____

Nehemiah 9:17 They refused to obey, And they were not mindful of Your wonders That You did among them. But they hardened their necks, And in their rebellion They appointed a leader To return to their bondage. But You *are* God, Ready to pardon, Gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, Abundant in kindness, And did not forsake them.

5. God is Merciful to Withhold J_____

Nehemiah 9:31 Nevertheless in Your great mercy You did not utterly consume them nor forsake them; For You *are* God, gracious and merciful.

6. God is Merciful to F_____

Psalm 78:38 But He, being full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity, And did not destroy *them*. Yes, many a time He turned His anger away, And did not stir up all His wrath;

7. God is Merciful to H_____ His Persecuted Children

Psalm 86:15 But You, O Lord, *are* a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

APPLICATION: