

## We Serve a merciful God, are we as merciful to others?

The definition we used in our Attributes Study. **Merciful** - God is an actively compassionate being. He responds compassionately toward those who have opposed His will in their pursuit of their own way.

**Merciful 02551** chemlah {khem-law'} from 02550; TWOT- 676a; n f AV - merciful 1, pitiful 1; 2 1) mercy, pity, compassion

**Merciful 07349** rachuwam {rakh-oom'} from 07355; TWOT - 2146c; adj AV - merciful 8, compassion 5; 13 1) compassionate

\***Merciful**\* **03722** kaphar {kaw-far'} a primitive root; TWOT - 1023,1024,1025,1026; v AV - atonement 71, purge 7, reconciliation 4, reconcile 3, forgive 3, purge away 2, pacify 2, atonement...made 2, merciful 2, cleansed 1, disannulled 1, appease 1, put off 1, pardon 1, pitch 1; 102 1) to cover, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, cover over with pitch 1a) always of God with one possible exception.

**Merciful 02623** chaciyd {khaw-seed'} from 02616; TWOT - 698b; adj AV - saints 19, holy 3, merciful 3, godly 2, good 1, godly man 1, Holy One 1, holy one 1, ungodly + 03808 1; 32 1) faithful, kind, godly, holy one, saint, pious 1a) kind 1b) pious, godly 1c) faithful ones (subst)

**Merciful 02616** chacad {khaw-sad'} a primitive root; TWOT - 698,699; v AV - show thyself merciful 2, put to shame 1; 3 1) to be good, be kind 2a) (Hithpael) to show kindness to oneself 2) to be reproached, be ashamed 1a) (Piel) to be put to shame, be reproached

**Merciful 02617** checed {kheh'-sed} from 02616; TWOT - 698a, 699a; n m AV - mercy 149, kindness 40, loving kindness 30, goodness 12, kindly 5, merciful 4, favour 3, good 1, goodliness 1, pity 1, reproach 1, wicked thing 1; 248 1) goodness, kindness, faithfulness 2) a reproach, shame

**Merciful 1653** eleo {el-eh-eh'-o} from 1656; TDNT - 2:477,222; v AV - have mercy on 14, obtain mercy 8, show mercy 2, have compassion 1, have compassion on 1, have pity on 1, have mercy 1, have mercy upon 1, receive mercy 1; 31 1) to have mercy on 2) to help one afflicted or seeking aid 3) to help the afflicted, to bring help to the wretched 4) to experience mercy

**Merciful 1655 merciful from 1656** 1) to have mercy on 2) to help one afflicted or seeking aid 3) to help the afflicted, to bring help to the wretched 4) to experience mercy

**Merciful 1656** 1656 eleos {el'-eh-os} of uncertain affinity; TDNT - 2:477,222; n n AV - mercy 28; 28 1) mercy: kindness or good will towards the miserable and the afflicted, joined with a desire to help them 1a) of men towards men: to exercise the virtue of mercy, show one's self merciful 1b) of God towards men: in general providence; the mercy and clemency of God in providing and offering to men salvation by Christ 1c) the mercy of Christ, whereby at his return to judgment he will bless true Christians with eternal life

**Merciful 2433** hilaskomai {hil-as'-kom-ah-ee} middle voice from the same as 2436; TDNT - 3:301,362; v AV - be merciful 1, make reconciliation 1; 2 1) to render one's self, to appease, conciliate to one's self 1a) to become propitious, be placated or appeased 1b) to be propitious, be gracious, be merciful 2) to expiate, make propitiation for

**Merciful 2436** hileos {hil'-eh-oc-ee} perhaps from the alternate form of 138; TDNT - 3:300,362; adj AV - be it far 1, merciful 1; 2 1) propitious, merciful 138 1) to take for oneself, to prefer, choose 2) to choose by vote, elect to office

**Mercy 07355** racham {raw-kham'} a primitive root; TWOT - 2146; v AV - ...mercy 32, ...compassion 8, pity 3, love 1, merciful 1, Ruhamah 1, surely 1; 47 1) to love, love deeply, have mercy, be compassionate, have tender affection, have compassion 1a) (Qal) to love 1b) (Piel) 1b1) to have compassion, be compassionate 1b1a) of God, man 1c) (Pual) to be shown compassion, be compassionate

### The merciful God of the Old Testament:

**Gen. 19:16** And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being (**merciful 2551** mercy, pity, compassion) unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

**Ex. 34: 6** And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, (**merciful 7349** compassionate) and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

**Deut. 4: 31** (For the LORD thy God [is] a (**merciful 7349** compassionate) God; he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.

**Deut. 21: 8** Be (**merciful 3722** to cover, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, cover over with pitch 1a) always of God with one possible exception.), O LORD, unto thy people Israel, whom thou hast redeemed, and lay not innocent blood unto thy people of Israel's charge. And the blood shall be forgiven them. {unto thy people of: Heb. in the midst, etc

**Deut. 32: 43** Rejoice, O ye nations, [with] his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be (**merciful 3722**) unto his land, [and] to his people.

**2 Sam. 22: 26** With the (**merciful 2623 comes for the root of 2616**) thou wilt shew thyself (**merciful 2616** to be good, be kind), [and] with the upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright

**Nehe.9: 17** And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou [art] a God ready to pardon, gracious and (**merciful 7349** compassionate), slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not

**Nehe. 9: 31** Nevertheless for thy great **mercies'** sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou [art] a gracious and (**merciful 7439**) God.

**Ps 18: 25** With the (**merciful 2623**) thou wilt shew thyself (**merciful 2316**); with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright; 26 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

### **In Psalms we see God's people pleading for God to be merciful and God responding:**

**Ps. 41: 10** But thou, O LORD, be (**merciful 2603**) unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.

**Ps. 56:1 b** Be (**merciful 2603**) unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me

**Ps. 57: 1b** Be (**merciful 2603**) unto me, O God, be (**merciful 2603**) unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until [these] calamities be overpast.

### **Stories of God mercies:**

Let's start in the Garden of Eden.

God did not destroy **Adam or Eve**. He set His mercy in motion that He had ordained from the beginning of time. The greatest mercy of God was He ordained His Son before the foundation of the world to die for our sins.

Once again with **Cain** God showed His mercy to Cane, even though Cane felt the burden more than he could bare. He still did not repent. Gen.4: 6, 7 6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee [shall be] his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. {be accepted: or, have the excellency} {unto...: or, subject unto thee}

Gen.4: 13 –15 13 And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment [is] greater than I can bear. {My...: or, Mine iniquity is greater than that it may be forgiven} 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, [that] every one that findeth me shall slay me. 15 And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. **Noah -**

**Gen. 6; Lot** and his family; - Read **Gen.18** and see how because of Abraham whom God considered righteous Lot and his family received mercy. **Gen 19:15-17** 15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. {are here: Heb. are found} {iniquity: or, punishment} 16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being **merciful** unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. 18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: 19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy **mercy**, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: **Jonah – The book of Jonah; Rehab** (the harlot) starting at **Josh. 2:1** And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

### **The Merciful God of the New Testament:**

**Matt. 5: 7** Blessed [are] the (**merciful 1655 1653** eleeo {el-eh-eh'-o} from 1656; TDNT - 2:477,222; v AV - have mercy on 14, obtain mercy 8, show mercy 2, have compassion 1, have compassion on 1, have pity on 1, have mercy 1, have mercy upon 1, receive mercy 1; 31 1) to have mercy on 2) to help one afflicted or seeking aid 3) to help the afflicted, to bring help to the wretched 4) to experience mercy): for they shall obtain (**mercy 1653**).

**Luke 6: 36** Be ye therefore (**merciful 3629**), as your Father also is (**merciful 3629** from **2627**) to pity, have compassion on).

**Heb.2: 17** Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto [his] brethren, that he might be a (**merciful 1655**) and faithful high priest in things [pertaining] to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people

**Heb. 8:12** For I will be (**merciful 2436**) to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

### **Some New Testament stories of God's mercy:**

**The woman at the well John 4:4-7** 4 And he must needs go through Samaria. 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with [his] journey, sat thus on the well: [and] it was about the sixth hour. 7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. **Mary Magdalene - Luke 8:2** And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, She is found to be a close follower of Jesus; **Matt. 57:55, 56** 55 And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: 56 Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children. **The jailer** who asks what must I do to be saved – **Acts 16:7-**. **The 10 lepers Luke 17:13,14** - 13 And they lifted up [their] voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have (**mercy 1653**) on us. 14 And when he saw [them], he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests.

### **How the word Mercy applies:**

**Gen. 19: 19** Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy (**mercy 2617**), which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: Here we see even with God's great mercy being shown on Lot and his family, lot request to go where the angel said not to go and then his wife looked back and later on both of the daughters committed incest with their father while he was drunk. God's mercy is for sinners.

**Ex. 33: 19** And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew (**mercy 7355**) to love, love deeply, have mercy, be compassionate, have tender affection, have compassion) on whom I will shew (**mercy 7355**).

**Ex. 34: 7** Keeping (**mercy 2617**) for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear [the guilty]; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth [generation]. Mercy mixed with justness.

God's mercy can be withdrawn. **2 Sam. 7:15** But my (**mercy 2617**) shall not depart away from him, as I took [it] from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

**1Chr. 16: 34** O give thanks unto the LORD; for [he is] good; for his (**mercy 2617**) [endureth] forever. Even though God's mercies endureth forever it does not have to continue with someone as in Saul's situation.

In Ps. the word says over and over how God's mercy endureth forever.

**Pro. 28: 13** He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh [them] shall have (**mercy 7355**).

**Hos.6: 6** For I desired (**mercy 2617**), and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. As important as the sacrifice was to the Jews; God was saying mercy to the fellow man was more important.

**Mica. 6: 8** He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love (**mercy 2617**), and to walk humbly with thy God? {walk...: Heb. humble thyself to walk}

**Mica. 7: 18** Who [is] a God like unto thee that (pardoneth to take, take away, carry off, forgive) iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth [in] (**mercy 2617**)

**Zech. 7: 9** Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew (**mercy 2617**) and compassions every man to his brother

**Matt.9: 13** But go ye and learn what [that] meaneth, I will have (**mercy1656**), and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. The Pharisees had never learned the meaning of this passage, which teaches that kind hearts and helpful deeds are more pleasing to God than outward ceremonial. Sacrifice is right, but mercy is first in importance. (Peoples NT commentary)

**Matt. 15: 22** And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have (**mercy 1653**) on me, O Lord, [thou] Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil

**Rom.9: 15-24** 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have **mercy (all in these verses 1653)** on whom I will have **mercy**, and I will have (**compassion to pity, have compassion on**) on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth **mercy**.17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he **mercy** on whom he will [have **mercy**], and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? 20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed [it], Why hast thou made me thus? {repliest...: or, answerest again, or, disputest with God?} 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 22 [What] if God, willing to shew [his] wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: {fitted: or, made up} 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of **mercy**, which he had afore prepared unto glory, 24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

**Rom. 11: 30** For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained (**mercy 1653**) through their unbelief: {believed: or, obeyed} 31 Even so have these also now not believed, that through your (**mercy 1656**) they also may obtain (**mercy 1653**). {believed: or, obeyed} 32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have (**mercy 1653**) upon all. The word simply says here it is less likely for the Gentiles to be call that for the jews to be restored, since the Gentiles have been called then let us not count out the restoration of the Jews.

#### **God desires to love ad show mercy toward us:**

**2 Pet. 3: 9** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

**Ps. 30: 5** For his anger [endureth but] a moment; in his favour [is] life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy [cometh] in the morning.

**Ps. 34: 19-21** 19 Many [are] the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. 20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken. 21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.