



# The Lion of Judah



***“Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.”***

**(Revelation 5:5)**

## MERCY

We hear about God’s **mercy** all the time, but what does it actually mean?

- ⇒ For us with **respect to God**
- ⇒ For us with **respect to others**

Easton’s Bible Dictionary defines mercy as, “**compassion for the miserable**”

- ⇒ Holman’s Bible Dictionary further explains that mercy is, “characteristic of **care for the needs of others**. The biblical concept of mercy always involves **help to those who are in need or distress.**”

Another way of understanding mercy is to see its **relationship to judgment and grace**

- ⇒ **Judgment** (i.e. justice) is when we **get** what we **deserve**
- ⇒ **Mercy** is when we **don’t get** what we deserve
- ⇒ **Grace** is when we **get** something good that we **don’t deserve**

If it wasn’t for God’s mercy, we would be **judged guilty** of being sinners and get what we deserve – i.e. **Hell**

- ⇒ That’s why Scripture tells us that “**mercy triumphs over judgment**” (James 2:13)
- ⇒ The “**accuser of the brethren**” (Revelation 2:10) who is **Satan** constantly brings us before the **Judge** (God the Father) to point out our sin
- ⇒ However, **Jesus intervenes** and says that **He died for those sins** so that we might be **justified** (i.e. made right with God and the law) and **pardoned** from the judgment those sins would have brought

Scripture further tells us that God is “**rich in mercy**” (Ephesians 2:4)

- ⇒ There are **41 Bible verses** to remind us that **God’s mercy “endures forever”**

As long as we **accept Jesus as our Savior**, this **mercy is available** to us **without doubt** or question – the “**sure mercies of David**”

- ⇒ “**Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you — the sure mercies of David.**” (Isaiah 55:3)

The New Testament tell us that we can go **boldly** before God to **receive** this **mercy**

- ⇒ *Let us therefore come **boldly** to the **throne of grace**, that we may **obtain mercy.*** (Hebrews 4:16)

At the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37), Jesus explains that only the Samaritan was merciful

⇒ *So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves? And he said, “**He who showed mercy** on him.” Then Jesus said to him, “**Go and do likewise.**”*

Jesus is **calling upon each of us** to extend the **same mercy** to others as **He gives to us**

⇒ *“**But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.**” (Matt. 9:13)*  
⇒ *“**But if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless.**” (Matthew 12:7)*

**Showing mercy** to others is the **hallmark** of being a **Christian**

⇒ *“He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD **require of you** but to do **justly**, to **love mercy**, and to **walk humbly** with your God?” (Micah 6:8)*

In fact, we **cannot receive mercy** unless we **extend mercy** to others!

⇒ *“**Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.**” (Matthew 5:7)*

The Bible indicates that **mercy** is **just as important** as **truth**

⇒ *“Let not **mercy and truth** forsake you; **bind them** around your neck, **write them** on the **tablet of your heart.**” (Proverbs 3:3)*  
⇒ *“**All the paths** of the LORD are **mercy and truth.**” (Psalm 25:10)*  
⇒ *“**Mercy and truth** have met together; **righteousness and peace** have kissed.” (Psalm 85:10)*