#### **SERMON NOTES**

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# What we know to be true about God, how we view Him determines how we view us, the world, what happens in the world

### AW Tozer wrote :

"What a person thinks about God is the most important thing about that person"

• "Incommunicable" = beyond description!!!
Attributes, things that only God can have

• <u>"Communicable" =</u> Communicable attributes of God are those that **humans can also possess.** 

• Exodus 34:6-7.

"The Lord, the Lord God, <u>merciful and gracious</u>, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <u>keeping mercy for</u> <u>thousands</u>, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin ..."

• Deuteronomy 7:9.

"Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments ..."

• Psalm 86:15.

"But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth."

Micah 7:18-19.

"Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy.

## What is MERCY?

What is the biblical definition of mercy?

- Mercy appears in the Bible as it relates to forgiveness or withholding punishment.
- kind and forgiving treatment of someone (as a wrongdoer or an opponent)
- A kind sympathetic disposition : willingness to forgive, spare someone guilty...

### MERCY and GRACE

Grace is God giving you a gift of salvation that you don't deserve

Mercy is God not giving you the punishment you do deserve

• First = Theology - The nature of God

Second = Biblical Anthropology - The Nature of Men

• Tirth = Soteriology - Understanding salvation of Men

• GOD = is Perfect.

Matthew 5:48

• <sup>48</sup> Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

#### • MEN = Is broken

- Psalm 51
- Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.
  - 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
  - 4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight—
  - That You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge. 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

## • Psalm 86:15

 But You, O Lord, are <u>a God full of compassion</u>, and gracious, longsuffering and <u>abundant in</u> <u>mercy</u> and truth.

## I. <u>His Compassion</u>.

#### Heb. 2:17-18

• <sup>17</sup> Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful... <sup>18</sup> For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

## I. <u>His Compassion</u>.

- Heb. 4:14-16
- 14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## II. His Patience.

- Psalm 103:8-9
- 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
  Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.
  9 He will not always strive with us,
  Nor will He keep His anger forever.

## III. <u>His forgiveness</u>

- Micah 7:18-19
- 18 Who is a God like you, <u>pardoning iniquity</u> and <u>passing over transgression</u> for the remnant of his inheritance?

  He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

  19 He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot.

  You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

## IV. A relationship with God.

- Ephesians 2:4-5
- <sup>4</sup> <u>But God, who is rich in mercy</u>, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

# Mercy is required of you!

- Micah 6:8
- 8 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?

# Mercy, in the center of my life!

- Matthew 5.
- 3 "Blessed are the <u>poor in spirit</u>, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons a of God.
- 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness! sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

- Proverbs 3:3-4
- 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man.



# The Lord requires of you to be Merciful!!!

• Luke 6:36

<sup>36</sup> Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

1. Show mercy and compassion to one another.

### Zechariah 7:9-10

• 9 "This is what the Lord Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; <u>show mercy and compassion</u> to one another.

2. Exercise <u>Patience</u> with to one another.

- Ephesians 4:2
- <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love

## 3. Forgiveness

- Colossians 3:13
- <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and <u>forgiving one another</u>, if anyone has a complaint against another; even <u>as Christ</u> <u>forgave you</u>, so you also <u>must do</u>.

1. Show mercy to others because God has been merciful to you.

**Luke 6:36** 

<sup>36</sup> Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

2. Show mercy to others because God commands you

Micah 6:8

"The LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God".

• 3. Show mercy <u>because you're going to need more mercy in the future.</u>

- James 2:13,
- "You must show mercy to others, or God won't show mercy to you .

  . . But the person who shows mercy can stand without fear at the judgment"

• 4. Show mercy because it produces happiness.

#### Proverbs 14:21

• <sup>21</sup> He who despises his neighbor sins; But he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he.

#### Proverbs 11:17

• <sup>17</sup> The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.

