

The Attitude of the Acquitted

Matthew 5:7

The **progression** of the Beatitudes so far ...

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, 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.

The tipping point is in verse 6: A deep desire to ___ right and to ___ what is right ...

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

When we recognize our deepest need, mourn over our sins, and are genuinely humbled to the point where we finally want for ourselves _____, we are ready for God to do a work of _____ in us.

God promises to _____ a desire for righteousness. That's where real _____ begins.

The first _____ of that change is this:

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

What is biblical **mercy**?

"Mercy is a melting disposition whereby we lay to heart the miseries of others and are ready on all occasions to be instrumental for their good." (Thomas Watson, 1660)

"Mercy is God's relieving love poured out upon man in deep misery and trouble." (John Bunyan)

_____ is especially associated with men in their _____.

_____ is especially associated with men in their _____.

What does mercy **do**?

It gives grace to the _____ and mercy to the _____!

Mercy _____ with the plight of the hurting.

This is our *internal* response. We _____ something for them.

Mercy _____ the pitiable situation with real help.

This is our *external* response. We _____ something for them.

We ...

... _____ the suffering of sinners (and those sinned against) where and how we can.

... _____ ourselves in costly service to those in need (without regard to repayment).

... _____ and _____ debt (as Christ has done for us).

A model of biblical mercy: **the Good Samaritan**

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.

So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.'

Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"

He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

1 wrong interpretation of Matthew 5:7:

" _____ "

2 correct interpretations:

If we have no mercy towards those in need (pain, suffering, distress, loss, etc.), we are not _____. (1 John 3:17)

If we refuse to exercise mercy by extending _____ we are not Christians. (Matt 6:14-15; 18:32-35, James 2:13)

Mercy marks those who truly are _____.

A lack of mercy marks those who are _____.

And remember, what our Lord _____ of us, He _____ to us!

My obedient response today: