Have Mercy 2 July 1, 2012 | mediaatvictory.com

What is God's mercy?

- It is God's desire to treat you better than you deserve!
- Mercy expects good from the hand of God ALWAYS!

Do you expect good from God ALWAYS?

Mercy is best defined in action, rather than in word

WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

<u>John 8:9-11</u> – ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ "No one, sir," she said. "Then **neither do I condemn you**," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

The mercy of God is a never ending door to the resources of Heaven.

<u>Hebrews 4:16</u> - Let us therefore **come boldly** to the throne of grace, that we may **obtain mercy** and find grace to help in time of need.

Before you can find grace to help in the time of need, you must obtain mercy or be persuaded that God desires to treat you better than you deserve.

Queen Esther is an example of obtaining mercy before you find grace to help in the time of need.

Esther 4:11 - "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without **being summoned** the king has but one law: that he be put to death. The only exception to this is for the king to **extend the gold scepter** to him and spare his life. But **thirty days have passed** since I was called to go to the king."

What is the measure of His mercy?

Ephesians 2:4 - But God, who is **rich in mercy**, because of His great love with which He loved us,

<u>Psalm 136:1</u> - Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For **His mercy endures** forever.

26 times in 26 verses it declares, "HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER!"

God's Mercy endures forever – It is inexhaustible

<u>Hebrews 4:14-16</u> – 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** (favor without merit), that we may obtain **mercy** and find **grace** (favor without merit) to help in time of need.

Before you can find grace to help in the time of need, you must obtain mercy or be persuaded that God desires to treat you better than you deserve.

<u>Matthew 15:22-28</u> – ²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." ²³ But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." ²⁴ But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" ²⁶ But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷ And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Her expectation to receive was directly connected to her belief that Jesus would treat her better than she deserved.

<u>Matthew 20:30-34</u> – ³⁰ And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, "**Have mercy on us**, O Lord, Son of David!" ³¹ Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, "**Have mercy on us**, O Lord, Son of David!" ³² So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, "What do **you want** Me to do **for you**?" ³³ They said to Him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened." ³⁴ So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

<u>Hebrews 4:16</u> - Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The picture we see is us coming from the outside and making our way to the throne of God.

YOU ARE ALREADY THERE, IN CHRIST!

Ephesians 2:4-7 - ⁴ But God, who is **rich in mercy**, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us **sit together** in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.