

Welcome to Spiritual Wisdom Knowledge and Understanding

My name is Lisa Kane

I'm calling this message "Mercy"

The last few weeks, my messages have focused on salvation and who is going in the rapture. I want to take this week and add the emotional element called Mercy that fits in the equation of being the bride, Christ has called us to be.

Here is what we're going to look at with mercy:

- Definition from Dictionary.com
- Strong's Definition
- The purpose of Mercy
- How to apply Mercy from God to yourself
- How to apply Mercy from yourself to others
- Why mercy? Why do we need it and why do we need to show it?

Dictionary.com's definition of Mercy:

noun, plural mercies for 4, 5.
1.
compassionate or kindly forbearance shown toward an offender, an enemy, or other person in one's power; compassion, pity, or benevolence:
<i>Have mercy on the poor sinner.</i>
2.
the disposition to be compassionate or forbearing:
<i>an adversary wholly without mercy.</i>
3.
the discretionary power of a judge to pardon someone or to mitigate punishment, especially to send to prison rather than invoke the death penalty.
4.
an act of kindness, compassion, or favor:
<i>She has performed countless small mercies for her friends and neighbors.</i>
5.
something that gives evidence of divine favor; blessing:
<i>It was just a mercy we had our seat belts on when it happened.</i>

Using Strong's # H2617 – this is what Strong's says about Mercy:

H2617
טוֹן
chêsêd
<i>kheh'-sed</i>
From H2616 ; <i>kindness</i> ; by implication (towards God) <i>piety</i> ; rarely (by opprobrium) <i>reproof</i> , or (subjectively) <i>beauty</i> : - favour, good deed (-liness, -ness), kindly, (loving-) kindness, merciful (kindness), mercy, pity, reproach, wicked thing.
Total KJV occurrences: 247

The word mercy is written 247 times in the bible. Wow – I keep saying that when something is mentioned twice, how important is that? Well, how important is mercy if it’s written in the bible 247 times?

So now that I’ve laid a foundation of mercy, let’s identify the purpose of mercy by taking a look at what the bible says about mercy.

Jude 20-21 New King James Version (NKJV)
Maintain Your Life with God
²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

First, let me say that this is the last time mercy is written in the bible. Jude is the book before Revelation. That means mercy is not in Revelation. Very important to know.

The book of Jude is a very interesting book in the New Testament. It only has one chapter and it identifies and separates believers and sinners.

From verse 20 and 21 I read, you can see Jude is speaking to the believers and see what he says? “Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life”. Mercy is needed if we want eternal life in Jesus Christ. Mercy is the element that causes you to move toward change.

Now check this out. The whole chapter/book is based on salvation. Take a look at verse 3:

Jude 3 New King James Version (NKJV)

Contend for the Faith

³ Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

He starts off by simply saying he's going to speak in salvation, and then goes right to the meat of the matter identifying examples of those who didn't make it to heaven. Keep in mind, that's what salvation is all about, getting to heaven.

Jude 5-7 New King James Version (NKJV)

Old and New Apostates

⁵ But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Jude clearly is showing us those who make it to heaven and those who didn't. These examples are for us to know and follow so that we don't do what they did and miss heaven.

I want to take a moment here and show you that I'm not talking about the rapture, I'm talking about going to heaven overall. Remember, the rapture is for those special individuals that God calls as His bride...there will be those who believe but are not bride material and they will miss the rapture. However, that doesn't mean they won't go to heaven. It simply means they have to go through the tribulation with everyone else and it will be much harder. See my two messages on who is going in the rapture to understand this more.

Jude 20-23 New King James Version (NKJV)

Maintain Your Life with God

²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

²² And on some have compassion, making a distinction;^[a] ²³ but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire,^[b] hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Beginning in verse 20, Jude begins to show you the other side. He's already showed us the evil that was rejected by God and those that didn't make it to heaven. Now he shows us what is accepted by God, another words the purpose of mercy.

Building yourself up on most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keeping yourselves in the love of God and looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

He even goes further and says to have compassion on others by making a distinction of who to have compassion on...some have to be saved with fear to pull them out of the fire and to hate even the garment they placed over their body.

Now let's take a look at how Peter describes mercy and what mercy accomplishes.

1 Peter 2:1-10 New King James Version (NKJV)
2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ^[a] ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord <i>is</i> gracious.
The Chosen Stone and His Chosen People
⁴ Coming to Him <i>as to</i> a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God <i>and</i> precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,
“Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.” ^[b]
⁷ Therefore, to you who believe, <i>He is</i> precious; but to those who are disobedient, ^[c]
“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,” ^[d]
⁸ and
“A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.” ^[e]
They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.
⁹ But you <i>are</i> a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once <i>were</i> not a people but <i>are</i> now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

In my last two messages called who's going in the rapture part 1 and part 2, I describe this people as special. Do you see Peter describing us like that? And do you see his last statement in verse 10, “but now have obtained mercy”?

Mercy causes us to change. When we recognize the mercy that God is giving to us and we accept it, we become this special person, a new creature tasting the pure milk of God as Peter describes it.

Hallelujah!

So how do we apply this mercy to us to cause us to change into this special person.

Romans 10:17 New King James Version (NKJV)
¹⁷ So then faith <i>comes</i> by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Hear
[heer]
Spell Syllables
Synonyms
Examples
Word Origin
See more synonyms on Thesaurus.com
verb (used with object), heard
[hurɪ] (Show IPA), hearing .
1.
to perceive by the ear:
<i>Didn't you hear the doorbell?</i>
2.
to learn by the ear or by being told; be informed of:
<i>to hear news.</i>
3.
to listen to; give or pay attention to:
<i>They refused to hear our side of the argument.</i>
listen
[lis-uh n]
Spell Syllables
Synonyms
Examples
Word Origin
See more synonyms on Thesaurus.com
verb (used without object)
1.
to give attention with the ear; attend closely for the purpose of hearing; give ear.
2.
to pay attention; heed; obey (often followed by <i>to</i>):
<i>Children don't always listen to their parents.</i>

We hear and we listen. The definition of hearing is to perceive and to learn. The definition of listen is to obey.

We have to hear God's mercy and learn it. We have to then listen to it and obey.

Romans 10:9-10 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Using your mouth is listening...it's the obeying part. So once you hear mercy and perceive it, you finally understand that God is giving you the greatest gift ever, then you receive it by speaking it out loud in obedience.

You then become a new creature.

2 Corinthians 5:17 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This is how you apply God's mercy and change.

And now that you are this new creature, you need to repay this to others so they can see.

Philippians 3:14-17 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. ¹⁶ Nevertheless, to *the degree* that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule,^[a] let us be of the same mind.

I focused on Philippians 3 in my last message part 2 of who is going in the rapture. Now that we're this new creature, we should walk by the same rule and be of the same mind.

Now remember, listening is obeying, and what are the two greatest commandments we're to follow and we can do this with mercy?

Matthew 22:37-39 New King James Version (NKJV)

³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."^[a] ³⁸ This is *the* first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the* second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'^[b]

And that is how to show mercy to others. As a new creature, it should automatically happen but we have our moments.

When we perceive, and we obey there is a change that takes place within us. It affects everything, and people recognize it.

They can see that you are different. You have a joy about you even when things are falling apart. They start to look up to you and ask you for advice and how to get through issues, etc.

Things around you go your way because of the favor of the Lord. I remember when I first started with my company 13 years ago. Everyone kept telling me about this guy, and that he was difficult to work with. They said he would be my nemesis. I said, no. I'm not going to work with a nemesis. Immediately, I notice he didn't return my calls or email...but the moment he called me, he expected me to drop what I was doing so he can obtain his answer and move on.

I could have done things the way he done by withholding my information as hostage until he gave me the information asked for, but no. That's not how a Christian operates. So I gave him his info and continued to wait for him but I prayed. And I prayed in such a way that I asked God to change me to work with him or change him to work with me. And if neither is possible, remove him.

Within three weeks, he no longer worked with the company.

The favor of the Lord was upon me because I did it God's way. I didn't do it the way man would. Politicians should begin applying this to themselves and see how many changes take place in government...maybe that's why we're seeing things change now that President Trump is in the white house. God knows...

And last but certainly not least, why mercy? Why do we need it and why do we need to show it?

Romans 3:23 New King James Version (NKJV)
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²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

You already know the answer to why mercy. You know that you have sinned. I have sinned. Sin leads to death.

Romans 6:23 New King James Version (NKJV)
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²³ For the wages of sin <i>is</i> death, but the gift of God <i>is</i> eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
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The reason we know is because we're slowly dying every day. If Eve and Adam had not sinned in the garden, they never would have died.

So we can all know and recognize that because we're slowly dying, we have sinned.

Now did you notice the second half of Romans 6:23? The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. HALLELUJAH!

Mercy is the trigger that causes us to perceive, listen, and once we hear, we receive.

Today, perceive and hear and listen. God has given us mercy.

Psalm 25:6 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁶ Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they <i>are</i> from of old.

Psalm 26:3 New King James Version (NKJV)

³ For Your lovingkindness *is* before my eyes,
And I have walked in Your truth.

Psalm 40:11 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹¹ Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD;
Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.

Psalm 63:3 New King James Version (NKJV)

³ Because Your lovingkindness *is* better than life,
My lips shall praise You.

Let's pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, let Your mercy come upon me and change me oh Lord. I declare You and Your mercy to be at the center of my life. Change me into this new creature and let Your mercy flow through me to others so they can receive and believe in You too. In Jesus' Name Amen!

Thank you for listening. I look forward to seeing you in Heaven celebrating our eternity together!

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