

MERCY ...

A BIBLICAL VISION FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THE ONLY GOD!

The merciful are happy in a way the legalist can never understand.

The merciful are happy in a way the legalist can never understand. They have tasted the sheer mercy of God who received them into the kingdom. They have come to share that quality of divine love. And they will be shown mercy throughout their lives and at the day of judgment. [Green, M. (2001). *The message of Matthew: the kingdom of heaven* (p. 90). Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.]

It is those who hunger and thirst who are happy, not the bloated.

It is those who hunger and thirst who are happy, not the bloated. Jesus is talking, of course, not of physical starvation, but of spiritual. There is a profound happiness in having a desperate hunger, a burning thirst for goodness (for this is the main meaning of 'righteousness' in this Gospel). ... These hungry ones desire the whole thing, complete righteousness, rather than a part of it. The phrase breathes whole-heartedness. If we have a passionate desire to be right with God and stay that way, he is going to meet that desire to the full, and we are going to be happy. [Ibid.]

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
(Matthew 5:7 ESV)

Go and learn what this means:
"I desire mercy, and not sacrifice."
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.
(Matthew 9:13 ESV)

And he did not permit him but said to him,
"Go home to your friends and tell them how much
the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."
(Mark 5:19 ESV)

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.
(Luke 6:36 ESV)

For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy.
Mercy triumphs over judgment.
(James 2:13 ESV)

Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.
(Psalm 112:4 ESV)

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.
(Micah 6:8 NIV)