**HAVE MERCY ON ME OH GOD**

**TEXT: PSALM 86:1-7**

**Hear me, Lord, and answer me,
    for I am poor and needy.
2Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
    save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; 3have mercy on me, Lord,
    for I call to you all day long.
4Bring joy to your servant, Lord,
    for I put my trust in you.**

**5You, Lord, are forgiving and good,
    abounding in love to all who call to you.
6Hear my prayer, Lord;
    listen to my cry for mercy.
7When I am in distress, I call to you,
    because you answer me.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. Palm Sunday is celebrated the world over today, commemorating the triumphant entrance of The King.
2. He enters Jerusalem not on a horse, or chariot, but humbly, on a donkey!
3. Talk about the mercies of God, the same God who called out to Adam, and Eve, in the Garden of Eden, after they chose to deliberately deny their King.
4. Justice, mercy, and humility marks the great characteristics of our God, as Micah pointed out. We have looked at the justice of God, but let us focus on the mercy of God today.
5. Mercy is a characteristic that is high on demand, but low in supply, for many reasons. Thank God His Mercy, endures forever!
6. What does it mean to receive mercy from God? It basically indicates that when we deserve punishment, God lets us off the hook. Instead, He decides to bless us in return.
7. While this concept is hard, if not impossible, for humans to comprehend, that is exactly how God demonstrated His love throughout the Scriptures to mankind.
8. **BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF MERCY**
9. David’s plead for mercy after Bathsheba’s affair.

**Psalm 51:1-2**

**1Have mercy on me, O God,
    according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
    blot out my transgressions.
2Wash away all my iniquity
    and cleanse me from my sin.**

1. God’s mercy to wayward Solomon.

**1 Kings 11:13**

**13Yet I will not tear the whole kingdom from him, but will give him one tribe for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen.”**

1. God’s mercy to Israel during captivity.

**Psalm 106:43-46**

**43Many times he delivered them,
    but they were bent on rebellion
    and they wasted away in their sin.
44Yet he took note of their distress
    when he heard their cry;
45for their sake he remembered his covenant
    and out of his great love he relented.
46He caused all who held them captive
    to show them mercy.**

1. Day of Atonement and Mercy Seat.

**Leviticus 16:14**

**14He is to take some of the bull’s blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover.**

1. **THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT**
2. **Matthew 18:21-35**

**21Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”**

**22Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.**

**23“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of goldwas brought to him. 25Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.**

**26“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ 27The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.**

**28“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.**

**29“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’**

**30“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.**

**32“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.**

**35“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”**

1. Remember to teachings about bringing your offering and at the altar remembering your unforgiveness?
2. **WHY SOME STRUGGLE WITH EXTENDING MERCY?**
3. Generally due to be taken advantage of. (Self-preservation)
4. Misunderstandings about mercy vs trust, from a humanistic perspective.
5. Inability to partake in the suffering of the cross.
6. Not fully surrendering to the working of the Holy Spirit in our personal lives.
7. Note: we are all under construction, thus we pray daily lead us not into temptation but deliver US from evil.
8. Out of all the motivational gifts in Romans, mercy is my weakest point – so help me God.

**CONCLUSION:**

1. Remember, after Jesus triumphant entry, He immediately become unpopular with the business community in the temple for overturning their tables!?!
2. Was not long after that His arrest, incarceration and death was plotted, and He went like a Lamb to the slaughter.
3. While on the cross, He still forgave one on his side (while another was cursing him) and prayed God forgive US for we know not what we do!
4. His mercies endure forever.
5. How to become more merciful – freely you have received, freely give.
6. God’s holiness demands that sin cannot exist in His presence. God’s justice punishes sin accordingly. However, God’s mercy provides redemption through atonement.
7. Atonement made way for justification—just as if we did not sin. No other blood than that of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the Son of Man, can wash away all our sins. This grace is obtained through faith in Christ.
8. Let us pray.