

# Matthew 5:7

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**By Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—Many Bible students enjoy reading scriptures from the section that is generally called the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5 through 7 in the book of Matthew).

When Christ saw the multitude, He went up on a mountain (Matthew 5:1). When He was seated, His disciples came to Him (same verse). Then, He began to teach them (verse 2). Today, let's look at Matthew 5:7.

*Matthew 5:7*—"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

## **Showing mercy**

Some of the most encouraging verses in the Bible demonstrate the mercy of the Father and the Son toward His creation.

*Psalms 103:8-10*—"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities."

*Psalms 103:11-14*—"For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust."

*Romans 5:8*—"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

It should come as no surprise to Bible students that the Bible shows that the Father and Son encourage disciples to be merciful.

*Matthew 9:13*—"But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

*Matthew 12:7*—"But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless."

Have you ever noticed that "showing mercy" is one of the seven gifts that the apostle Paul mentioned to the congregation in Rome (Romans 12:6-8)?

*Romans 12:8*—"He who shows mercy with cheerfulness."

## They shall obtain mercy

Obtaining mercy is a double blessing—not only by receiving it in the future, but also by receiving it now.

*Matthew 7:1-2*—“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.”

*James 2:13*—“For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.”

*James 3:17-18*—“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”

*Luke 18:9-14*—“Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, “God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.” And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.’ ”