

## What does the Lord require? – Pt 3 To show mercy

In our first teaching on this topic we looked at Micah 6: 8 and established that we are to – (1) do justly, (2) love mercy, and (3) walk humbly before our God. In this study we will go back and as part of establishing why we are to show mercy we will cover (1) mercy is to show compassion, and (2) there are some whose specific ministry in the church is to show mercy, and (3) we are to be merciful to the lost that they may obtain mercy.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded

### 1. Mercy is to show Compassion

“For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion” (Rom.9: 15).

### 2. There are some whose ministry is to show mercy, with cheerfulness.

“Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness” (Rom.12: 8).

And that is not easy to show mercy, hence we are to do so with cheerfulness.

### 3. We are to be merciful to the lost that they may obtain mercy.

“Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy” (Rom.11: 31). See also Lk.6: 36.

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

Muslims often kill the infidel, as RCs killed Protestants during the inquisition.  
Christians will often – not take up arms in times of war.

Question to think about.

Why the difference?

Our answer from the scriptures.

Muslims –

Their unholy book says they are to “kill the infidel”, and the Christian holy scriptures say – the unsaved are vessels of His wrath fitted to destruction (Rom 9:22).

Christians –

i) The word of God says – “Love your enemies” (Matt.5: 44, see also Lk.6: 27 & 35), and “if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head” (Rom.12: 20).

ii) The God of the bible –

\* is rich in mercy (Eph 2:4), and

\* is abundant in mercy (1 Pet 1:3)

\* is pitiful and of tender mercy (Jas 5:11). See also Pss 51:1, Lk 1:78

It is according to His mercy that He saved us (Tit 3:5), and hence the saved are vessels of His mercy (Rom 9:23).

ii) Christians show themselves merciful to the lost that they (the lost) may obtain mercy (Rom.11: 31), they sow in tears and reap in joy (Ps.126: 5). Therefore the difference between the two – their books, their Gods and their mercy to others. Let us show mercy, as God is merciful to us that others might know the mercy of Christ.