

“Arise for our help, and redeem us for Thy mercies' sake.” Psalms 44:26 KJV

It is true God loves us, but our redemption is designed to magnify His mercy. Psalm 136 has 26 verses and each verse ends with the phrase, *“His mercy endureth forever!”* God forgives us for His own sake. The less we deserve His mercy, the greater it becomes! Mercy is never deserved, else it would not be mercy. God’s mercy was extended to man, before time began, before he fell into sin, and before he cried out for it! It’s called “fore” given, because mercy was given before it was needed! It isn’t predicated upon man’s need, but upon God’s character and purpose. David didn’t use need as a reason to ask for help, he laid all upon God with the phrase, *“for Thy mercies’ sake.”* Mercy is predicted, predicated, and presented by and for God to man to magnify the magnitude of His mercy! *“In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began...hath in due times manifested His Word through preaching...Grace, mercy, and peace,*



from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.” God purposed forgiveness before the first Word of creation was uttered! Before Adam existed, mercy was! Before time began, it was resplendent magnificence! God didn’t need man to increase His mercy’s greatness any more than a star needs a telescope! Our wretchedness simply serves to bring it into focus that we may know and praise Him for it! *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.”* You do not deserve, cannot earn, nor can you purchase salvation, but you can ask with humbleness born of a realization of your own wretchedness! Mercy is a death blow to ego and pride for man must admit he has wickedly sinned against His loving Creator, repent, forsake his sin, and begin a new life of obedience out of loving trust in Jesus Christ. *“For [God] hath made [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. We love Him, because He first loved us.”* God loved you before you existed! *“Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in Thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.”* How would you feel if you gave that kind of love to someone unworthy of it and they mocked and denied you to your face?

The wretched sinner seeking grace,
May find it all in just one place,
If they will humbly kneel and call,
They’ll find God’s mercy covers all! ~CGP

God is patient, *“not willing that any should perish,”* but he will not halt nor tarry His plan for a single man! Now is the time to repent, because you have no guarantee of even the next hour. You could be in a store shopping and catch a gunman’s bullet, or on the freeway and someone else’s tire blows out. You could be at a sports event when a suicide bomber arrives. You just don’t know. Why gamble eternity on one more moment?

“This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:21-23 KJV