

LORD  
HAVE  
MERCY



Blessed are the MERCIFUL.  
They will be shown mercy.

*(Matthew 5:7)*

**MERCY** = response to suffering that feels pity or compassion and offers undeserved leniency or kindness

*(Ephesians 2:4)* We were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great LOVE for us, God, who is rich in MERCY, made us alive in Christ, even when we were dead...

God's love is rich in mercy

*(Matthews 23:23)* You have neglected  
the more important matters of the law...  
JUSTICE, MERCY, and faithfulness.

God's law includes **both** justice **and** mercy.

But the wisdom that comes down from  
heaven is... full of mercy and good fruit,  
impartial and sincere.        (*James 3:17*)



God's wisdom is described as impartial,  
yet full of mercy.

To **disrespect** or **disregard** folks  
because they are poor is inconsistent  
with the nature of God.

## **James 2:5-7**

- Those rich in faith are (most) often the **poor**
- Those who blaspheme the faith are (most) often the **rich**

Insulting the poor and favoring the rich is a temptation so **insidious** and **deceptive** that it causes us to **ignore** facts and **commit** sin.

God's "royal law..."

**LOVE NEIGHBOR AS SELF**

1. God's law is based on love
2. God's law is focused on personal interest
3. God's law is committed to long-term benefit
4. God's law does not ever consider money.

The proof that God expects me to relate to others with the law of love is the fact that God will judge my life based on the law of love.

*“Whenever you speak or act, remember that you will be judged by the law of love, the law that set you free” (James 2:12).*

Ordering my life by the law of love actually sets me free from intimidation by riches or discriminate toward poverty. I can approach any need or problem with mercy!

# **The PROCESS of MERCY**

1. On God's behalf, I **love** this person.
2. With God's integrity, I **ignore** their condition or position.
3. With God's patience, I **listen** to their story.
4. With God's wisdom, I discern their **motive**.
5. Remembering God's mercy **upon myself**, I lean as far toward mercy **as possible** when I make a judgment/decision regarding this person.



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