

A scenic landscape featuring a large mountain range under a blue and orange sky, with a misty valley and a lake in the foreground. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some snow patches. The sky is a mix of light blue and warm orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The foreground shows a calm lake reflecting the sky, with a line of trees and a misty valley in between.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
Mt. 5:7

Mt. 5:7 Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Review

Several weeks ago, we began the exegesis of this great sermon preached by the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16

A. The Setting, 5:1-2

B. The Sayings, 5:3-12

1. What We Are, 5:3-5

a. Poor in Spirit, 5:3

b. Pressed in Soul, 5:4

c. Patient in Strife, 5:5

2. Where We Aim, 5:6

Tonight, we continue studying this great sermon, The Sermon on the Mount, focusing upon verse 7. Note the progression in the first four Beatitudes and how it leads to the one for tonight:

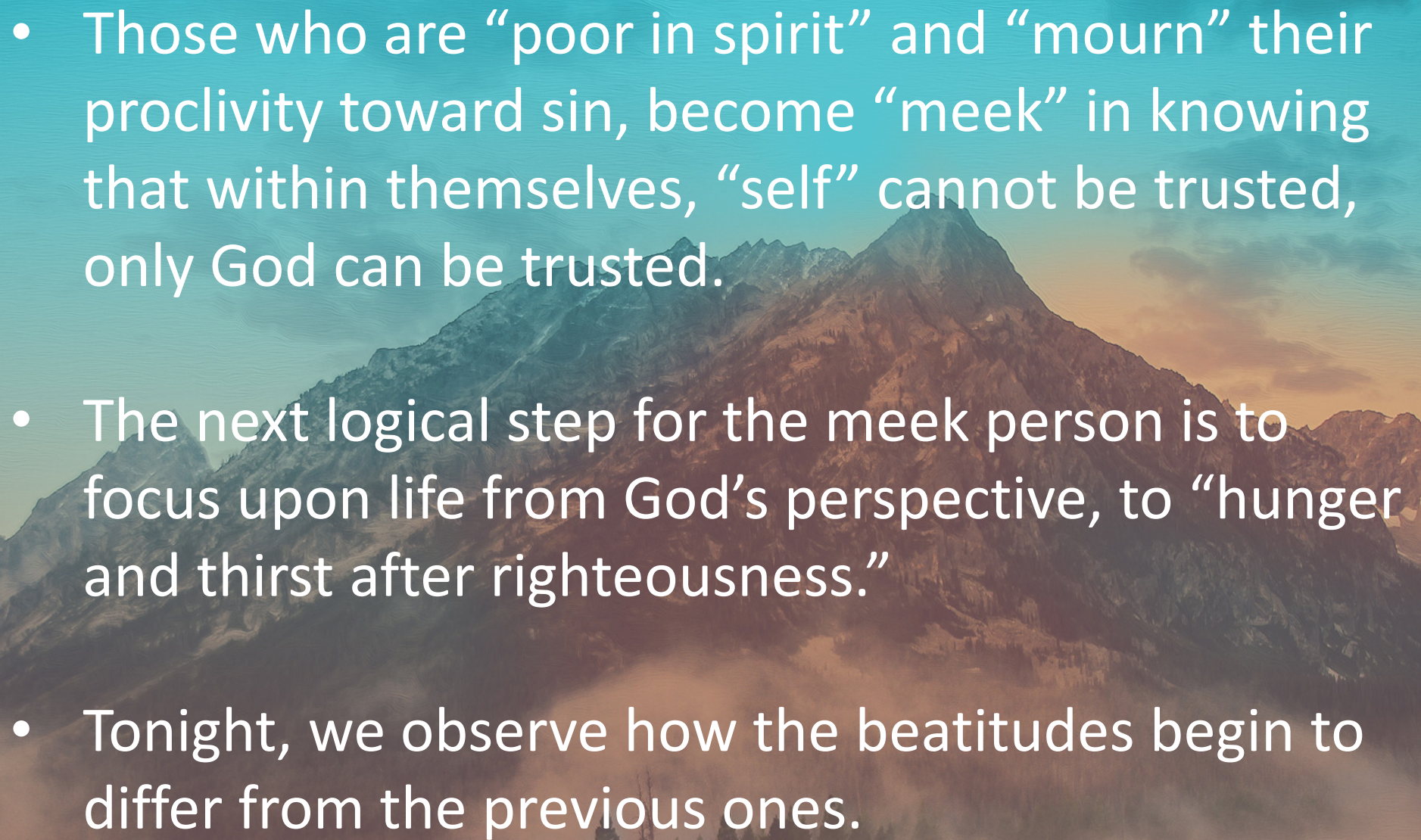
Mt. 5:3 Blessed *are* the **poor in spirit**: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed *are* they that **mourn**: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed *are* **the meek**: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed *are* they which **do hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed *are* the **merciful**: for they shall **obtain mercy**.

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- Those who are “poor in spirit” and “mourn” their proclivity toward sin, become “meek” in knowing that within themselves, “self” cannot be trusted, only God can be trusted.
 - The next logical step for the meek person is to focus upon life from God’s perspective, to “hunger and thirst after righteousness.”
 - Tonight, we observe how the beatitudes begin to differ from the previous ones.

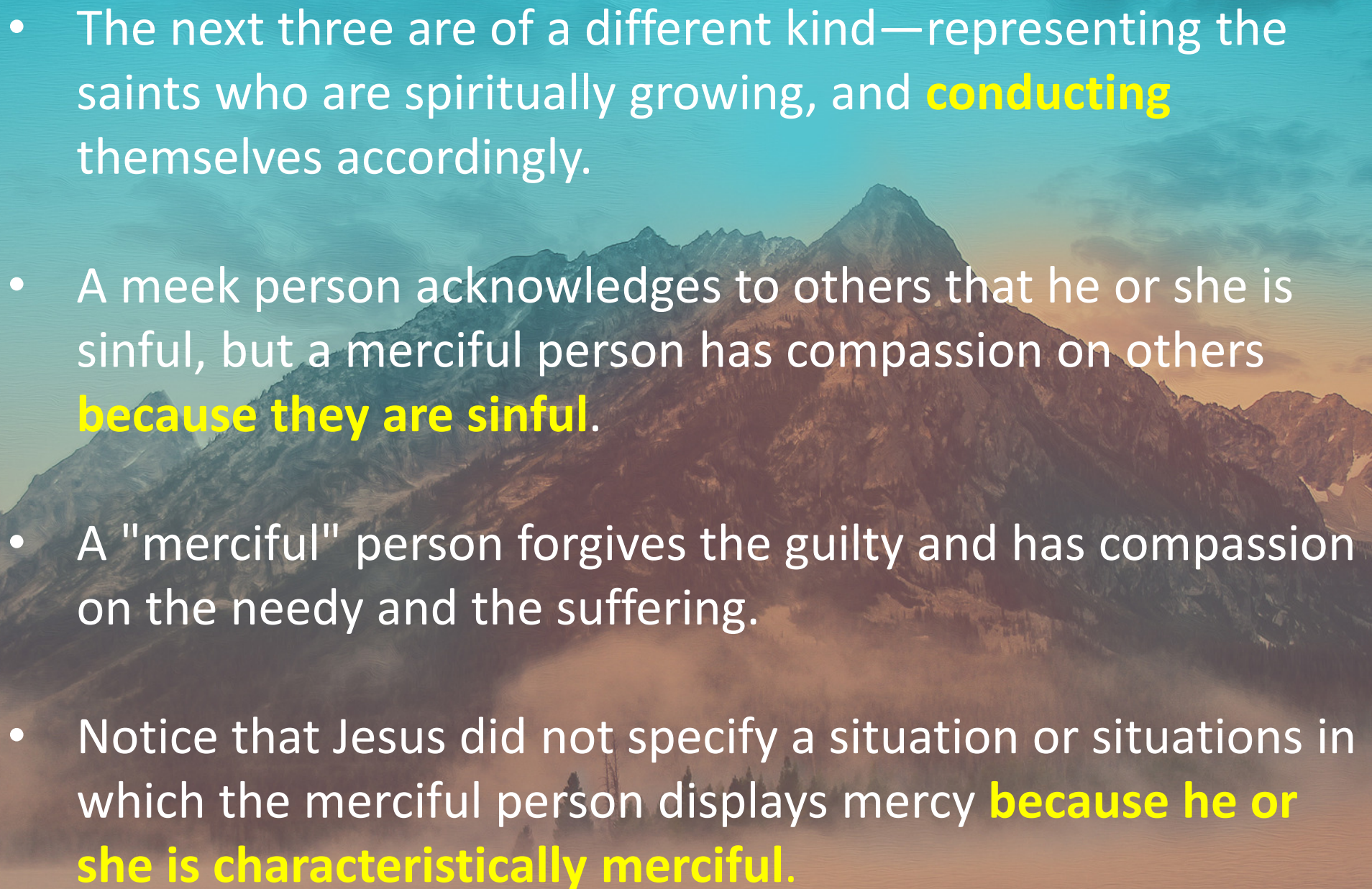
3. Ways We Act, 5:7-9

Mt. 5:7 Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

ἐλεήμων = merciful

a. When Facing Cruelty, 5:7

- The first four beatitudes represent the attitude of believers in regard to their standing before God – seeing themselves as sinners, humbly seeking spirituality.

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- The next three are of a different kind—representing the saints who are spiritually growing, and **conducting** themselves accordingly.
 - A meek person acknowledges to others that he or she is sinful, but a merciful person has compassion on others **because they are sinful.**
 - A "merciful" person forgives the guilty and has compassion on the needy and the suffering.
 - Notice that Jesus did not specify a situation or situations in which the merciful person displays mercy **because he or she is characteristically merciful.**

- Why would a person “be” merciful?

Heb. 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might **be a merciful** and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, **to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.**

- When a believer is born again, the nature of the Savior should be a consequential influence of *being*, producing a prominent, spiritual lifestyle in such a believer to be like the Savior.
- The Scriptures are replete with descriptions of God’s mercy.



Psa. 62:12 Also **unto thee, O Lord, *belongeth* mercy:**
for thou renderest to every man according to his
work.

Psa. 136:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is*
good: **for his mercy *endureth* for ever.**

2 O give thanks unto the God of gods: **for his mercy**
***endureth* for ever.**

3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords: **for his mercy**
***endureth* for ever.**

4 To him who alone doeth great wonders: **for his**
***mercy endureth* for ever.**

5 To him that by wisdom made the heavens: **for his**
***mercy endureth* for ever.**

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, with a lake in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid on the image.

6 To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

7 To him that made great lights: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

8 The sun to rule by day: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

9 The moon and stars to rule by night: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

10 To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

11 And brought out Israel from among them: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, some with patches of snow or light-colored rock. In the foreground, there is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, reflecting the sky. The sky is a mix of light blue and soft orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and majestic.

12 With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm:
for his mercy endureth for ever.

13 To him which divided the Red sea into parts: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea:
for his mercy endureth for ever.

16 To him which led his people through the wilderness: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

17 To him which smote great kings: **for his mercy endureth for ever.:**

18 And slew famous kings: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, with a lake in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid on this background.

19 Sihon king of the Amorites: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

20 And Og the king of Bashan: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

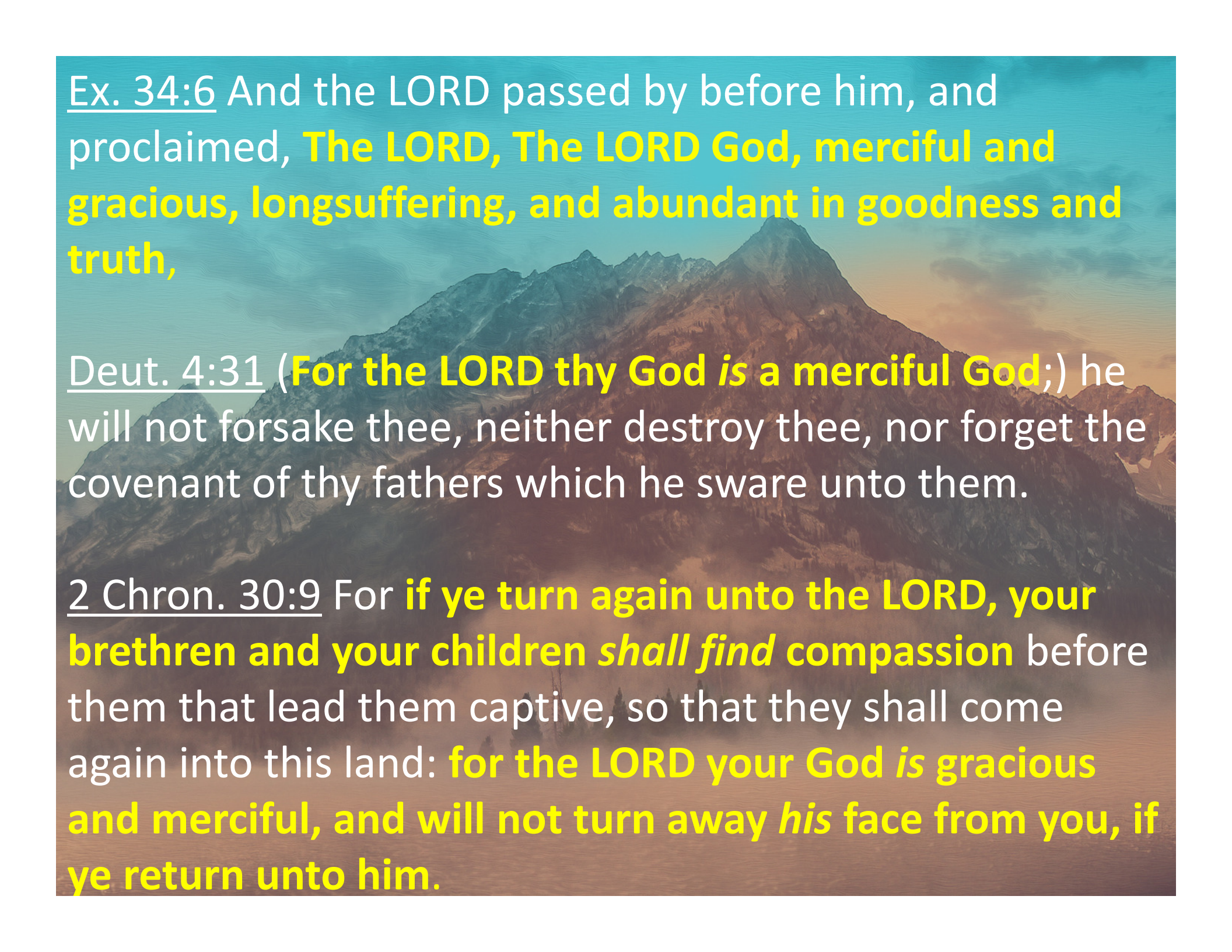
21 And gave their land for an heritage: **for his mercy endureth for ever:** 22 *Even* an heritage unto Israel his servant: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

23 Who remembered us in our low estate: **for his mercy endureth for ever:**

24 And hath redeemed us from our enemies: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

25 Who giveth food to all flesh: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**

26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: **for his mercy endureth for ever.**



Ex. 34:6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, **The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,**

Deut. 4:31 (**For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;**) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

2 Chron. 30:9 For **if ye turn again unto the LORD, your brethren and your children shall find compassion** before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: **for the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him.**

Neh. 9:17 And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but **thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful**, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not. ...

31 **Nevertheless for thy great mercies' sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou art a gracious and merciful God.**

Psa 86:15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and **plenteous in mercy and truth.**



Psa. 103:8 **The LORD is merciful and gracious**, slow to anger, and **plenteous in mercy**.

Psa. 145:8 The LORD *is* gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of **great mercy**.

Joel 2:13 And **rend your heart**, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for **he is gracious and merciful**, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Jonah 4:2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, *was* not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou *art* **a gracious God, and merciful**, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

- LOVE + GRACE = THE MERCY OF GOD

Psa. 103:8 **The LORD is merciful and gracious**, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep *his anger* for ever.

10 **He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.**

11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, **so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.**

12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

- Believers are merciful because they are recipients of God's mercy.

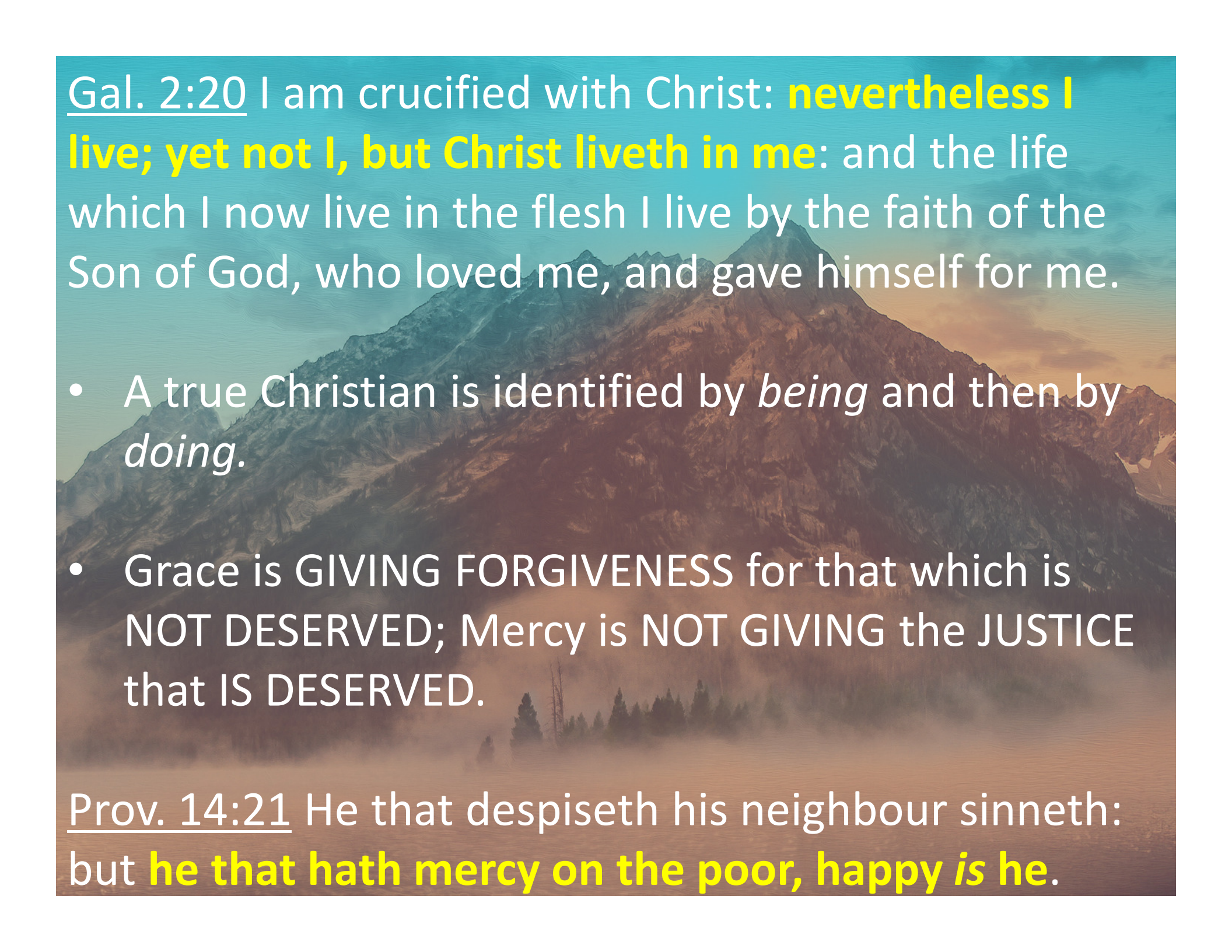
Luke 6:32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.

33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.

34 And if ye lend *to them* of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 **But** love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, **and ye shall be the children of the Highest**: for he is kind unto the unthankful and *to the evil*.

36 **Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.**



Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: **nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me**: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

- A true Christian is identified by *being* and then by *doing*.
- Grace is GIVING FORGIVENESS for that which is NOT DESERVED; Mercy is NOT GIVING the JUSTICE that IS DESERVED.

Prov. 14:21 He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but **he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he**.

Prov. 11:17 **The merciful man doeth good to his own soul:** but *he that is* cruel troubleth his own flesh.

- The promise applies in many different situations. See the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37) and the parable of the unmerciful servant (Matt. 18:23-35) for illustrations of this beatitude.


2 Tim. 1:16 **The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus;** for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

17 But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found *me*.

18 **The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day:** and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

Jude 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, **looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.**

- The blessing of "the merciful" is that they will "receive mercy" from God BECAUSE they are already merciful and obedient is walking by faith.
- Jesus did not mean that people can earn God's mercy for salvation by being merciful to others.
- He meant that God will deal mercifully with people who have dealt mercifully with their fellowmen.
- Joseph, falsely accused, was put in prison by Potiphar.



Gen. 39:21 But **the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy**, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

- Mercy is the manifestation of righteousness.

Psa. 85:10 **Mercy and truth** are met together; **righteousness and peace** have kissed *each other*.

Prov. 28:13 **He that covereth his sins shall not prosper**: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them shall have mercy*.

Psa. 18:24 Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me **according to my righteousness**, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

25 **With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful;** with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright;

- In the New Testament, directions are given for believers regarding mercy:

Rom. 12:8 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.**

- A merciful believer is NOT full of vengeance.

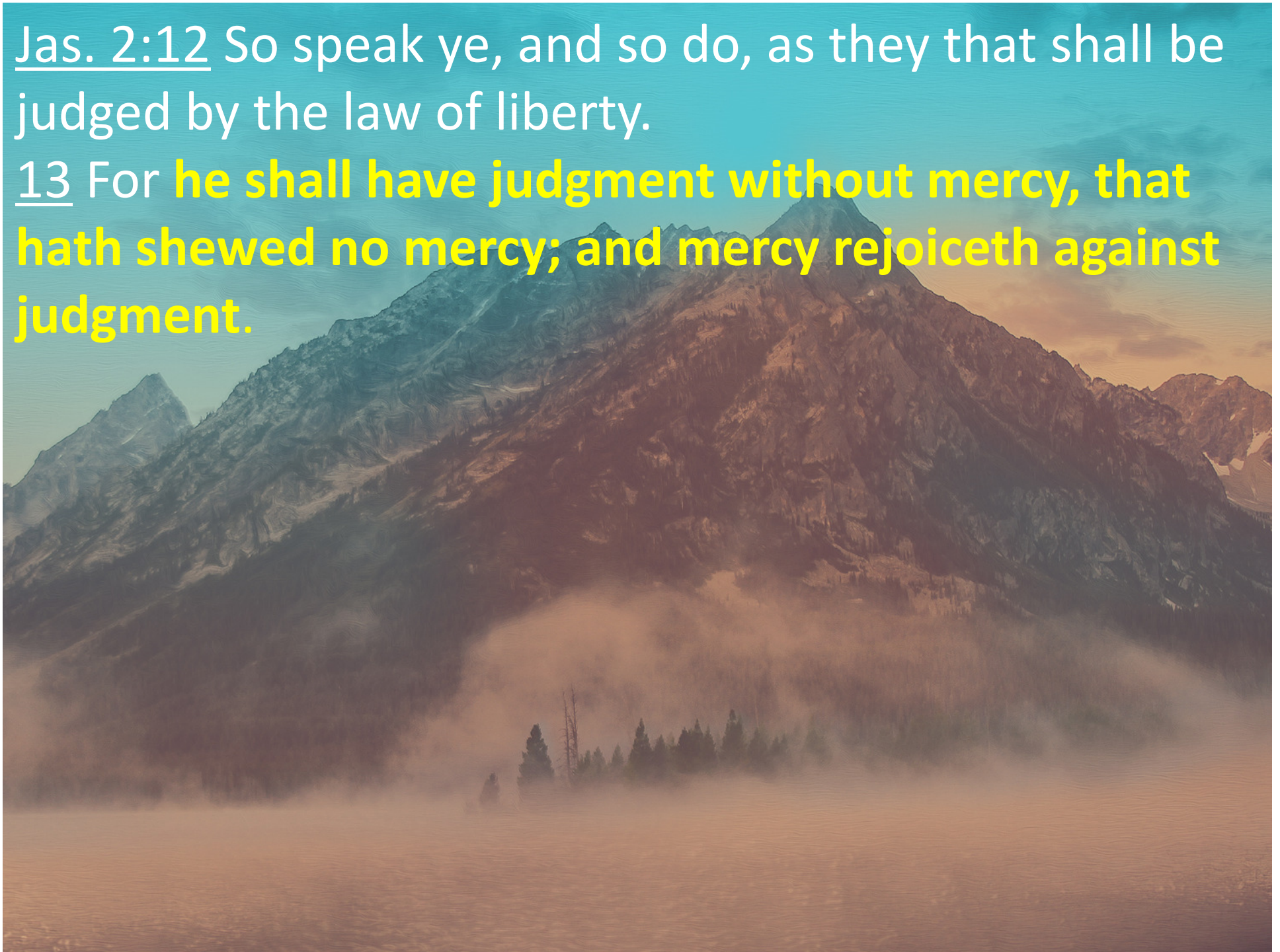
Rom. 12:19 Dearly beloved, **avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath**: for it is written, *Vengeance is mine*; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore 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.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but **overcome evil with good**.

Jas. 2:12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

13 For **he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.**



The Merchant of Venice, Act IV, Scene I

William Shakespeare - 1564-1616\

The quality of mercy is not strained;

It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven

Upon the place beneath. **It is twice blest;**

It blesseth him that gives and him that takes:

'T is mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes

The throned monarch better than his crown:

.....

It is an attribute to God himself;

<https://poets.org/poem/merchant-venice-act-iv-scene-i-quality-mercy-not-strained>

- The merciful connection to the Beatitudes is found in Psa. 37:21

Psa. 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but **the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.**
22 **For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth;** and *they that be* cursed of him shall be cut off.
23 The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

“God’s mercy
is so great
that you may
sooner drain
the sea of
its water, or
deprive the
sun of its
light, or make
space too
narrow, than
diminish the
great mercy
of God.”

**CHARLES
SPURGEON**

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Conclusion

The merciful are “happy” because they savor the mercy received from the Lord, and gladly share mercy with others.

Prov. 3:3 **Let not mercy and truth forsake thee:** bind them about thy neck; **write them upon the table of thine heart:**

4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

5 **Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;** and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways **acknowledge him,** and he shall direct thy paths.