



## “The Realizations of Mercy That Produce Perpetual Praise”

Main Theme—v.12

*2 realizations of mercy from Christ that produce perpetual praise to Christ:*

I. Christ’s mercy triumphed over our widespread opposition—vv.13-14

II. Christ’s mercy triumphed over our extensive wickedness—vv.15-16

Concluding Praise—v.17

1 Thess. 5:16-17; Acts 26:9; Lev. 24:16; Acts 22:4, 26:11; Luke 5:32;  
Col. 1:21, 2:13-14

[Mercy is] compassion shown toward someone whom it is within one’s power to punish or harm. (1)

It is of mercy that we are not in hell. It is of mercy that we have the hope of heaven. It is of mercy that we live in a land of spiritual light. It is of mercy that we have been called by the Spirit, and not left to reap the fruit of our own ways. It is of mercy that we still live and have opportunities of glorifying God for that grace by which we live, and for that loving kindness which endures forever. (2)

Grace kindles faith and love, and floods the soul with these divine gifts...With him grace is ever the root, faith [is] the trunk, and [love is] the fruit of the tree of salvation. (3)

Anyone who has a growing comprehension of the holiness of God will also have a commensurate growing understanding of his sinfulness before this God. The closer one comes to the light, the more dirt one sees. Paul lived so near to the heart of God that he could not help but understand the desperate need of his own heart. And let us never forget that in this confession Paul was magnifying the mercy and grace of God, not his own sinfulness. (4)

The divine King is now characterized by four [descriptions]. First, he is *eternal*, literally ‘king of the ages’, beyond the fluctuations of time. Secondly, he is *immortal*, beyond the ravages of decay and death...Thirdly, he is *invisible*, beyond the limits of every horizon—For ‘nobody has ever seen God’... Fourthly, the King is *the only God*. What Paul is affirming is not the uniqueness of God’s wisdom, but the uniqueness of his being. He has no rivals. (5)

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american\\_english/mercy](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/mercy). Accessed 5/4/2014.

<sup>2</sup> J.C. Ryle, “A Call to Prayer,” 31. Accessed 12/1/24--<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/60236564/a-call-to-prayer-by-jc-ryle>.

<sup>3</sup> William Hendriksen and Simon J. Kistemaker, *Exposition of The Pastoral Epistles*, 56.

<sup>4</sup> John A. Kitchen, *The Pastoral Epistles for Pastors* (The Woodlands, TX: Kress Christian Publication, 68.

<sup>5</sup> John Stott, *The Message of 1 Timothy*, The Bible Speaks Today Series, 32.