

Apostle Joshua Selman



THE MERCY OF GOD

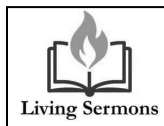
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Preacher: Apostle Joshua Selman

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First Edition — 2026

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Foreword

Mercy is one of the most profound revelations of God's character in Scripture. It is not merely an emotional response to human suffering; it is God's divine provision that bridges the gap between His holiness and our frailty. In this remarkable teaching, the preacher carefully unfolds this truth, showing that every believer's journey with God is sustained not by human strength alone, but by the inexhaustible mercy of God.

As you read these pages, you will notice that this message goes beyond defining mercy. It explains why every person needs mercy, how God administers mercy, and the spiritual posture required to receive it. The teaching reminds us that mercy is rooted in God's compassion, yet it finds expression where there is genuine brokenness, humility, and dependence upon Him.

One of the most striking truths presented in this sermon is that mercy is God's system of divine advantage. It is the reason ordinary men accomplish extraordinary purposes. It is the invisible hand of God that lifts the weak, restores the fallen, heals the afflicted, opens doors that human effort cannot unlock, and enables believers to become all that God has ordained them to be.

Throughout this transcription, we have intentionally preserved the preacher's voice, emphasis, illustrations, and scriptural flow. Our editorial work has been limited to correcting grammar, punctuation, formatting, and readability while ensuring that the original message remains intact. Every effort has been made to maintain the atmosphere of the live ministration so that reading this book closely reflects the experience of listening to the message.

As you meditate on these truths, we encourage you not to read hurriedly. Take time to reflect on each Scripture, allow the Holy Spirit to illuminate the principles presented, and respond personally wherever the Lord brings conviction. The call to brokenness is not an invitation to condemnation but an invitation to experience the transforming power of God's mercy.

It is our prayer that this message will awaken a deeper appreciation of God's compassion, strengthen your dependence upon His grace, and inspire you to extend the same mercy you have received to others. May every page draw you closer to Christ, deepen your faith, and remind you that His mercy is still available to all who come before Him with humble and contrite hearts.

May the Lord richly bless you as you read, meditate, and walk in the reality of His abundant mercy.

Grace and peace,

— *Wisdom Epsi*

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube, **at** [*Koinonia's Official YouTube Channel*](#)

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Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— ***Livingsermons.com***

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

Praise the name of the Lord.

It truly is my honor to be here. To the leadership and the entire Sapphire family, thank you so much for this opportunity. I do not take for granted the privilege to bring the Word of the Lord, even at this time.

Thank you for your passion. When I came in and saw the people worshipping, I knew that our hearts were truly open. Every time we are open and expectant, there is no limit to what God is able to do.

Hallelujah!

Praise the name of the Lord.

Before we pray, let me make a request.

You need the message you are about to hear, and everyone you know and love needs this message. Please do me a favor: insist and ensure that everyone around you gets to listen to this message. At the end of it, you will understand why.

Can we ask the Lord to visit us and grant us encounters through His Word? Lift your voice and pray.

"Thank You, Jesus, for Your Word. Speak to us."

Those following by television or by the internet, participate in this prayer.

The Lord is giving us lasting visitations.

Pray from the depth of your heart.

"Grant us revelation by Your Spirit. Let it set our hearts on fire indeed."

For in Jesus' name, I pray.

Amen.

Please be seated. God bless you again.

Pastor Bena, thank you. It is an honor. I celebrate you and your dear wife, and we thank the Lord for this great miracle over your family, in Jesus' name.

CHAPTER -ONE-

The Mercy of God

Our anchor scripture is **Deuteronomy 4:31 (KJV)**:

"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."

Let me read it one more time.

"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."

The Need for a Doctrinal Understanding of Mercy

I took out time last year to study extensively the subject of the mercy of God because I discovered that, even though it is a topic that is widely discussed across the Body of Christ, not many people have taken the time to doctrinally study the concept of mercy.

Because we have not studied it carefully, many believers have not truly received the blessings and benefits that come from this deep and powerful spiritual reality.

I have heard many preachers teach on the mercy of God.

The average believer simply has an idea that the mercy of God is an advantage, and that alone becomes enough for reception.

"Lord, whatever this mercy is, we know it helps, so I receive it."

But there cannot be proper reception in ignorance.

Hallelujah!

So I took time to study the entire subject of the mercy of God.

By the privilege of God's grace, I have taught on this subject for many years, but I was surprised myself when I began to study it afresh.

I was exposed to the depth of my own ignorance and realized how much I did not know about the mercy of God. I am praying that God will grant us grace.

Within the little time we have, I will have to compress many thoughts together, but I believe someone's life is truly about to change.

Liberty Is Connected to Knowledge

Liberty is connected to knowledge.

Jesus said:

*"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." — John
8:32 (KJV)*

Notice that He did not say the truth that is available will make you free.

It is the truth that you know that carries the capacity to make you free.

There is a direct relationship between knowledge and liberty.

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord.

Four Foundational Layers for Understanding Mercy

In my study on the subject of mercy, I discovered that there are four foundational layers of understanding. If these four dimensions are not understood, appreciating and receiving the mercy of God becomes very difficult.

1. The Nature and Character of God

The first thing you must understand in order to appreciate the subject of mercy is the nature and the character of God.

It is impossible to truly understand the mercy of God if you do not understand who God is.

There is something about God that you must know before mercy will make sense.

2. The Nature and Character of Man

The second layer is the nature and character of man.

You must understand something about the intrinsic makeup of man that necessitates mercy.

If there are certain things you do not know about humanity, you will wonder why God is so determined to ensure that man becomes a recipient of His mercy.

So there is something we must learn about the nature of God, and there is something we must also learn about the nature of man.

3. The Spiritual System for Administering Mercy

The third thing we must understand is the spiritual system through which mercy is administered.

As powerful as mercy is, it is not administered randomly.

There is a spiritual protocol.

That means, as free and as available as mercy is, there are people who will never become recipients of it because they do not understand the system through which mercy is ministered.

Are we learning already?

4. The Blessings and Benefits of Mercy

Finally, after understanding these foundations, we can now examine the blessings and benefits of God's mercy.

If you approach the subject of mercy from this perspective, I guarantee that you will understand the mercy of God in a way you may never have understood before.

Grant us understanding, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

The Nature of God

The Bible tells us many things about God.

Principally, the way we know God is through Scripture. I have taught on this before.

According to the Bible, there are four platforms through which believers come to know God.

1. Through Scripture

The first way we learn God is through His Word.

Scripture is God's primary revelation of Himself.

2. Through His Names

The second way we know God is through His names.

The various dimensions of God are revealed through His names.

As you study the names of God, they expose you to His multifaceted nature.

Are we together?

3. Through the Man Jesus Christ

The third way we know God is by studying the Man, Jesus Christ.

The Bible calls Him:

"...the express image of his person..." — **Hebrews 1:3 (KJV)**

The invisible God, who had remained surrounded by mystery, had only been partially revealed through the prophets. They gave us glimpses of His nature.

Jesus came for many reasons. He did not come only to die. Jesus came as a living manuscript. He came as God's correction to humanity's perception of Himself.

Until Jesus appeared, no one could know God accurately.

The prophets spoke according to the measure of revelation they had. They gave us types and shadows.

But Jesus came as the perfect explanation and theology of God.

Everything we were uncertain about concerning the nature of God is verified in the person of Jesus Christ.

If the Bible says God is love, we have the right to verify that statement in Jesus.

Is that true?

If the Bible says God is all-powerful, we verify it in Jesus.

Jesus became God's verification system.

Anything attributed to God that you do not see revealed in Jesus reflects the limitation of the one who received that earlier revelation.

4. Through Personal Experience

The fourth way we know God is through experience.

Job testified:

"I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee." — **Job 42:5 (KJV)**

However, that is not my emphasis.

I simply want to show you that Scripture reveals certain truths about God that every believer must know.

Revelations About God

The very first unmistakable revelation Scripture gives concerning God is this:

God is love.

Everyone say after me:

"God is love."

The Apostle John teaches us:

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." — 1 John 4:8
(KJV)

Notice carefully.

The Bible does not merely say that God has love.

It does not simply say that God shows love.

The Bible declares that **God is love.**

God Is Gracious, Compassionate, and Merciful

Now let us read **Psalms 145:8–9 (KJV)**:

"The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy."

This is powerful information about God.

Verse 9 continues:

"The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works."

Please pay attention to these truths because we will need them to understand how mercy operates.

We have already established that:

- God is love.
- He is gracious.
- He is full of compassion.
- He is slow to anger.
- He is of great mercy.

Then Scripture adds another profound truth:

"His tender mercies are over all his works."

This means that every person and every part of creation is a potential recipient of God's mercy.

If your life is void of God's mercy, it is not because God is unable to extend mercy to you.

Rather, it is because you do not yet understand how mercy is administered.

His tender mercies are over all His works.

Are we still together?

Mercy Is Part of God's Identity

Let us read **Exodus 34:5–6 (KJV)**:

"And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth."

This was God's encounter with Moses.

Notice that while proclaiming His own name, God introduced Himself as **merciful**.

He was not merely describing what He does.

He was revealing who He is. A name is a means of identification. When I call your name, I identify you. Sometimes a name also reveals your function. For example, if someone is introduced as "Doctor," you immediately know something about that person's assignment.

Likewise, God is saying:

"Among the many things I want you to remember about Me is this: I am merciful. I am gracious."

Immediately, Scripture gives us three important truths about God's nature:

1. God is love.
2. He is gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, and of great mercy.
3. His mercy extends over all His works. There are no biases.

This is powerful.

Mercy Is Available to All

There are certain blessings in Scripture that God gives only to some people.

The Bible says so clearly.

For example, in the administration of ministry gifts—the fivefold ministry—Scripture says, "He gave some..."

Likewise, concerning spiritual gifts, the Apostle Paul asked:

"Are all apostles? are all prophets?... Do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?" — 1 Corinthians 12:29–30 (KJV)

The obvious answer is no.

But when it comes to mercy, the Bible teaches something entirely different.

Not only mankind, but the entirety of creation lives by the mercy of God.

His tender mercies are over all His works.

Understanding the Nature of Man

Now let us very quickly examine the nature and the character of man.

I am moving quickly because the main subject is still ahead of us, but these foundational truths are indispensable.

Now we know that God is love. We know He is gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, full of mercy, and that His mercy extends over all His works.

Now let us look at man.

Some of you are already laughing.

There are very interesting things the Bible tells us about man—every one of us, including the one speaking to you.

There is an intrinsic weakness and limitation built into humanity because of the fallen nature.

If you do not understand that limitation, you will never understand why mercy is necessary.

Let me illustrate.

Suppose I ask you to remain seated where you are without giving you any reason. Eventually, you would become tired and begin to question the instruction.

But if I told you:

"Remain seated because there is danger outside, and this place is your only refuge."

That revelation would supply strength.

No matter how tired you became, your understanding would sustain your obedience.

That is the nature of man.

David's Cry for Mercy

Psalms 51 is one of the most sobering passages in Scripture.

It is disturbing because David was pouring out his heart before God.

The entire psalm is a deep acknowledgment of personal inadequacy and sincere repentance.

David was not composing poetry.

He was not merely singing.

This was the desperate cry of a man who had become deeply aware of his own fallen condition.

For the sake of time, let us read the opening verses.

Psalm 51:1–2 (KJV):

"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

Please pay attention to verse 2.

David says:

"Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

Notice immediately that there is a distinction between **iniquity** and **sin**.

He prays:

"Wash me from my iniquity."

Then he says:

"Cleanse me from my sin."

These two concepts are related, but they are not the same.

Let me explain the difference.

Iniquity is a perpetual, continual, willful state of rebellion against God.

Sin, in one word, is **disobedience**.

People define sin in many ways—missing the mark, transgression, and so on—but in its simplest expression, sin is disobedience.

Are we together?

If we interpret David's prayer in light of this understanding, it is safe, fair, and scriptural to read it this way:

"Wash me thoroughly from my rebellion, and cleanse me from my disobedience."

The Psalm continues:

"For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight..." —

Psalm 51:3–4 (KJV)

Now let us all read verse 5 together. It is painful, but it is true.

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."

— Psalm 51:5 (KJV)

This is one of the most profound revelations about the nature of man.

David, in his brokenness and repentance, began searching for the reason behind his continual weakness.

Though he was royalty, though he loved God, he kept discovering limitations and struggles within himself.

That search brought him to his knees.

He realized that the problem was deeper than his actions.

There was something intrinsic within his very nature.

His conclusion was:

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."

The Deceitfulness of the Human Heart

The second truth we must understand about man is found in **Jeremiah 17:9–10 (KJV)**.

Let us read it together.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

That is an astonishing statement.

The human heart is so deceptive that it can deceive even its owner.

You are among the people your own heart can deceive.

It can deceive others, and it can deceive you.

The question then becomes:

"Who can know it?"

Verse 10 answers:

"I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

Think about that.

A man can genuinely be deceived by his own heart.

Is someone learning now?

God's Assessment of Fallen Humanity

Now let us move to **Genesis 6**.

We have heard the testimony of prophets. We have listened to broken men confess their condition. Now let us hear God's own assessment of fallen humanity. Reading from **Genesis 6:1–5 (KJV)**, Scripture concludes:

"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Do not forget who is speaking.

This is God's own verdict.

Imagine that.

God looked upon mankind and declared that every imagination of the thoughts of man's heart was only evil continually.

It is almost an expression of divine grief.

What kind of creature is this?

CHAPTER -TWO-

The Contrast Between God and Man

Now we have two completely opposite realities before us. On one hand, we have God.

- God is love.
- God is gracious.
- God is compassionate.
- God is rich in mercy.
- God is without sin.

On the other hand, we have fallen man. Scripture tells us that man's condition is not merely behavioral—it is constitutional. The problem begins from conception.

David said:

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."

This means the tendency toward rebellion was already present before conscious choices were made. The problem was never imported from outside.

It already existed within. Circumstances simply provide opportunities for what is already inside to be expressed.

Sin Is Deeper Than Behavior

When we celebrate the innocence of a newborn baby, God's verdict is different. There has already been a transfer of a fallen nature. Every armed robber was once a baby.

Every murderer was once a baby. Did they come out of their mother's womb carrying knives?

No.

The knife was already in the heart. It only found physical expression later. That tendency toward rebellion was already present.

It was never outsourced.

The situations that later exposed it merely gave expression to what already existed.

Think about it.

A little baby slaps its mother.

The mother cries.

The baby laughs.

Question: Who taught the baby to derive pleasure from another person's pain?

A baby cries for milk.

The mother feeds the child.

When satisfied, the baby throws everything away without gratitude.

Who taught the baby ingratitude?

The baby wakes everyone in the middle of the night without sympathy for anyone else's condition.

I love children too, but we are examining God's diagnosis of humanity.

No armed robber suddenly becomes an armed robber.

No wicked man suddenly becomes wicked.

No failure suddenly becomes a failure.

They simply manifest what was already resident within them.

Unless the mercy and power of God intervene, fallen humanity remains on a disastrous course.

That is God's verdict.

It is not an insult.

It is the truth.

The Hidden Potential of the Fallen Nature

You would have seen David as a young shepherd boy.

- Obedient.
- Respectful.
- Faithful.

Who could have imagined there was a murderer hidden inside such a quiet young man?
Are we together?

If time permitted, I would show you the story of three men in Scripture:

- Ben-hadad, king of Syria.
- Hazael, his servant.
- Elisha the prophet.

Ben-hadad became critically ill and sent Hazael to ask Elisha whether he would recover.

Elisha replied:

"Tell the king he will recover."

But then he added,

"The truth is that he will die."

After saying this, the prophet bowed his head and began to weep.

Hazael asked,

"My lord, why are you crying?"

Elisha answered,

"I have seen the evil that you will do to Israel. You will rip open pregnant women and destroy innocent lives."

Hazael was shocked.

He replied,

*"But what, is thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing?" — 2
Kings 8:13 (KJV)*

In other words,

"I could never do such a thing."

But the prophet said, "The Lord has shown me that you will become king."

And exactly as God revealed, once Hazael ascended the throne, every one of those atrocities became reality. The heart of man.

Why We All Need Mercy

Many of the people who have brought unimaginable pain into the lives of others once appeared to be harmless and trustworthy.

Have you not heard of household servants poisoning the families they worked for?

Many of them did not even know that such tendencies were hidden within them.

Remember what we are discussing:

Mercy.

The best of us, outside the administration of God's mercy, is a disaster waiting for time and opportunity to reveal what is hidden.

That is God's verdict.

CHAPTER -THREE-

David: A Picture of the Fallen Nature

That same little shepherd boy called David eventually became king. Then Scripture tells us:

"At the time when kings go forth to battle..." — 2 Samuel 11:1 (KJV)

David remained at home. Walking upon his rooftop, he saw a beautiful woman.

He commanded, "Bring her to me." When he discovered she was pregnant, he attempted to cover his sin. Eventually, he signed the death warrant of her husband.

Think about it.

The same David who once refused to kill Saul because he honored God's anointing eventually arranged the murder of one of his own loyal soldiers.

This is the heart of man.

Mercy Is Not Only for Sinners

By the time God finishes opening our eyes to this truth, many of us will find ourselves on our faces crying:

"Lord, before this intrinsic disaster hidden within me is ever revealed, help me." Then you will understand that mercy is not only for obvious sinners. Mercy is for every man. Unfortunately, a theology has been promoted that says whenever someone cries for mercy, it must mean he is a drunkard, a fornicator, or some notorious sinner. So we stand in self-righteousness, believing: "I am already saved. I don't need mercy."

Yet the Bible declares:

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." — **Lamentations 3:22 (KJV)**

Are we learning?

The Hidden Nature of Evil

So, in summary, the nature of God is clear.

- He is love.
- He is kind.
- He is gracious.
- He is merciful.

Now contrast that with man.

- Man is intrinsically fallen.
- His heart is capable of deceiving even himself.

A person may sincerely believe he is righteous, while hidden tendencies remain dormant simply because opportunity has not yet presented itself.

That is how evil works.

It can lie quietly for thirty years. People may praise your humility. But perhaps you have never had wealth. Perhaps you have never had influence. Perhaps you have never had the opportunity to abuse power. How can anyone claim to be obedient if he has never been given the opportunity to disobey?

That is why there were two trees in the Garden of Eden. Choice is meaningless where there are no alternatives. Many people appear kind simply because life has not yet presented them with options. Families often say, "My child is such a good child."

The real question is: **Good under what conditions?**

Let Mercy Find a Resting Place

I do not want to become emotional. I want to teach you the truth. Because when it is time to cry for mercy, your prayer will become:

"Lord, let Your mercy come. And let it stay. Do not let Your mercy merely visit me. Let it find a resting place in my life."

The best among us is still inadequate.

Every one of us carries various shades of disaster that only the mercy and transforming power of God can prevent from manifesting.

I assure you before God, no matter how sincere or well-intentioned we may be, this reality has nothing to do with human willpower.

Only the mercy of God can preserve a man.

What Then Is Mercy?

Now that we understand the nature of God, and now that we understand the flaw in the nature of man, the next question is: **What then is the mercy of God?**

Please write this down:

Mercy is any action that is motivated by compassion.

Any action you take whose motivation is compassion is called mercy.

This is the most basic understanding of mercy.

Mercy stems from compassion.

That means it is impossible to receive, experience, or administer mercy until compassion comes first.

The foundation of mercy is compassion.

Are we together?

If there is no compassion, there can be no mercy.

This is very powerful.

CHAPTER-FOUR-

The Foundation for Mercy

The basis for mercy is compassion. What is compassion?

- Sympathy.
- Pity.
- Concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.

Let me repeat that.

- Compassion is sympathy.
- Compassion is pity.
- Compassion is concern for the sufferings and misfortunes of others.

I also define compassion as **the ability to be touched with the feelings of another person's infirmities.**

Does that sound familiar?

The Bible says:

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities..." — Hebrews 4:15 (KJV)

Compassion is the feeling. Mercy is the fruit produced from that feeling.

When you become aware of another person's suffering, inadequacy, or misfortune, and your response to that awareness is action, that action is called mercy.

Therefore: **Mercy is the fruit of compassion.**

Are we still together?

Three Definitions of Mercy

Now let me define mercy more carefully.

There are three general definitions I want to give before we proceed.

Is God helping someone already?

1. Compassionate Treatment of Those in Distress

The first definition of mercy is:

Compassionate treatment of those who are in distress.

2. Showing Care and Providing Relief

The second definition of mercy is:

To show care and provide relief.

3. Refraining from Punishing an Offender

The third definition of mercy is:

To refrain from harming or punishing an offender.

Let us summarize them:

1. Compassionate treatment of those in distress.
2. Showing care and providing relief.
3. Refraining from harming or punishing an offender.

Hallelujah!

The Two Dimensions of Biblical Mercy

From these definitions, we arrive at two important conclusions about the biblical nature of mercy.

1. Mercy as Forgiveness

The first dimension of mercy has to do with **forgiveness and withholding punishment.**

Please write that down.

I am being very simple and methodical because I want us to understand before we pray.

This dimension addresses sin.

It is the mercy that pardons offenders.

It is the mercy that forgives transgressions and withholds deserved judgment.

2. Mercy as Relief From Suffering

The second dimension of mercy has to do with **alleviating pain and providing relief from suffering.**

This dimension ministers to human weakness. It reaches those who are inadequate, weak, afflicted, or incapacitated.

Hallelujah!

Please understand this carefully. When Scripture speaks about mercy, it approaches it from these two perspectives. The first deals with forgiveness and withholding punishment. The second deals with relieving suffering and supplying help.

The first concerns sinners.

The second concerns the weak.

This immediately brings every one of us into the equation.

Every human being will always belong to one of these two categories.

Either you are:

- A defaulter who needs pardon.

Or,

- A weak and limited human being who needs divine assistance.

In either case, you need mercy.

If God is speaking to us, say Amen.

Mercy Is the Fruit of Compassion

Never forget this.

The foundation of mercy is compassion. Mercy is the fruit that compassion produces.

CHAPTER -FIVE-

How God Administer Mercy

Now let us move to what I believe is the most important part of this discussion. **How does God administer mercy?**

Many people assume that because God is loving, and because man is sinful and weak, all that is required is to say: "Lord, show me mercy."

But that is not how Scripture presents it. There are spiritual laws that govern the administration of mercy. Please write this down:

Mercy is God's system of advantage that guarantees that we become full expressions of His expectations regardless of our humanity.

Let me repeat it.

Mercy is God's system of advantage that guarantees that we become full expressions of His expectations regardless of our humanity.

What does that mean?

God designed mercy as a divine system that ensures that, despite our weakness and frailty, we can still become everything He has ordained us to be. Regardless of the limitations that come through our humanity... Regardless of exhaustion... Regardless of inadequacy...

It is still possible for us to rise into our full prophetic destiny. No wonder many of us have become what we are today. We understand that we are products of God's mercy.

Whenever you see someone producing extraordinary and uncommon results, look beyond skill. Look beyond human connections. There is an amplifier at work. If we were assessed merely by our natural abilities and limitations, our lives would never equal the results we now produce. It is the mercy of God.

Someone shout,

"Hallelujah!"

This is God's provision to ensure that no matter how frail we are, there remains a place in His economy where mercy lifts us into His divine expectation.

No wonder Peter still became the mighty apostle he was, even after denying Jesus.

Say:

"Mercy!"

People often remember Thomas only as "Doubting Thomas."

Go and study church history.

Study the latter part of Thomas' life.

He became an extraordinary apostle who accomplished remarkable exploits for the Kingdom.

Yes, there was a season of doubt.

But the end of his life became a sign and a wonder.

Is someone learning now?

What Does It Take to Receive God's Mercy?

Now that we understand:

- The nature of God,
- The nature of man,
- And the biblical concept of mercy,

We must ask another question: **What qualifies a person to receive God's mercy?**

Remember that mercy has two dimensions:

One pardons sinners.

The other strengthens the weak.

But I discovered something while studying Scripture.

There is one condition God must find in a person.

Otherwise, mercy cannot reach him.

This is the high point of the teaching.

Please listen carefully.

No matter how desperately you need mercy, it will never reach you until God finds this one condition.

That condition is found in **Psalms 51:17 (KJV)**.

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

The one condition God looks for before extending His mercy is: **Brokenness**.

What Is Brokenness?

Brokenness is a realization.

Brokenness is also an acknowledgment.

Brokenness is the realization and acknowledgment of your limitations and inadequacies outside the help of God.

Let me repeat it.

Brokenness is the realization and acknowledgment that, without God's help, you are completely inadequate.

You are broken to the degree that you recognize and admit:

"If God does not help me, my own strength is insufficient."

Please look at me, believers.

We have preached about mercy in many churches.

Many people have even come out as candidates for mercy. Unfortunately, very few have actually received mercy.

I know this because I can assess the results in their lives.

Do you know why?

Because although people desire the blessings that mercy brings, many have never entered into brokenness.

Pride has kept them from it.

Let me tell you something about God.

As loving as He is...

As gracious as He is...

The moment you approach Him full of yourself, believing that His help is merely an addition to your own strength, forget about receiving biblical mercy.

The Bible says:

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart..."

— **Psalms 51:17 (KJV)**

When I discovered this truth in my study of mercy, it broke me completely.

It humbled me in a way I cannot adequately describe.

The Kind of Person God Draws Near To

Let us read **Psalms 34:18 (KJV)**.

"The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Notice carefully.

The Bible does not simply say that God saves everyone.

It identifies a particular kind of person.

There is a spiritual posture God searches for before His mercy is released.

Tonight, if you truly desire the mercy of God, understand this:

Merely crying...

Merely rolling on the ground...

Merely making emotional prayers...

Will not produce mercy.

You must assume this posture of brokenness before God.

When the mercy of God visits individuals, families, businesses, and ministries, it is not merely responding to loud cries.

It is responding to a spiritual condition.

Read through the New Testament.

Every time people cried for mercy, there was genuine brokenness.

Consider blind Bartimaeus.

He cried:

"Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me." — **Mark 10:47 (KJV)**

Jesus stopped and asked,

"What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" — **Mark 10:51 (KJV)**

Bartimaeus answered,

"Lord, that I might receive my sight."

That posture of brokenness positioned him to receive mercy.

Brokenness remains the divine pathway through which the mercy of God is administered.

Brokenness: The Condition for Receiving Mercy

Many people have not gotten to this point in their lives where they realize and acknowledge the fact that they are inadequate.

Do you know why?

Please look up.

There is a state of the fallen man. For some reason, man, as a species, is very stubborn. It takes repeated defeat, recycled again and again, to bring us to our knees.

For instance, the nation of Israel—God Himself called them a stiff-necked people. Do you know what that means? One who is not malleable.

Proverbs 3:5–7 (KJV) says:

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

It is the reason why, people of God, you would see God reach down to individuals in their lowly estate and begin to lift them with His hand and His jealousy, placing them in positions that seem unfair. Do you know why? Because what He was looking for, He finally found in them.

There can be other people who are already privileged by default, but self-pride keeps them from experiencing mercy. There are preachers today who may have the backing of God, yet there is clearly no mercy at work in their lives.

When one plus one equals two in your life, the mercy of God is not at work, because that is exactly what arithmetic says should happen. But when one plus one becomes an answer that only God can write, then the mercy of God has added something to that result.

I have had the honor and privilege of meeting very successful people—successful in business, successful in ministry, successful in their careers.

As God grants me the privilege to sit with them and talk with them, I usually ask, "Tell me your story."

There are certain points in those stories that I am listening for. I connect the beginning of their lives to where they are now, and I want to know at what point mercy came in.

Some of those who became recipients of that mercy did not even know when mercy came. They only knew when brokenness came.

They would tell you, "I got to a point where I lost everything. I failed, and I cried all through the night."

Aha!

From that point they would say, "I found a message."

From that point they would say, "I attended a meeting."

They did not know that from that moment onward, it was mercy that carried them.

Please listen very carefully.

You can always know when you are on a flight of mercy—the results will make it obvious.

CHAPTER -SIX-

The Prodigal Son: The Greatest Picture of Mercy

I wish I had the time to show you from **Luke 15:11** onward the story of the prodigal son. Theologically speaking, this is one of the greatest expressions of God's mercy from the standpoint of parables. Do you know why?

It is a very comprehensive parable. It begins with a family as God intended it. Then it reveals the rebellion of a young man, followed by the consequences of that rebellion. The Bible tells us that a father had two sons. The father was blessed and benevolent. As long as the sons remained under his care, they lacked nothing. Then one day, the younger son came to his father and said:

"Father, I am tired of depending on you."

Do you see the problem?

"I have come to a point where I think I am smart enough. I am mature enough. I no longer need your influence in my life. I am tired of giving you the credit for the results I am enjoying. It has become embarrassing before my friends. Give me my portion of the inheritance, and let me go."

The father asked, "Are you sure?"

He replied, "Yes." So the father let him go.

The moment he stepped outside the influence of his father, lack began.

Notice the gradual decline.

He found his friends and wasted his inheritance in riotous living.

Then the Bible says that, in the course of time, he spent everything.

Is it in your Bible?

Then he **began** to be in want.

I like that word—**began**.

It means that want had never been his previous experience.

He began to be in want, and his condition kept deteriorating until he found himself feeding pigs.

Imagine it.

Someone who once lived in royalty and abundance, reduced to feeding pigs because of one foolish decision—a decision that communicated rebellion and pride.

"Father, I no longer want Your influence in my life. I have discovered that I am old enough."

You see, in the realm of the Spirit, spiritual maturity is measured by the degree of your dependence upon God.

In the natural world, maturity is measured by increasing independence.

In the Spirit, the opposite is true.

The more dependent you become upon God, the more mature you truly are, because you have realized that outside His help and His mercy, you cannot amount to much.

Pain Can Become a Gift

This young man was about to learn one of life's most painful yet powerful lessons.

The Bible says that **he came to himself**.

Please notice that expression.

The Bible never said the Holy Spirit spoke to him.

The Bible never said a demon threatened him.

Listen carefully:

There is a dimension of pain that is a gift.

Let me repeat that:

There is a dimension of pain that is a gift.

Pain can become an adviser.

Pain can become a counselor.

There are times when you see people passing through certain seasons of pain and you want to rescue them.

Yet God may restrain you.

God may say:

"I have been working with this person for two years. They have finally reached the point where their own strength has failed. Allow this pain to cultivate brokenness and repentance."

Do not try to help people whom God is not helping.

You may be interrupting His program.

Is someone learning?

It took pain to bring this young man back to his senses. The pride that accompanied abundance never gave him time to stop and ask, "What am I doing with my life?" Now pain had accomplished what prosperity could not.

The Bible records his thoughts:

"How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare,
and I perish with hunger!"

Then he declared:

"I will arise."

Hallelujah!

Something had happened to that young man.

I pray for you—may this happen for you.

Because there are many who have, in reality, taken God out of their lives. They have replaced Him with excessive dependence upon intellect, business ideas, or human connections.

I am not saying those things are wrong.

But the Bible says:

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart...

That is why you will sometimes see people receiving applause, yet they fall on their faces before God.

They know there is a part of the equation that people cannot see.

The Language of Brokenness

The prodigal son said:

"I will arise and go to my father, and I will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee."

Listen to the voice of brokenness.

Then he continued:

"And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants."

This is not condemnation.

It is revelation.

His true condition had finally become clear to him.

The Bible says that he arose and came to his father.

Notice something remarkable.

The moment the son got up and began moving toward his father, the father also came toward him.

The Scripture says:

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you."

God will not leave you where you are in your rebellion.

You may not be able to save yourself, but you must acknowledge your limitations.

The moment you satisfy the condition of brokenness, you become ready for mercy.

Listen carefully.

Many of us are leaders.

You must also learn to look for this condition in those to whom you extend mercy.

Forgiveness is ineffective where there is no brokenness and repentance.

Anyone seeking mercy has a responsibility—to become broken first.

To realize.

To acknowledge.

When you help people who are not broken, you strengthen their pride.

When you help people who are not broken, you may accelerate their journey toward destruction.

Are we together?

That is why, when we make altar calls, we ask people to come forward.

It is not to embarrass them.

Leaving your seat, overcoming your pride, stepping away from your colleagues and loved ones to stand before God is often an outward expression of inward brokenness.

Unfortunately, there are people today who answer altar calls and still remain unsaved.

You look at them, and there is no brokenness.

Some are still recording the preacher while the prayer of salvation is going on.

The only word they say is, "Amen."

No, sir.

Except Scripture be broken, that is not salvation.

The Bible says:

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

— **Romans 10:9 (KJV)**

Brokenness.

Compassion Produces Mercy

Now notice what happened.

The Bible says that the son arose and came to his father.

“But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion...”

Do you see the pattern again?

What was the first thing the father had?

Compassion.

I told you that mercy is the fruit of compassion.

You cannot extend mercy until compassion comes first.

The father saw a son who was frail.

A son who had reached the end of himself.

The Bible says the father ran, embraced him, and kissed him.

The son then fulfilled exactly what he had rehearsed.

He said:

"Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son."

If verse 21 were missing, we might have questioned the sincerity of his repentance.

But he truly said exactly what he had purposed in his heart.

Then something extraordinary happened.

The father immediately said to his servants:

"Bring forth the best robe..."

Look at the father.

This reveals the character of God.

The moment the father found brokenness, the discussion about the offense ended.

It was over.

That is how mercy works.

There was no need to reopen the case.

What he had been looking for, he had finally found.

Hallelujah!

Do you know why I am saying this?

Because men rarely forget your past.

Even after you become Paul, they will still remind you that you were once Saul.

Jesus died.

Yes.

But after His resurrection, people still spoke about "the dead Jesus."

Likewise, people may continue talking about who you were ten years ago.

They may say:

"Rahab? Is that the Rahab I used to know?"

But the father of the prodigal son revealed the character of God.

The moment God finds genuine brokenness, the conversation about yesterday ends.

No more discussion.

He does not keep rehearsing your failures.

He does not say:

"So this is what you have become? You wasted everything. You could not even return with anything."

That is not God.

Remember what we established from the beginning.

The Lord is gracious.

The Lord is compassionate.

That is why I first taught you the nature of God.

If you do not understand the nature of God, you will never be able to express His character to the people He has placed under your care.

Because, you see, the end of this discussion—I will leave that for tomorrow—is that the moment you receive mercy, one day you too must stand in the position of this father.

Every one of us in this story will be both the father and the son.

Are you following my discussion?

Some of you, for now, are like the son. You need to return to the Father.

But some of you, especially as leaders, are already in the position of the father. There are people who are long overdue for mercy. They have been broken. That case has to be over.

"No shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up, coming after me... No wall You won't kick down, lie You won't tear down, coming after me..."

Listen, the Bible tells us there were two thieves on the cross.

Is that in your Bible?

Jesus was crucified between two thieves.

I wish I had time. I would have taught you that the cross is where both good and bad people meet.

You would think that because you are Jesus, the cross would not be part of your journey. But the cross and the prison are two mysterious places in destiny.

No matter who you are, you must pass through either the prison or the cross. You do not have the option of escaping both. The only choice is whether it will be the prison or the cross.

These are two mysterious places in life and destiny.

The prison prepares men for the throne, and the cross prepares men for the throne.

Joseph, you must pass through the prison before you sit as prime minister.

Jesus, not even You were exempted from the cross.

Can I tell you something?

This is not my message, but permit me to digress for just a minute.

Some of you are presently in situations where you are asking, "Lord, how is it that both the righteous and the unrighteous appear to be going through the same thing?"

Remember the prison.

Remember the cross.

Jesus hung upon that cross, and there were two thieves beside Him.

One remained proud, even while dying. He mocked Jesus and shouted at Him.

These were both thieves. They had both stolen.

One of them said, "You cannot even save Yourself or save us."

But the other demonstrated brokenness.

He said, in essence, "We deserve what is happening to us. We are suffering because of our own deeds. But this Man is innocent."

Jesus looked at him.

Even on the cross, He did not ignore brokenness.

He said, **"Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."**

He did not say, "Both of you."

He said, "Today, because there is brokenness, you will be with Me in paradise."

Hallelujah!

CHAPTER -SEVEN-

The Prayer That Invites Mercy

When I learned about the mercy of God, it changed my prayer life. This is not self-condemnation, but let me tell you the truth.

Every time I go before God in prayer, I say:

"Father, there are so many people who depend on this grace. Left to myself, I cannot even help myself, much less help other people. Therefore, by Your mercy and by Your grace, help this man who is so limited and inadequate."

That is the kind of prayer God delights to hear. Then He comes to you, lifts you upon eagle's wings, and your life begins to produce dimensions of results and possibilities that amaze both you and everyone around you. People will try to add up your life, but the answer will never equal the calculation.

Why?

Because the mercy of God is the mystery behind your results.

Please listen to me.

This is a very powerful message: **The Mercy of God.**

I have seen the mercy of God at work in my own life.

I have seen the mercy of God in ministry.

People often ask me, "What is the secret?" I tell them everything I know. But after I finish explaining, I still leave them with one truth: Everything I have told you is not the complete answer. There is a part of the answer that I do not have the power to give.

At that point, I simply become an usher and direct you to the One who alone can show mercy.

I have seen families where both husband and wife were disciplined, cultured, godly parents, yet all four of their children became hooligans.

Have you ever seen that happen?

Respectfully speaking, they became lawless children.

You cannot say they were not trained.

They fasted with their parents.

They attended night vigils.

Yet they still became what they became.

Then I have seen another family where a child disappears from home for weeks, returns occasionally, and the parents barely know where he is.

One day that same child wanders into a conference.

The power of God arrests him.

The next time he returns home, he is a stable, well-cultured young man, burning for God.

His parents had no hand in that transformation.

Somebody shout, "Mercy!"

Mercy!

I have seen diligent people trusting God for resources to build.

They did everything right.

Then, in the middle of construction, government officials arrived and demolished everything.

Yet I have also seen people who, in complete innocence, simply met someone who said,

"I like you. I want to help you."

Never underestimate the power of God's mercy.

Hallelujah!

Even in my own life, sincerely and respectfully speaking, there are times because of my schedule that I cannot personally attend to everyone as I would like.

Then, in the midst of the crowd, I watch people who have travelled from all over the world.

Suddenly, someone notices a little boy standing with his mother and says,

"I can help you see Apostle."

As they stand before me, I simply marvel and say,

"My God, look at the mercy of God."

Mercy has the power to pardon an offender.

Mercy also has the power to compensate for another person's inadequacies.

We All Need God's Mercy

Everyone seated here—and everyone following this service on television or from anywhere around the world—we all need the mercy of God.

There were people who, during the pandemic, experienced the wealthiest season of their lives. They were simply sitting quietly when fortune located them and completely changed their lives. Others had spent decades building a reputation for diligence, only to lose everything within a single year.

Somebody shout again,

"Mercy!"

Your mind may be resisting what you are hearing. It may be saying, "But remember your skill. Remember your qualifications."

Shout again, "Mercy!"

Let your spirit know that beyond skill and beyond human connections,

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

I will never forget a true story from years ago.

A woman came to me.

She had a PhD.

Yet she was applying for a security job.

I asked,

"What is this?"

A PhD holder applying to work as a security guard in an oil and gas company.

I stand before God; I am telling you the truth.

A PhD holder.

Ah...

“May Your mercy never leave me, O God. May Your mercy never leave me. May Your mercy never leave me.”

This world is too wicked to survive without the mercy of God.

And for those who think,

"Everything is fine. This message does not concern me."

Let me tell you something.

The pandemic should have taught all of us a lesson.

I have cried with many people.

Even politicians.

Have you not seen people simply minding their own business when suddenly the mercy of God lifted them?

I remember someone who almost slipped into depression after losing an election.

He had invested borrowed money into that campaign.

When he came to me, he said,

"The issue is not that I lost the election. The issue is that I stretched myself too far. Now I am in trouble."

He was a very good man.

CHAPTER -EIGHT-

The Lesson of Nebuchadnezzar

Nebuchadnezzar was one king who learned through pain. When you get home, please read **Daniel 4:34–37**.

That passage records the repentant testimony of Nebuchadnezzar after living like an animal for seven years. He praised and honoured the God who lives forever because he finally acknowledged that there is a government above every earthly government.

Two Blessings That Flow from Mercy

We are going to pray. Do not miss tomorrow's session. I will share one or two more truths with you. But before we pray, let me conclude by showing you two of the many blessings that accompany the mercy of God.

The first is **the blessing of healing**.

The second is **the blessing of provision**.

Let us read **Matthew 14:14–21**.

"And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick."

What moved Jesus?

Compassion.

And I told you that every action motivated by compassion is called mercy.

Therefore, healing the sick is not merely the ministry of power.

Healing the sick is the ministry of mercy.

Is someone listening?

More than a demonstration of power, healing is an expression of mercy.

The disciples said,

"This is a desert place, and the time is now past. Send the multitudes away so they may buy food."

But Jesus replied,

"They need not depart.

Give ye them to eat."

Compassion was still speaking.

They answered,

"We have here but five loaves and two fishes."

Jesus said,

"Bring them hither to Me."

He commanded the multitude to sit down upon the grass.

He took the five loaves and the two fishes, looked up to heaven, blessed them, broke them, gave them to the disciples, and the disciples distributed them to the multitude.

The Bible says,

"And they did all eat, and were filled."

Notice the two important truths.

They ate.

And they were filled.

You can eat without being satisfied.

But when mercy is responsible for your provision, you will eat and you will be filled.

Then the Bible says they gathered the fragments that remained.

See human nature again.

As soon as people were satisfied, they discarded what was left.

The same people who had been hungry threw away the fragments, and the disciples gathered twelve baskets full.

Let it never happen that after you have built houses, increased your flocks, prospered in every area, you begin to say,

"My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth."

The Scripture says,

"But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God..."

That means it is possible to forget.

Some of you have forgotten the God who brought you from nothing to where you are today.

Is someone thanking that God?

The God who saved you.

The God who preserved you from diseases and sicknesses that should have taken your life.

"If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say..."

Someone pray.

Pray for one minute.

"Lord, I open my heart. First, to say thank You. Then I ask that You keep me broken before You. Take away every trace of pride from my life. Remove everything that has made me believe my success is merely the product of my own strength. I repent, O God. Subconsciously, I may have taken Your place before men."

A Cry for the Mercy of God

When people applaud me, I must never fail to tell them that Jesus is the reason behind it.

Someone cry before your Maker.

"Your grace, Your grace..."

I'm nothing without You.

Your grace, Your grace shines on me."

Are you crying before the God of heaven?

"Your grace, Your grace...

I'm nothing without You.

Your grace, Your grace shines on me."

There are many of you whose prophecies have not yet come to pass—not because the man of God who spoke over your life was false, but because the posture of brokenness that allows the mercy of God to rest upon a man has been absent. You have delayed the manifestation of prophecy because there has been no brokenness.

The Bible says:

"A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Someone is crying unto God.

Please, forget about who is on your left or your right. If you are too big to cry for the grace to be broken, then forget about the mercy of God.

The Scripture declares:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways..."

Notice the first instruction: **They shall humble themselves.**

They are already His people, yet they will never experience His outstretched hand until they humble themselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from their wicked ways.

Then He says:

"...then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Please swallow your pride tonight.

I respect your pedigree, your accomplishments, and your reputation.

But like the twenty-four elders, remove your golden crown and bow before your Maker.

Please pray for one more minute.

*"Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
Till Your work on earth is done."*

How many victories should have been yours?

How many breakthroughs were meant for you?

Yet the mercy of God kept coming to your house...

It kept coming to your business...

It kept coming to your ministry...

It kept coming to your career...

But it returned because it did not find brokenness.

Do not let it return again.

It came in 2015.

Pride would not let it rest.

It came in 2016...

2017...

2018...

2019...

2020...

2021...

Now God has given you another opportunity.

Win this battle of destiny once and for all.

Cry from your heart:

"Lord, if You do not help my children, I have no power to help them.

If You do not help my business, I cannot sustain it.

If You do not deliver me from this addiction, I cannot save myself.

If You do not rescue me from this financial burden, these bills will destroy me.

Thou Son of David, have mercy upon me.

Have mercy upon my children.

Have mercy upon the works of my hands."

The Bible says:

"A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Hallelujah!

Mercy Changes Impossible Situations

Listen carefully.

We are about to conclude, and I am going to pray over your requests.

Let me share a true story.

I know a woman who was diagnosed with cancer.

The doctors had done everything they knew to do.

She became afraid of chemotherapy because she had read so many discouraging reports that it did not guarantee survival.

I stand before the God of heaven as I tell you this.

One day she decided to spend an entire night alone with God.

She was not asking for wealth.

She was not asking for promotion.

She simply rolled before God and cried.

She said,

"Lord, I am not afraid to die. But if I am going to die, please arise for the sake of my children."

That was her only prayer.

She cried...

She wept...

Eventually she slept.

While sleeping, she saw a man enter the room.

This is a true story.

He reached into her body and removed something.

Ladies and gentlemen, from that day forward, that growth began to shrink until it disappeared completely.

The Bible says:

"The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong..."

And God declares:

"I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy."

Some of you, the greatest need in your life today is not another strategy.

It is the mercy of God.

Some of you are doing well personally, but your concern is your children.

Others are sincerely struggling.

It will take the mercy of God.

Remember what I taught you.

Healing...

Provision...

Signs...

Wonders...

They are all manifestations of God's mercy.

The Mystery Behind Extraordinary Results

I have a covenant with God. I have seen it in Scripture. I have a covenant of answered prayer with Him. I say this before the God of heaven. If you have not yet submitted your prayer request, please do so.

The next few minutes are moments of divine visitation.

Now you know what mercy is. If unbelief caused you to doubt what you wrote earlier, let your faith rise again.

God is about to surprise someone.

We are in the atmosphere of mercy. Therefore, let there be no fear. The One who is merciful is also Almighty.

Write again if you need to.

Write concerning your children.

Write concerning your family.

Write concerning your destiny.

The Testimony of God's Mercy

Some years ago, a group of wealthy real estate developers requested to see me.

When they arrived, I asked,

"What is this meeting about?"

They said,

"Apostle, we came to an agreement before God.

Anywhere in the world we build an estate, we will build one house for you."

I asked,

"What does that mean?

Why would you do such a thing?"

They replied,

"This is our covenant with God.

We wanted every estate to contain something that represents the Kingdom."

Ladies and gentlemen, these people have built estates across Nigeria and even beyond.

I have not gone to inspect a single one.

They simply bring the documents and say,

"Please keep these."

Except the Lord builds the house...

Do you think I do not know what I am saying?

Hallelujah!

Another group of business executives approached me.

They said,

"Apostle, we have agreed to appoint you as a non-executive board member."

I asked,

"What exactly does that mean?

What contribution am I making?"

They smiled and replied,

"You represent the presence of God and the Ark of God in this organization."

I said,

"So what will I be doing? Praying for you? I can pray without occupying a position."

They answered,

"This is our decision."

The only thing I could say afterward was,

"To God be all the glory."

Can I tell you something? Everything you are looking for is also looking for you. But it takes the mercy of God.

I remember ministering in another nation a few years ago.

After the meeting, while preparing to return home, some American investors who were involved in a major real estate partnership approached me.

They said,

"We are developing properties here. We have reserved five properties for you."

I asked,

"Who are you people? Why are you doing this?"

Even today, I have never gone there to inspect any of those houses.

Not long ago, a woman who relocated to the United Kingdom from Ghana sent me the documents and keys to a magnificent house.

She simply said,

"The Lord instructed me to give this to you."

I have never even gone to inspect it.

When I was in Ghana, I simply asked those around me to check that everything was in order.

That was all.

Have you read where the Bible says,

"When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream."

I hope you do not misunderstand what I am saying.

When the mercy of God rests upon your life, He will bring opportunities to you that you never chased.

Things others are praying desperately to receive can arrive at your doorstep by the mercy of God.

Something is about to rest upon someone's life.

Please remain attentive.

Do not waste this moment.

Do not be like the officer who said,

"Even if the LORD would make windows in heaven, might this thing be?"

He saw the miracle, but he never partook of it.

A Prayer for Mercy

Take one minute.

From the depth of your heart, pray:

"Father, concerning every request I have written, arise in Your mercy. Let this be the last time I write this prayer request."

Pray sincerely.

Take your eyes away from your limitations.

Fix your eyes upon the God of mercy, who changes lives.

Pray for your family.

Pray for your children.

Pray for your business.

Pray for your ministry.

*"Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness...
That is who You are..."*

"You are the covenant-keeping God..."

Doors Are Opening

In the name of Jesus...

I sense such a strong anointing in this place.

My God!

My God!

Do you know what I see in the Spirit?

Write it down.

I see doors opening.

Very unusual doors.

Some of you did not expect them.

For some, they will begin to open this very week.

Not sometime in the distant future.

This week.

Hear me.

John said:

"I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon."

Then one of the elders said:

"Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed..."

John looked and saw a Lamb standing as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes.

Father, I bow my knees before You, O God of my covenant.

And I declare over every life under the sound of my voice:

"These Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see them again no more forever."

Hear me.

Every blessing comes from God **through men to men.**

Divine Partnerships and the Opening of Doors

Every blessing comes **from God, through men, to men.**

There are times when God has already said "Yes," but the human vessel He intends to use for your testimony has not yet responded.

So let me call them forth by prophecy.

Anyone—whether in Lagos, anywhere in Nigeria, or across the globe—who has been anointed and mandated by God to partner with your prophecy but has not responded to the voice of the Spirit, **we compel them to partner with God in the name of Jesus!**

Hear me.

Every door that has remained closed over your destiny for a long time...

Because I am still seeing doors.

Listen carefully. Do you know what a door is?

A door is a device that connects two rooms or two realms. Doors are the provisions that connect seasons. They midwife one season into another. If that door remains closed, one season cannot end so another can begin.

So let me pray again.

Anyone standing before the door that leads you into your next season, and that door has refused to open, **by the power of the Holy Spirit, we command that door to open now!**

We open that door now!

We open that door now!

We open that door now!

Virgin Opportunities Reserved for You

Hear me.

Jesus said,

"Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him." (*Mark 11:2, KJV*)

And He said,

"If any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him..."

I'm seeing something in the Spirit.

It's like fire resting upon about seven people. Please help them. You don't have to bring them out; just assist them.

Someone's chains are breaking right now.

The Bible says:

"He hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder."
(*Psalms 107:16, KJV*)

I stretch my hands right now, in the name of Jesus.

Every chain...

Everything that has tied you...

Everything that has held you captive...

Be broken now by the power of the Holy Spirit!

Everything that was lost shall be restored unto you.

Everything that was stolen shall be restored unto you.

Everything that was lost shall be returned unto you.

Everything that was stolen shall be restored.

Caretakers of Your Blessings Must Release Them

Hear me.

Jesus said that if anyone asked why they were untying the colt, they should simply say,

"The Lord hath need of him."

Notice something remarkable.

No one had ever ridden that colt.

That means there are **virgin opportunities** no one has touched.

Even the owner had not ridden it.

There are people holding certain blessings that are not ultimately for them.

They are merely caretakers.

But at the command of the King, they must release them.

He said,

"Loose it."

Why?

Because you cannot have a triumphant entry while walking barefoot.

Therefore, I speak over your life.

Anyone who has been made a caretaker over any blessing that belongs to you—

In the name of Jesus,

May they release it for you now!

Prophetic Healing and Deliverance

There is a woman here. You have severe pain in your right leg. I'm actually feeling the pain on the right side as I stand here.

Who is that woman? The Lord wants to set you free now.

I don't intend to spend much time here, but when I entered this place, I sensed an investment of prayer and preparation.

I know people have prayed.

Believe in miracles.

My dear, look at me.

You love Jesus.

What is your name?

I want to pray for you.

Don't feel embarrassed.

There is something God is taking out of your life right now.

I stretch my hands toward you.

I curse every spirit of limitation.

In the name of Jesus,

Be free now by the power of the Holy Spirit!

The Spirit of Limitation Is Broken

What is your name, my dear? This lady shaking her head...

All right. No problem. We may continue with that tomorrow.

Who is Gladys?

What is your name?

Where are you from?

I have to pray for you.

I'm not merely trying to prophesy, but as I look at you, I see your hands and your feet tied in the spirit. You are a sincere lady. Yet there has been no progress. No moving forward. People promise to help you, but by the next day they withdraw.

Let me prophesy to someone.

If there is any embargo over your life that causes people who genuinely desire to help you to suddenly change their minds—

Help this woman! Please help her!

By the power that raised Christ from the dead, Be free now!

Everything that has tied you...

Everything that has refused to let you move forward...

By the power that raised Christ from the dead,

Go forward now!

Go forward now!

Healing Prayers

I pray for everyone here who is experiencing pain.

In the name of Jesus, be healed.

There are two people here. You saw me in your dream.

Hold on. Hold on. Just listen carefully. You saw me in your dream, and in that dream I was ministering to you. God wants to release you from something. I'm going to pray for you right now.

Please don't rush out randomly.

Let there be order in the house of God.

You don't have to come out.

You can remain where you are.

I believe many of you have listened carefully to the teaching, so wherever you are, receive by faith as I pray.

Someone is about to shout under the anointing.

Aha!

That's right.

Something is happening here.

Something is happening here.

I'm seeing what appears to be angelic ministrations taking place.

The Ministry of Angels

Please help them. Whether you are an usher or not, help them.

I'm seeing angelic ministrations.

The Bible says:

"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (*Hebrews 1:14, KJV*).

In the name of Jesus, we release the ministry of angels.

We release the ministry of angels to families.

We release the ministry of angels to homes.

We release the ministry of angels to businesses.

By the power that raised Christ from the dead, we release the ministry of angels right now.

Let there be healing.

Every part of your body—every limb—receive healing now.

I decree and declare that if there is anything connected to witchcraft... I command every demonic affliction to leave your body now.

For the Bible says,

"Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." (*Matthew 15:13, KJV*).

Be uprooted now, in the name of Jesus.

Please hear me.

Many attacks on your health are actually attacks on your finances.

Sometimes it is not merely about sickness; it is an attack against your supply.

Be healed, in Jesus' name!

Be healed, in Jesus' name!

A Prayer Against the Spirit of Death

One last prayer, and I'm done.

Please help me gather these prayer requests.

I want to pray because the Lord is opening my eyes.

I'm not a prophet of doom, but I'm seeing a casket—a coffin.

The Lord is asking me to rebuke the spirit of death.

Listen carefully.

There is a spirit that has been released across this nation.

You have to pray.

People are dying carelessly.

People do not just die without cause.

The Scripture declares,

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (*1 Corinthians 15:55, KJV*).

The enemy seeks to waste lives without mercy.

I want to pray for you.

This prayer covers both you and your loved ones.

Anyone here experiencing the operation of the spirit of death around your life...

My God...

I'm sensing fire flowing from my hands.

Lord, wherever they are, reach them.

In the name of Jesus, by the Spirit of life and by the mercy of God, be delivered from death now!

Whether by accident...

Whether by violence...

Whether by sickness...

Be delivered from death now!

Mercy Over Every Affliction

If there is any stranger roaming around your body in the form of sickness or terminal disease:

Whether cancer...

Whether hepatitis...

Whether a blood disorder...

For one minute, rebuke it.

Declare your liberty by the mercy of God, in the name of Jesus.

Now I speak over your life.

Beginning today, may a dimension of God's mercy you have never experienced begin to work for you!

Mercy in your finances.

Mercy in your spiritual life.

Mercy in every area of your destiny.

In the name of Jesus Christ!

A Blessing Over the Congregation

I want to share something further from Scripture.

Then I will minister prophetically, and together we will pray over the Foundations of Sapphire.

I asked the Lord for something.

I said,

"Lord, let not only a few people testify. Let the entire Foundations of Sapphire become a testimony."

Just as we hear individual testimonies, may every family represented here testify.

Hallelujah!

May the Lord bless you.

May the Lord increase you.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

The Final Altar Call

Hold on. Let me make one final altar call. I know our time is up.

Perhaps you are saying, "Apostle, I need Jesus."

Or perhaps you are saying, "I need to rededicate my life. I don't want to play games with Jesus anymore."

His mercy is available. Even if there is only one person, I sense in my spirit that someone must respond. Please come and stand here. Jesus is calling you. Do not miss this opportunity. Don't play games with your destiny.

The Bible says,

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
(*John 3:16, KJV*).

Come.

Come to Jesus.

Win this battle once and for all. Don't be ashamed. Don't be afraid.

Let's celebrate them as they come.

Come.

You are giving Jesus the opportunity to make you. You are giving Him permission to break you.

If you are still making your way forward, please come.

Young and old alike, come to Jesus.

Hallelujah!

The Prayer of Salvation

I salute every one of you for this noble decision. Please lift your right hand as high as you can. I want you to pray this prayer after me. If you are still coming, please join them quickly. Pray it sincerely from the depth of your heart.

Say:

Lord Jesus,

Tonight I have heard Your Word.

I am broken, and I need Your mercy.

I acknowledge that I cannot help myself.

I believe that You died for me.

I believe that You rose again for my justification.

Right now, I receive You as my Savior, my Lord, and my King.

I declare that the power of sin, Satan, hell, and the grave is broken over my life.

I receive eternal life.

I go from glory to glory and from grace to grace.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for these precious ones.

By their declaration of faith, I decree that their sins are forgiven.

Give each of them a brand-new beginning from this day forward.

May they continually go from glory to glory and from grace to grace.

For in Jesus' mighty name we pray.

Amen.

A response card will be given to each of you.

Our counselors are here to assist you.

Please make sure you receive a card, and then kindly follow the counselors for a few moments.

Let's celebrate them as they go.

God bless you.

Hallelujah.



About The Speaker

Apostle Joshua Selman is a Nigerian minister of the gospel, teacher of God's Word, and the founder of Eternity Network International (ENI), the ministry behind the widely known Koinonia meetings.

His ministry is marked by deep scriptural teaching, prophetic insight, and a strong emphasis on intimacy with God, spiritual growth, and the accurate understanding of kingdom principles.

Through conferences, teachings, and global outreach, he has impacted millions of believers, equipping them to walk in spiritual maturity, purpose, and effective service in God's kingdom.

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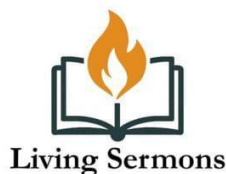
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