



Forcing the Hand of God:
Even in Judgment, God is Merciful







- (1) How is god merciful even in judgment?**
- (2) What does god's mercy look like?**



1. God is merciful by warning us before passing judgment.

Genesis 4:6-7

6 "Why are you angry?

And why has your countenance fallen?

7 **If you do well**, will you not be accepted? **And if you do not do well**, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it"

Numbers 32:23

²³ But if you do not do so,
then take note, you have sinned
against the LORD; and be sure
your sin will find you out.

Deuteronomy 11:28

**if you do not obey the commands
of the LORD your God and you turn
aside from the path I command
you...then...curses will come
and overtake you**

1 Samuel 12:14-15

“Now if you fear and worship the Lord and listen to his voice, and if you do not rebel against the Lord’s commands, then both you and your king will show that you recognize the

1 Samuel 12:14-15

Lord as your God. 15 But if you rebel against the Lord's commands and refuse to listen to him, then his hand will be as heavy upon you as it was upon your ancestors.

Malachi 2:2 NIV

If you do not listen,
and if you do not set your heart to
honor my name," says the Lord
Almighty, "I will send a curse upon you,
and I will curse your blessings.

Malachi 2:2 NIV

Yes, I have already cursed them,
because you have not set your
heart to honor me.

Mark 11:26 NKJV

But if you do not forgive,
neither will your Father in heaven
forgive your trespasses."

Luke 14:27 NLT

And if you do not carry
your own cross and follow me,
you cannot be my disciple.

John 5:47 NRSV

But if you do not believe
what Moses wrote,
how will you believe what I say?"

John 8:24 HCSB

Therefore I told you
that you will die in your sins.
For if **you do not** believe that I am,
you will die in your sins.”

Revelation 2:5 NIV

Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. **If you do not** repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.



1. God is merciful in waiting to exercise judgment.



A Reluctant Judge

1 - 2 - 3

Jonah 4:1-3 HCSB

But Jonah was greatly displeased and became furious. 2 He prayed to the Lord: “Please, Lord, isn’t this what I said while I was still in my own country? That’s why I fled toward Tarshish in the first place.

Jonah 4:1-3 HCSB

I knew that You are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to become angry, rich in faithful love, and One who relents from [sending] disaster. 3 And now, Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

Jeremiah 26:13-14 NKJV

13 Now therefore, amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God; then the Lord will relent concerning the doom that He has pronounced against you.

Jeremiah 26:13-14 NKJV

14 As for me, here I am,
in your hand; do with me as seems
good and proper to you.



Even in Judgment, God is Merciful

What Does God's Mercy Look Like?



What Does God's Mercy Look Like?

I. He sends His Prophets/Preachers Among the People



Jeremiah 28:13-14 NKJV

¹³ "Go and tell Hananiah, saying,
'Thus says the Lord: "You have
broken the yokes of wood, but you
have made in their place yokes of
iron."¹⁴ For thus says the Lord of
hosts, the God of Israel:

Jeremiah 28:13-14 NKJV

"I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him. I have given him the beasts of the field also."

Jeremiah 26:2 NKJV

"This is what the LORD (said):
Stand in the courtyard of the LORD's
house and speak to all the people of
the towns of Judah who come to
worship in the house of the LORD."

Matthew 28:19 NKJV

Go therefore and make disciples
of all the nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Ezekiel 3:18-20 NKJV

18 When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Ezekiel 3:18-20 NKJV

19 Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. 20 Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die;

Ezekiel 3:18-20 NKJV

because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand.

What Does God's Mercy Look Like?

- I. He sends His Prophets/Preachers Among the People
- II. God Sent His Son to Save Us from Judgment



In the days of the pioneers...



"On Him Almighty
judgment fell,
Which would have
sent a world to hell.
He bore it for a
chosen race,
And thus becomes
our Hiding Place."



What Does God's Mercy Look Like?

- I. He sends His Prophets/Preachers Among the People
- II. God Sent His Son to Save Us from Judgment
- III. God's given us His Word well in Advance



Reaching out and going out...



Jeremiah 26:1-6

**If you do not listen to me and follow
my law, which I have set before you,
5 and if you do not listen to the
words of my servants the prophets,**

**whom I have sent to you again
and again (though you have not listened),
6 then I will make this house like Shiloh
and this city an object of cursing
among all the nations of the earth.'"**

Jeremiah 26:3

Perhaps they will listen and each will turn from his evil way. Then I will relent and not bring on them the disaster I was planning because of the evil they have done.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Hebrews 12:6

New Living Translation

For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.”



We want People to Love Jesus!