

CHRISTMAS: DECLARING THE GOOD NEWS!

“Full of Compassion & Mercy”

12/10/06

Ephesians 2:4-5 – *“⁴But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.”*

The focus of the New Testament is the wealth of God’s glory and, at its zenith, is seen through His compassion and mercy in sending His One and Only. Alas....CHRISTMAS!!

Since Jesus Christ is the incarnate display of the wealth of the mercies of God, it is not surprising that His life on earth was a lavish exhibit of mercies to all kinds of people. **E.g.** –

1. TOWARD THE SUFFERING SOUL –

LUKE 18 = The B _____ B _____

LUKE 17 = A collection of L _____

MARK 1 = Another L _____

LUKE 7 = A grieving W _____

MARK 9 = A D _____ - P _____ Son

MARK 5 = The G _____ D _____

Not only was the compassion and mercy of Jesus stimulated by suffering, but it was also....

2. STIRRED BY SIN –

LUKE 15 = The parable of the P _____ Son

Jesus’ compassion extended for both individuals and....

3. TOWARD THE MULTITUDES –

MARK 8 = The Hungry masses...

MARK 6 = The Spiritually hungry masses...

4. COMPASSION & MERCY ALL OVER THE PLACE –
MATTHEW 9 = *“Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice’ [Hosea 6:6], for I did not come to call the righteous but sinners....”* (v.13)

MATTHEW 12 = Responding to the rebuke by the legalistic Pharisees. *“If you had known what this means, ‘I desire compassion, and not a sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.”* (v.7)

AND....AND...HERE’S THE GOOD NEWS!!!!