



NEW COVENANT CHURCH

MERCY

*The Gift Before
& After Faith*

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Lamentations 3:22-24

Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him."

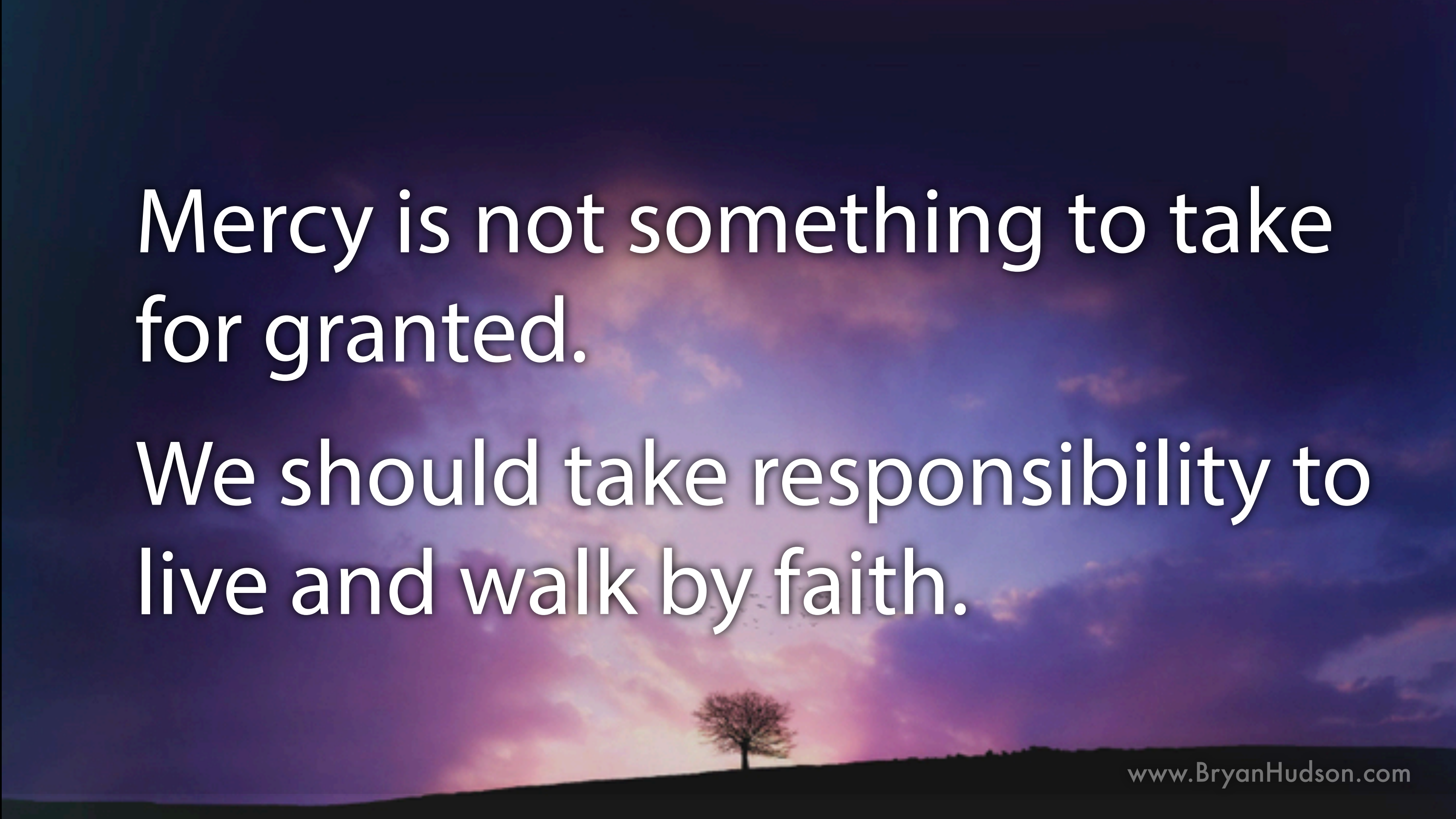
- Mercy is a great gift and provision from God.
- Mercy is the gift before and after faith.
- God's mercy endures forever, but it should not be taken for granted.
- Like all gifts, mercy should be valued and appreciated.

There are times when we all need mercy,
especially when we come short while trying
to do our best.

But if someone always expects mercy for
deciding not to do things, or when doing
wrong things, that is a different issue.

People think of mercy like the gas gauge being on “E,” but the car keeps running.

That’s not mercy, that’s car engineers knowing human nature and designing the gas gauge to not be totally empty when the dial hits “E.”

A background image of a sunset or sunrise over a dark horizon. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of purple, pink, and blue. A single, silhouetted tree stands on a small hill in the center of the horizon.

Mercy is not something to take
for granted.

We should take responsibility to
live and walk by faith.

Living by Faith is the Standard:

“Have faith in God...Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:22, 24)

*“Without faith, it is impossible to please God.”
(Mark 11:24)*

“Faith without works is dead.” (James 2:26)

Mercy is the gift before and after faith.

Lamentations 3:22-24, *Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him."*

Mercy definitions:

To act kindly towards. Benevolence, especially towards people experiencing misfortune or trouble.

"Mercy is the outward manifestation of compassion; it assumes need on the part of him who receives it, and resources adequate to meet the need on the part of him who shows it.

(Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words)

Mercy is often connected to integrity. Mercy doesn't come from nowhere. Mercy is what you reap from showing mercy, sowing integrity, and refusing to compromise your walk with God.

Isaiah 59:1, Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God. And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

A Lesson on Mercy From Joseph

Joseph suffered for being falsely accused by Potiphar's wife. This is a situation where there absolutely nothing Joseph can do. He needed mercy.

Genesis 39:1-7

Joseph would not compromise his integrity:

Genesis 39:10, So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her. 11 But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, 12 that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

Potiphar believed the false accusation more than the integrity of Joseph.

Lies travel faster than the truth.

Joseph was an excellent and diligent person. He was so good that even as a prisoner, he ended being charge of part of the prison.

We read, *"LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did."* (Genesis 39:23)

Have you noticed how the Lord does not give the same mercy and success to people who are not doing the work?

Mercy is not an emotion from God.

Mercy brings specific benefits from His presence.

Psalm 102:13, *You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come.*

God's love is foundational.

God's mercy is operational.

Love is God's nature.

God is love.

Mercy is love and compassion in action.

Psalm 102:13, *You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come.*

**There is a set time for God's favor.
That time for you is now!**