



6 - 12 Oct, 2019

Jesus Christ, the Merciful, part 1

**‘The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger,
and abounding in mercy’ Psalm 10:38**

Christ’s mercy goes over the boundaries to reach us (Lk 19:1-10)

- † **Divine mercy is after us and relentless**
- † **Christ calls Zacchaeus by name**
- † **Here Christ is calling a lost man, who is not in want, to be lost no more**
- † **Christ invites Himself to Zacchaeus’ house**
- † **Zacchaeus is a chief tax collector, stealing the citizens of his own country, and yet Christ was confident of his loving heart**
- † **Jesus Christ went right into Samaria (Jn 4:4-42), although pious Jews would go around it when travelling to or from Galilee**
 - **Christ, a Jewish man, started conversing a woman, who is Samaritan and is known as a sinner**
 - **Jesus Christ knows that she cannot reach Him. So, He reaches out to her**

Divine mercy draws us to Divine Life

- † **When Zacchaeus experiences the Lord’s love and mercy, he stands and makes his declaration to Christ the Lord**
- † **His heart becomes a penitent heart and his way of life changes**
 - **He used to store treasure for himself, now he resolves to be all for God and others**
- † **When the Samaritan woman experienced the Lord’s love and mercy, she left the bucket at the well (worldly matters) and went carrying the Living Water**
- † **The more one receives Christ, the more one gives Christ**

Divine mercy is demanding

- † **Mercy sends us on a mission**
- † **The Samaritan woman became the first evangelist**

We are called to live in mercy

- † *‘Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful’ Lk 6:36*
- † **Both Zacchaeus and the Samaritan woman reached out to others with mercy, looking beyond their judgmental hearts**
- † *‘But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance’ Mt 9:13*

Divine mercy in our lives takes the shape of the Cross

- † *‘Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy’ Mt 5:7*

Mercy is Life in its fullness

- † *‘The merciful man does good for his own soul, but he who is cruel troubles his own flesh’ Prv 11:17*
- † **Mercy is eternal lasting from one generation to the other**
 - *‘And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation’ Lk 1:50*
 - *‘He is ever merciful, and lends; and his descendants are blessed’ Ps 37:26*

Mercy conquers

- † **Stephen, even when being persecuted, prayed with mercy saying, ‘Lord, do not charge them with this sin’ Acts 7:60**
- † *‘Do you wish to receive mercy? Show mercy to your neighbor’*
‘Be ashamed when you sin, do not be ashamed when you repent. Sin is the wound, repentance is the medicine. Sin is followed by shame; repentance is followed by boldness (Boldness means to beg God for undeserved mercy). Satan has overturned this order and given boldness to sin and shame to repentance’ Saint John Chrysostom

Bibliography

Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'Therefore, be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful' Luke 6:36

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

✝ Christ has showered me with His everlasting mercy

My reaction

✝ Let me specify His mercy in my life and name it

✝ Am I living a divine life as a reaction of His divine mercy?

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management
14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them
15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights
16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

During this coming week, we will lift the Church and its unity in prayer

الصلاة الربانية

أبانا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ
لِيَتَقَدَّسَ اسْمُكَ
لِيَأْتِ مَلَكُوتُكَ
لِيَكُنْ مَشِيئَتُكَ
كَمَا فِي السَّمَاءِ
كَذَلِكَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ
خَبِرْنَا الصَّرُورِيَّ لِلْحَيَاةِ أَعْطَانَا الْيَوْمَ
وَاعْفُرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا
كَمَا نَعْفُرُ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا
لِلْمُذْنِبِينَ إِلَيْنَا
وَلَا تُدْخِلْنَا فِي تَجْرِبَةٍ
لَكُنْ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّرِّيرِ
لَأَنَّ لَكَ الْمَلِكَ وَالْقُدْرَةَ وَالْمَجْدَ
إِلَى الْأَبَدِ
أَمِينَ

قانون الايمان

نُؤْمِنُ بِإِلَهِ وَاحِدٍ
الْأَبِ ضَابِطِ الْكُلِّ
خَالِقِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ
كُلِّ مَا يُرَى وَمَا لَا يُرَى
وَيَرْبُّ وَاحِدٍ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ
ابْنَ اللَّهِ الْوَحِيدِ
الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْأَبِ قَبْلَ كُلِّ الدَّهْرِ
نُورٍ مِنْ نُورٍ
إِلَهُ حَقٌّ مِنْ إِلَهُ حَقٍّ
مَوْلُودٍ غَيْرِ مَخْلُوقٍ
لَهُ الْجَوْهَرُ نَفْسَهُ مَعَ الْأَبِ
الَّذِي بِهِ كَانَ شَيْءٌ
ذَلِكَ الَّذِي مِنْ أَجْلِنا نَحْنُ الْبَشَرِ
وَمِنْ أَجْلِ خَلَاصِنَا
نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاوَاتِ
وَتَجَسَّدَ مَتَأَنَسًا
بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ مِنْ مَرْيَمِ الْعَذْرَاءِ
وَصُلِبَ عَنَّا
فِي عَهْدِ بِيلاطسِ بِنطَيْبوسِ
وَتَأَلَّمَ وَقُبِّرَ وَقَامَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّلَاثِ
كَمَا فِي الْكُتُبِ
وَصَعَدَ إِلَى السَّمَاوَاتِ
وَجَلَسَ عَنِ يَمِينِ الْأَبِ وَيَجِيءُ بِمَجْدٍ
لِيُدِينَ الْأَحْيَاءِ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ
وَلَنْ يَكُونَ لِمَلِكِهِ نَهَايَةٌ
وَبِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ
الرَّبِّ الْمُحْيِي
الْمُنْبِئِ مِنَ الْأَبِ
الْمَسْجُودِ لَهُ وَالْمُجَدِّدِ مَعَ الْأَبِ وَالِابْنِ
النَّاطِقِ بِالْأَنْبِيَاءِ
وَبِكَنِيسَةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ مَقَدَّسَةٍ، جَامِعَةٍ، رَسُولِيَّةٍ
وَنَعْتَرِفُ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ
لِمَغْفَرَةِ الْخَطَايَا
وَنَنْتَظِرُ قِيَامَةَ الْمَوْتَى
وَحَيَاةَ الدَّهْرِ الْآتِي
أَمِينَ