

Chapter 1 : Mercy And Majesty - Worship Together

The Majesty of Mercy. Griffith Baptist Church - 7/6/ P.M. Service. Text: Psalm 36 Main Verse: Psalms - Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.

Actually I began to think a little bit about it last week. And the more you think about it, the greater it gets. If you turn over to Psalms Both goodness and greatness meet in God. Both majesty and mercy. The pagans, when setting up their great mythologies, their great systems of religion, they always tried to portray their number one god, their chief god, as one exemplifying greatness, and usually goodness as well. But in their case, usually this goodness did not manifest itself in mercy. But in just about all the pagan gods, the top god, the top dog, is shown to be both great and good. Such as Jupiter, for example Both great and good. But in God we find not only greatness and goodness, not only majesty, and power, but we find also mercy, which is entirely missing from most of the pagan gods. God is essentially good in Himself. Now think about that for a minute. The very essence of God is goodness. And not only is He the very essence of goodness within Himself and of Himself, but He is relatively good to us. How is that relatively good to us? In fact, you could have found 5, people last week who had a lot harder time than you did. All you would have had to do was just look around a little bit. You were much better off than 5, or 10, or 5,, other people in the world, no matter how badly off you were last week. But this also is shown even in Scripture, the fact that God is relatively good to us and that His very essence in Himself is good. The things which He does, the things which He accomplishes, the activity in which He engages, the things which He allows to come to pass, are also good. First, it is the great design of Scripture to present and reveal God as merciful. You find this all the way through this book we have right here, the Word of God. The great design of the whole book, is what? To present God as merciful, to reveal God to man as merciful. Something that the pagan gods never do. They never reveal themselves as merciful. The love of God, the mercy of God, touches hearts. And it is primarily designed to draw men to Him. This is the great purpose of the Scripture in presenting God, representing and revealing Him to man as merciful. Exodus 34, beginning with verse 6 has something to say that fits well here. And only one expression of His judgment or wrath. Six different times there He emphasizes or calls attention to or sets forth His mercy. But six other times in that same passage He proclaims and sets forth His great mercy. In it Moses asked God to reveal His glory to him. And what does God do? But what does He do? He speaks about His mercy there in the same chapter. And this is shown there even in one of these passages in which God was speaking to Moses after the Israelites made the Golden Calf. God is represented in the Scripture as a great King with a rainbow about His throne. Now what does the rainbow stand for? What does the rainbow indicate? It indicates the mercy of God. It could not possibly represent anything except the mercy of God. Because we remember the promise of God to Noah when He showed the rainbow and said this was His sign that the world would never again be destroyed by judgment of water. So, it clearly represents mercy. Secondly, let us go another step forward and think of it another way. God is more inclinable or more disposed to mercy than to wrath. Mercy is His attribute He most delights in displaying to man. And we can prove that by Scripture. But He delights in His mercy toward man. It brings Him great pleasure to show mercy to man. But you can find many places which either state plainly or clearly indicate, just as it does here in Micah 7: For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men. It is a good idea for all of us to read Lamentations chapter 3 once in a while. Let me give you an almost perfect illustration of that from everyday life. Think with me now for just a minute about this. All of you have seen the honeybees. Is it to sting people? What is the chief delight of the honeybee? It is not his joy in life, to sting us, is it? But his purpose, his main occupation, his principle idea, his reason for being, is to produce honey. And this makes a pretty good illustration of God, relative to His mercy and His wrath. His chief delight is to show mercy. But upon occasion, after great provocation, He must show His wrath as well, like the honeybee. God punishes, in other words, only when He can bear no longer. As it teaches us in Jeremiah When the abominations become overwhelming, then His wrath follows, as He tells us there in Jeremiah The abominations referred here are worship of false gods. We could say it or illustrate it another way. But, inflicting punishment is called His strange work in Isaiah So, His chief delight, His

principle object, His joy, His purpose, is to extend mercy, like using His right hand, His strong right hand. But, the infliction of punishment is referred to as His strange work. A work that He does not enjoy doing. That He only does upon great provocation. In the Psalms, if we look at two references there in chapter Again, this is emphasizing the chief delight of the Lord as being to show mercy to man. Without His mercy, then His holiness and His justice would be terrible to behold. It is made bearable by His mercy. Nothing else sets His power working for us, only His mercy. And it works for us everyday. In ways we never even think about. In ways for which we are totally ungrateful. And yet, His power works for us day by day. His mercy even makes His justice become our friend. And, furthermore, His mercy eventually shall avenge our quarrels. Think about it this way the glories of His attributes are like a golden crown with great jewels in it. And mercy is the brightest of all the jewels. The mercy of God. The center jewel in His crown. The great jewel that flashes out and draws men to Himself The mercy of God is the greatest jewel in His crown. His holiness, one of His other attributes, makes Him illustrious, we could say. We can approach to Him, it makes Him kind, loving, gentle and good to men. You think about that! Even in spite of their rejection of God and the truth, yet in spite of that, they still get crumbs from the table of mercy. The sweet dewdrops are on the thistle and on the thorn, the same as on the rose! Step number six, one act of mercy engages God to another. Now, think with me. A man may do you a big favor.

Scripture: Romans Sunday, January 14, Gary Finn, Pastor Berean Baptist Church (www.nxgvision.com).

I can discover no one in Thy realm who can befittingly turn unto Thee, or is able to adequately hearken unto what hath gone out of the mouth of Thy will. I beseech Thee, therefore, O Thou Who art the Possessor of the entire creation and the King of the realm of Thine invention, graciously to aid Thy creatures to accomplish that which is pleasing and acceptable unto Thee, that they may arise to serve Thy Cause amidst Thy creatures, and to speak forth Thy praise before all who are in heaven and on earth. Thou art He, O my Lord, Whose bounty hath surpassed all things, and Whose power hath transcended all things, and Whose mercy hath encompassed all things. Look, then, upon Thy people with the eyes of Thy tender mercies, and leave them not to themselves and to their corrupt desires in Thy days. How farsoever they may have strayed from Thee, and however grievously they have turned back from Thy face, yet Thou, in Thine essence, art the All-Bountiful, and, in Thine inmost spirit, art the Most Merciful. Deal with them according to the unrevealed tokens of Thy bounty and Thy gifts. Thou art, verily, the One to the power of Whose might all things have testified, and to Whose majesty and omnipotence the whole creation hath borne witness. Verily, the Cause of God hath come upon the clouds of utterances and the polytheists are in this day in great torment! Verily, the hosts of revelation have descended with banners of inspiration from the heaven of the Tablet in the name of God, the powerful, the mighty! At this time the monotheists all rejoice in the victory of God and His dominion, and the deniers will then be in manifest perplexity. Do ye flee from the mercy of God after it has encompassed the existent things created between the heavens and earths? Beware lest ye prefer your own selves before the mercy of God, and deprive not yourselves thereof! Verily, whosoever turneth away therefrom will be in great loss. Verily, mercy is like unto verses which have descended from the one heaven, and from them the monotheists drink the choice wine of life, whilst the polytheists drink from the fiery water; and when the verses of God are read unto them, the fire of hatred is enkindled within their breasts. Thus have they preferred their own selves before the mercy of God, and are of those who are heedless. If thine eyes be turned towards mercy, forsake the things that profit thee, and cleave unto that which will profit mankind. And if thine eyes be turned towards justice, choose thou for thy neighbor that which thou chooseth for thyself. Now is the time to cheer and refresh the down-cast through the invigorating breeze of love and fellowship, and the living waters of friendliness and charity. They who are the beloved of God, in whatever place they gather and whomsoever they may meet, must evince, in their attitude towards God, and in the manner of their celebration of His praise and glory, such humility and submissiveness that every atom of the dust beneath their feet may attest the depth of their devotion. How long will ye sleep? The second blast hath been blown on the trumpet. On whom are ye gazing? This is your Lord, the God of Mercy. Witness how ye gainsay His signs! The earth hath quaked with a great quaking, and cast forth her burdens. Will ye not admit it? Will ye not recognize how the mountains have become like flocks of wool, how the people are sore vexed at the awful majesty of the Cause of God? Witness how their houses are empty ruins, and they themselves a drowned host. This is the Day whereon the All-Merciful hath come down in the clouds of knowledge, clothed with manifest sovereignty. He well knoweth the actions of men. He it is Whose glory none can mistake, could ye but comprehend it. The heaven of every religion hath been rent, and the earth of human understanding been cleft asunder, and the angels of God are seen descending. This is the Day of mutual deceit; whither do ye flee? The mountains have passed away, and the heavens have been folded together, and the whole earth is held within His grasp, could ye but understand it. Who is it that can protect you? None, by Him Who is the All-Merciful! My majesty is My gift to thee, and My grandeur the token of My mercy unto thee. That which beseemeth Me none shall understand, nor can anyone recount. Verily, I have preserved it in My hidden storehouses and in the treasuries of My command, as a sign of My loving-kindness unto My servants and My mercy unto My people. Confession of sins and transgressions before human beings is not permissible, as it hath never been nor will ever be conducive to divine forgiveness. Verily He is the Compassionate, the Merciful. The sinner should, between himself and God, implore mercy from the Ocean of mercy, beg forgiveness from the Heaven of generosity and

say: O God, my God! I implore Thee by the blood of Thy true lovers who were so enraptured by Thy sweet utterance that they hastened unto the Pinnacle of Glory, the site of the most glorious martyrdom, and I beseech Thee by the mysteries which lie enshrined in Thy knowledge and by the pearls that are treasured in the ocean of Thy bounty to grant forgiveness unto me and unto my father and my mother. Of those who show forth mercy, Thou art in truth the Most Merciful. How regrettable indeed that man should debar himself from the fruits of the tree of wisdom while his days and hours pass swiftly away. Please God, the hand of divine power may safeguard all mankind and direct their steps towards the horizon of true understanding. I entreat Thee, by Thy signs that have encompassed the entire creation, and by the light of Thy countenance that hath illuminated all that are in heaven and on earth, and by Thy mercy that hath surpassed all created things, and by Thy grace that hath suffused the whole universe, to rend asunder the veils that shut me out from Thee, that I may hasten unto the Fountain-Head of Thy mighty inspiration, and to the Day-Spring of Thy Revelation and bountiful favors, and may be immersed beneath the ocean of Thy nearness and pleasure. Suffer me not, O my Lord, to be deprived of the knowledge of Thee in Thy days, and divest me not of the robe of Thy guidance. Thou art He Who from everlasting was, through the potency of His might, supreme over all things, and, through the operation of His will, was able to ordain all things. Nothing whatsoever, whether in Thy heaven or on Thy earth, can frustrate Thy purpose. Have mercy, then, upon me, O my Lord, through Thy gracious providence and generosity, and incline mine ear to the sweet melodies of the birds that warble their praise of Thee, amidst the branches of the tree of Thy oneness.

Chapter 3 : The Majesty of God

Surely just the great fact of God's majesty and mercy-His greatness and His grace, His sovereignty and His sympathy, His powerfulness and His pity. The certainty of the power of God's might, which "telleth the number of the stars" is at the disposal of the "broken in heart" to help and heal them.

Today's Catholic Bishop Kevin C. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, on Nov. Pope Benedict proclaimed this Year of Faith to help us to appreciate anew the great joy of believing. It is important that we not take our faith for granted or allow it to become lukewarm. The gift of faith always needs to be nourished and reinforced so it can continue to guide us in our journey of life. On the cross, He offered His life for us. When we think of Christ as King, we naturally think of the glorified and risen Christ seated at the right hand of the Father. Yet, we must first recognize the throne of Jesus that preceded the heavenly throne: It is on the cross that Christ manifested His unique Kingship. Christ is the King of love on Calvary. From that throne of the cross, Christ the King draws the world to Himself. He reigns as the true King in a way not understood by Pilate nor the Sanhedrin nor by those passing by. They were all mocking and taunting Him. They did not see that the man they were crucifying was loving them to the point of dying for them and opening up the pathway to God for them. This is at the very crux of our faith. The Crucified Jesus is the maximum revelation of God possible in this world. It is this love that redeems and saves us. On this last day of the Year of Faith, we have an unusual example of faith to help us: The good thief rebuked the bad thief who was reviling Jesus like the crowd that was mocking Jesus. With faith, the good thief asked Jesus to remember him when he comes into His Kingdom. He knew Jesus was innocent of any crime. The good thief intuitively recognized that Jesus was truly a king as the inscription above the cross declared and that His death would mean the beginning of his kingly rule. Today you will be with me in paradise. Our Lord granted eternal life to the good thief. My brothers and sisters, from the throne of the Cross, Jesus welcomes every human being with infinite mercy, like he welcomed the good thief! This should give us all hope. It is important that we remember who our king is, and on what throne he sits. Hopefully, the Year of Faith has helped many to experience a closer relationship with Christ. As Catholics, as followers of Christ, our faith is so much more than a philosophy or system of rules. It is about the mystery of Christ, the Incarnate Word, dead and risen, and made King of the Universe. It is a joy and a responsibility to serve Christ the King and to witness His Lordship in our life. This is greatly needed today. Though these are difficult times, the Church has always had difficult times. To get through them, we need to fix our eyes on Christ, and to seek first His Kingdom. Though the Year of Faith is coming to an end, our journey of faith continues. I pray that we will continue to help one another in our journey of faith. Delivered to your inbox. Subscribe to our mailing list today.

Chapter 4 : The Majesty Of Mercy Sermon by Nathan Johnson, Psalms - www.nxgvision.com

Christmas is filled with beauty and wonder. From a merely human perspective, the music, decorations, and lights create an atmosphere of joy and anticipation. It is "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year."

October 28, The Benefits of Mercy: That means each person is flawed; no exceptions. Loved ones hurt and annoy each other. This may be planned, or it may happen by accident. Every inhabitant of Earth needs to give and receive mercy compassion. The image below shows ways the average person may fall short of perfection: Ruth and Boaz Ruth is a Moabite. They settle in Bethlehem. The two ladies are poor. Ruth is a foreigner. Boaz shows great compassion. He instructs his servants to leave more grain for Ruth to find. He makes Ruth a part of his household and eventually marries her. She becomes the great-grandmother of King David. Reasons for Mercy According to William Shakespeare He is the most prominent playwright and poet of the English language. His writings are full of wisdom. Here are the main points of two of his most famous passages on the subject: Blessing to the giver and the receiver Quality of God himself Must be given in order to be received Necessary for everyone; we all fall short Merchant of Venice Act 4, scene 1 No fear Shakespeare version from Sparknotes. He is a Jewish businessman who wants justice for a misdeed done to him. The original Shakespeare will be in the left column. The modern translation is in the right one. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed: It blesseth him that gives and him that takes. His scepter shows the force of temporal power, The attribute to awe and majesty Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings, But mercy is above this sceptered sway. It is an attribute to God himself. Therefore, Jew, Though justice be thy plea, consider thisâ€” That in the course of justice none of us Should see salvation. We do pray for mercy, And that same prayer doth teach us all to render The deeds of mercy. It just happens, the way gentle rain drops on the ground. Mercy is a double blessing. It blesses the one who gives it and the one who receives it. It looks better in a king than his own crown looks on him. But mercy is higher than the scepter. So although justice is your plea, Jew, consider this. We pray for mercy, and this same prayer teaches us to show mercy to others as well. The old man is the courtier who is supposed to show the visiting acting troupe hospitality. Use them after your own honor and dignity. The less they deserve, the more merit is in your bounty. If you pay everyone what they deserve, would anyone ever escape a whipping? Treat them with honor and dignity. The less they deserve, the more your generosity is worth. What goes around comes around. No one has ever made themselves strong by showing how small someone else is. When we hurt others, we damage ourselves. When we help others, we serve ourselves.

Chapter 5 : The Majesty Of God's Mercy | Apostolic Information Service

Majesty is used 44 times in the English Standard Version; 1 Chronicles Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

Actually it is a Sermon that started to develop some months ago when I revisited some of the older books in my library. I noticed the authors used some great words from the Bible on a more frequent basis than we do today. Have they lost their meaning for this generation and time period? Words like Master, Meditate, Majesty and Mercy, kept popping off the pages and into my mind. Therefore it seemed appropriate to introduce several of the abovementioned words to a new generation and reintroduce them to the rest who are listening to this sermon today. Because of time restraints I will need to limit our focus to just two words that begin with the letter M. How is it used in the Bible? Did you know in the English Standard Version of the Bible the word majestic is used 13 times? Examples – Exodus Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? Our English word Majesty comes from Latin and it means greatness. When we use the word we do so acknowledging the greatness of the person or of God. When we see the word expressing the greatness of God in the Bible it sounds like this, Psalms Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. I would like to share with you a quote from a book called Knowing God; it was written by J. Packer and published in We are modern men, and modern men, though they cherish great thoughts of man, have as a rule small thoughts of God. Do we meditate on the glorious splendor of His divine majesty Psalms The Bible from start to finish impresses on the reader two twin truths, God is both personal and majestic. The Pendulum of certain Biblical truths swings both ways, today the emphasis appears to showcase the personal side of God. When one Biblical truth is given prominence, it is usually to the detriment of the other. Do you remember his focus on the personal relationship side of Jesus in John Chapter 14?

Chapter 6 : Christ's royal majesty of love and mercy - Today's Catholic

Christ's royal majesty of love and mercy Today's Catholic Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates the Closing Mass of the Year of Faith on the solemnity of Christ the King, Nov. 24, at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend.

The Introduction The subject of mercy is so expansive and wonderful that time could not allow for a thorough discussion of it. When you think of mercy, what do you think of? More importantly, how does mercy apply to you? Grace and mercy are great sisters that mean much to us: Grace is the goodness or love of God given to those who have not deserved it. Mercy is the judgment or wrath of God withheld from those who do deserve it. There is majesty and splendor in mercy because it is an attribute of the King Himself, our God and Father.

The Royal Remedy of the King A. To obtain means to lay hold of by the hands, to take possession of. The throne of grace is the source of the mercy of God b. It indicates abundance for those who desire it c. God is not mocked Gal. More on this in a moment ii. He gives mercy now to show the riches of His grace later vv. Mercy shunned is mercy wasted iv. There was enough mercy at the cross for all humanity to abundantly possess. His compassion for the multitudes Matt. For the blind Matt. For a leper Mark 1: For a possessed child Mark 9: His parables teach mercy Matt. In His atoning death Hebrews 2: This is how God works in mercy, but His children are also expected to imitate His mercy toward others. God expects mercy in His children Matthew 9: Also in Matthew

Chapter 7 : mercy Archives – The Majesty's Men

After All These Years. Gravity. Mention of Your Name. Only Jesus. I Won't Forget. Mercy and Majesty. Here I Bow. Greater Than All Other Names. After All These Years.

Posted on August 11, If we can understand this truth as we should, it will direct our hearts into the safe anchor of His love as nothing else could do. The Father He reveals is all majesty, but all mercy too. His comprehension is universal; so too is his compassion. In the other concept, God is regarded as being so friendly and – shall I say it? For instance, both are the common possession of all men. No one has a monopoly on the starlit heavens. So too are the sorest heartbreaks. It is part of the price we pay for living. And as for counting them! How like our heartbreaks! Our needs testify to our immortality. In our hours of pain and loneliness and misery, we instinctively turn to the greatness and majesty of God for unfailing comfort. Why Do Our Hearts Break? I came across a person in that situation not long ago. If ever I saw into a broken heart, I did that day. Yes, the heartbreaks of life are very many and very real! He alone is able to bind up and repair the bruised life. Thus it is that He telleth their number. So too is it with our many heartbreaks. The Proof of Experience Does not our personal experience prove all this? What can it mean? Is it aught to Him That the nights are long, and the days are dim? Can He be touched by the griefs I bear, Which sadden the heart and whiten the hair? About His throne are eternal calms, And strong, glad music of happy psalms And bliss unruffled by any strife; – How can He care for my little life? And yet I want Him to care for me, While I live in this world where the sorrows be. When the lights die down from the path I take; When strength is feeble and friends forsake; When love and music that once did bless Have left me to silence and loneliness; And my life-song changes to sobbing prayers, – Then my heart cries out for the God Who cares. Stuart Holden , Vicar of St.

Chapter 8 : The Quality Of Mercy Is Not Strain'd: Monologue Analysis

"Mercy" is not getting from God what we do deserve. The Bible says, "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy" (Psalm). Instead of inflicting pain and poverty and death (which are the wages of sin), God has spared our lives, and increased our blessings, and given us eternal life.

Every person, both young and old, of every race and color, naturally believes in a god, or in a supreme being of some kind, if he is endowed with a normal mind. We find a longing for God in hearts all over the world. Plutarch said that in his day one might travel the world over, and still would not be able to find a city without temples and gods. I do not say there is no God. The Bible makes no attempt to prove, or to argue for, the existence of God. Everywhere and at all times it is a fact taken for granted. The Bible simply accepts God without any proof. How can we account for all the things around us that we see and experience—the birds, the rocks, the trees, the stars? There can be no effect without a cause; no book without an author; no creation without a creator; and so there can be no design without a designer. And since this universe on which we live is a great effect, there must of necessity have been an original cause sufficient to produce it. Suppose there was a man walking along the road. He strikes his foot against a watch lying in the dust. He picks it up. He sees that it consists of a metal case, and inside the case a complicated arrangement of wheels and levers and springs. He sees that the whole thing is moving and working in the most orderly way. What then does he say? The atoms simply danced together from the ends of the earth by chance—and by chance made themselves into wheels and levers and springs—by chance assembled themselves into this complicated mechanism—by chance wound themselves up and set themselves going. If there is a design, there must of necessity be a designer behind that design! We look at the world about us and we see a vast machine which is in perfect working order. We have discussed an evidence for the existence of God outside the Bible, but we can never really know God through observing the stars and rocks and the flowers. From these we know that God is all wise and all powerful, and that He loves things beautiful and colorful, but we can never know His name and who He is, just by looking at the stars and the trees. Nature reveals the existence of God, but it tells nothing about His moral character. And remember, it is not enough to simply have a belief in a god, we must come to know the one true and living God—and the one true God Jehovah, the Self-Existent One has chosen to reveal Himself in the Holy Scriptures. And so in the Bible we have a full revelation of what God is really like. The Nature of God God is infinite. There is no limit to His Being, and therefore He cannot be compressed into any one definition, but we can put into verbal form our understanding of the Almighty as He has chosen to reveal Himself in the Holy Scriptures. The fourth chapter of John records the conversation of Jesus with the Samaritan woman. It is true that God is said to have hands and arms and eyes and ears, but these are anthropomorphic expressions used to bring the infinite within the comprehension of the finite. It is true that God revealed Himself to men in various physical forms. God is invisible, without body, and therefore free from all limitations. It is difficult for us to understand this because we are trying to understand Him with our finite minds. God is not apprehended by the senses, but by the soul. A spirit can be a person. God is not merely a cloudy vapor, or an influence, or subconsciousness. He is a living Person having knowledge, feeling, love, and all the qualifications that distinguish persons from the animal world. God walked in Eden in the cool of the day. God was a friend to Abraham. God is a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children. God is not a blind unconscious force working in this world. He is a Person in the sense that He thinks, feels, forgives, sympathizes, and has all the other expressions of personality. God is not a hazy, indefinite, blindly operating, omnipotent Force. God is a person. It is a deep mystery. I do not understand it all, and we have no space to discuss it further here, but the Bible teaches that God is one in essence, and yet at the same time He is three in Person. Concerning the nature of God, God is spirit He has no material body ; God is person He manifests all the expressions of personality ; God is triune He is one in essence, but three in person. For additional information about the Trinity, see Bible Helps booklet No. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Attributes of God By the attributes of God, we simply mean the characteristics or the qualities which describe His Being. He knows all things. He knows your name, your address, your telephone number, and

even the number of hairs on your head. Not a single thing occurs in any place without His notice. He knows our thoughts before they are fully developed, and our sentences before they are spoken. He is everywhere present. This does not mean that God is everywhere present in the same sense, for there is a sense in which He is in Heaven, His dwelling place, and yet God is everywhere and in every place. Do not I fill heaven and earth, saith the Lord? He is all powerful. And in Genesis He had neither beginning nor ending. He never came into being, He never began to be, He always was! Before the beginning began, God was. The Bible declares Him to be the Light in whom there is no darkness at all. God is the one Supreme Being without blemish or flaw. Justice is that attribute which leads God always to do right. Actually, God is both merciful and gracious. There is a difference between mercy and grace. Instead of inflicting pain and poverty and death which are the wages of sin, God has spared our lives, and increased our blessings, and given us eternal life. Christianity is the only religion that sets forth the Supreme Being as love. The gods of the heathen are angry, hateful beings and are in constant need of appeasing. But the true God who is revealed in the Bible is Love. He is not only loving, but God is Love. This passion to give others blessing and happiness is the very essence of His Being. It does not mean that God overlooks sin, but it does mean that in spite of the fact that we have sinned, and that His justice demands a death penalty for our sin, yet His love provides a way of salvation, by which sin can be taken away. These have been the attributes of God. The Bible reveals Him as an all-wise, all-powerful, eternal Being, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and yet righteous in all His doings. The Greatness of God The whole Bible, from the tremendous words of Genesis one to the last verse of the Revelation, gives voice to the infinite greatness and majesty of God. The Bible says in Isaiah I, even my hands have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. It staggers the imagination and defies the powers of human understanding. The distance from the earth to the sun is computed at 93 million miles. If you were able to journey to the sun, traveling at the speed of two hundred miles per hour, without any stops, it would take one hundred six years to make the round trip. The sun is more than a million times as big as the earth. If the earth were as large as the sun, and everything on it were as large in proportion, a man six feet tall here on earth would be an eighth of a mile high on the sun; his arms from shoulder to finger-tip would be one hundred sixty feet long; his eyes would be nine feet in diameter; his nose would be fourteen feet long; and his hair would look like a haystack! And this huge sun is a ball of fire. Its great flames flash, miles out into space. Let me ask some questions: How does the sun generate its heat and keep up a temperature of more than twelve thousand degrees year after year, producing a heat that blinds and blisters even at ninety-three million miles? Who keeps shoveling coal into this furnace? The poet Addison says: Our own universe the Milky Way is only one of millions of others, and the Milky Way is so big that it would take light traveling at, miles per second one hundred million years to travel from one end to the other. These heavenly bodies are spinning their way through the skies at amazing speeds. Right now we are moving at the dizzy speed of one thousand miles per hour around the sun, and by this time next year we will have traveled more than nine million miles—all without a creak in the machinery, and so smoothly that scarcely anyone will know that we are taking the journey. The timetable of our movement is so accurate that astronomers can state years beforehand exactly when the next eclipse of the sun or of the moon will take place. The earth circles the sun every days 5 hours 48 minutes 48 seconds, and this pattern has been so accurate that it has not varied one single second throughout the past thousand years! Each year more than ten billion American birds move north and south according to a seasonal schedule. Their habits of migration are fascinating indeed. Some species arrive and depart on the exact day each year. How do these frail and feathered birds find their way over the long stretches of land and sea without a chart or compass? How is it that they can return each summer to the same cluster of trees? Who gave them the instinct or the intelligence to do what seems like the impossible?

Chapter 9 : The quality of mercy (Shakespeare quote) - Wikipedia

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