

VERSES ON COMPASSION

Matthew 9:35-38 35 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every affliction. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had *compassion* for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

Matthew 14:13-14 13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had *compassion* on them and healed their sick.

Matthew 15:32 32 Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, I have *compassion* on the crowd because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.

Luke 6:27-36 27 But I say to you who hear, *Love* your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 29 To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. 30 Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. 31 And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. 32 If you *love* those who *love* you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners *love* those who *love* them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35 But *love* your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind/loving/good (*χρηστός*) to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be *compassionate* (*οικτίρων*)¹ even as your Father is *compassionate* (*οικτίρων*).

Luke 10:31-37 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had *compassion* (*σπλαγχνίζομαι*).² 34 He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back. 36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who

¹ “[P]ert. to being concerned about another’s unfortunate state or misery, *merciful, compassionate*” (*BDAG*, 700).

² “[H]ave pity, feel sympathy” (*BDAG*, 938).

fell among the robbers? 37 He said, The one who showed him *mercy* (ἔλεος).³ And Jesus said to him, You go, and do likewise.

Luke 15:20 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt *compassion*, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Philippians 1:8 8 God is my witness (μάρτυς), how I yearn for you all [the Philippians] with the *compassion* (σπλάγχνον) of Messiah Jesus.

Hebrews 10:34 34 For you *sympathised* with (συμπαθέω, aor.) those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.

³ “[K]indness or concern expressed for someone in need, *mercy, compassion, pity, clemency*” (BDAG, 316).