

VERSES ON COMPASSION¹ OF GOD
(Pity of God)
(See Verses on Grace of God, Love of God, Mercy of God)

Jdg 2:18-23 18 Whenever Yahweh raised up judges for them, Yahweh was with the judge, and he saved them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge. For Yahweh was moved to pity (רחם) by their groaning because of those who afflicted and oppressed them. 19 But whenever the judge died, they turned back and were more corrupt than their fathers, going after other gods, serving them and bowing down to them. They did not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.² 20 So the anger of Yahweh was kindled against Israel....³

Ps 68:5-6 5 A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows is God in his holy habitation. 6 God makes a home for the lonely. He leads out the prisoners into prosperity.

Ps 102:17 17 Yahweh has regarded the prayer of the destitute and has not despised their prayer.

Ps 103:13-14 13 As a father takes pity on (רחם) his children, so Yahweh takes pity on (רחם) those who fear him. 14 For he knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust.

Ps 119:77 77 May your compassions (רחמי) come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight.

Ps 147:2-3 2 Yahweh builds up Jerusalem. He gathers the outcasts of Israel. 3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Is 30:18 18 Yahweh waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to take pity on (רחם) you. For Yahweh is a God of justice. Blessed are all those who wait for him.

Is 49:8-10 8 Thus says Yahweh, In a favorable time I have answered you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you. And I will keep you and give you for a covenant of the people, to restore the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritages, 9 saying to those who are bound, Go forth, to those who are in darkness, Show yourselves. Along the roads they will feed, and their pasture will be on all bare heights. 10 They will not hunger or thirst, nor will the scorching heat or sun strike them down. For he who takes pity on (רחם) them will lead them and will guide them to springs of water.

Ho 2:23 23 I will...take pity on (רחם) her who had not obtained compassion ([]), and I will say to those who were not my people, You are My people! And they will say, My God!

¹ Compassion is feeling deeply and caring for those who suffer unjustly. Mercy is not getting the discipline or punishment one deserves. Grace is getting more blessing than one deserves.

² How are we responding to the compassion of Yahweh?

³ There is a limit to God's compassion.

Ho 2:23 23 I will take pity (חַחַד) on No Pity (הַמְּחַחֵד אֵל), and I will say to Not My People, You are my people, and he shall say, You are my God.

Mt 9:36 36 Seeing the people, [Jesus] felt compassion (σπλαγχνίζομαι) for them because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

Mt 14:14 14 When [Jesus] went ashore, he saw a large crowd, felt compassion (σπλαγχνίζομαι) for them, and healed their sick.

Mt 15:32 32 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, I feel compassion (σπλαγχνίζομαι) for the crowd because they have remained with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.

Mt 18:24-27 24 When [the master] began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And because he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything. 27 And out of pity (σπλαγχνίζομαι) for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.⁴

Lk 7:12-15 12 As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion (σπλαγχνίζομαι) on her and said to her, Do not weep. 14 Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, Young man, I say to you, arise. 15 And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Lk 15:20 20 [The son] arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him, felt compassion (σπλαγχνίζομαι), ran and embraced him, and kissed him.

⁴ God's compassion leads to his mercy, which in turn leads to his grace.