

Christ the Shepherd-King & His Works of Mercy

Ezekiel 34:15-16 "I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest... The lost I will search out, the strays I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, & the sick I will heal..."

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:3 "the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

John 1:29 "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" Repeats in John 1:36 'Behold the Lamb of God'

Matthew 25:40, 45 "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers (or sisters) of mine, you did for me."

Identity of Christ with His People & God being known by the Love of His People

Acts of the Apostles 9:3-6 "Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

Mathew 10:42 "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is My disciple, truly I tell you, he will never lose his reward."

John 17:21 "so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me"

John 17:23 "I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me...."

1 John 4:12 "No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us."

<u>Beatitude</u> (Matt 5)		<u>Work of Mercy</u> (Matt 25)
poor in spirit	--	hungry thirsty
mourn	--	dead
meek	--	homeless
hunger/thirst for righteousness	–	(<i>Desire to serve</i>)
merciful	–	sick
pure of heart	–	(<i>See as God sees</i>)
peacemakers	--	imprisoned
persecuted	--	imprisoned

Jesus tells parable illustrating the loving action of the works of mercy

Luke 10:29-37 "But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. **A priest** happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise **a Levite** came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by

on the opposite side. But a **Samaritan traveler** who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. **He approached** the victim, **poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged** them. Then **he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn and cared** for him. The next day **he took out two silver coins** and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "**The one who treated him with mercy.**" Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Samaritan 1) approached-welcomed, 2)healed-comforted wounded 3) served by ride on animal –walked with him, 4) gave shelter at inn + food/drink 5) gave further sustenance during confinement and 6) promised return visit/follow-up!

Jesus' Living Examples of Fulfilling Corporal Works of Mercy

- **To feed the hungry** (Most dramatic--Feeding of the 5,000 found in all four gospels-- Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15)
- **To give drink to the thirsty** (Woman at Well in John 4:14-15 "whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.")
- **To clothe the naked** John 19:35 "they took his clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down" (Matt 27:35 & also Matt 5:40, 'anyone sues for your cloak, give them your tunic also.')
- **To shelter the homeless** John 1:38-39 "They asked, "Where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. **Matt 11:28** "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."
- **To visit the sick** Matt 8:14-15 Visits Peter's Mother-in-Law & heals; Also, Matt 9:23,25 "When Jesus arrived at the official's house and saw the flute players and the crowd who were making a commotion.....When the crowd was put out, he came and took her by the hand, and the little girl arose." (Sick Visit to Home)
- **To visit the imprisoned** (also, 'ransom the captive-set the oppressed free' Luke 4:18) & Luke 22: 54 "After arresting him they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest; and Luke 22: 63 "The men who held Jesus in custody were ridiculing and beating him.
- **To bury the dead** Problem is that Jesus raises the dead! But, He is present at death scenes honoring the body as Temple of HS **John 11-Lazarus' Tomb & Luke 7:13-14 Widow at Nain Burial Scene** "When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, "Do not weep." He stepped forward and touched the coffin"