

## Doctrine of Compassion

1. To have compassion is to have a feeling of pity with a view to wanting to alleviate suffering and help.
  - *Exodus 2:6 And when she [Pharaoh's daughter] had opened it [the basket], she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.*
  
2. Compassion is a divine attribute.
  - *Isaiah 49:15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.*
  - *Psalms 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.*
  - *Psalms 111:4 He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.*
  - *Psalms 112:4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.*
  - *Psalms 145:8 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.*
  
3. Divine compassion can be prayed for.
  - *1 Kings 8:50 And [Father-God] forgive thy people that have sinned against thee and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them:*
  
4. Divine compassion can be expected.
  - *Micah 7:19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*
  
5. Compassion was a well-known characteristic of Christ.
 

Jesus had compassion on the multitudes. .

  - *Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.*

- *Matthew 14:14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.*
- *Matthew 15:32 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.*

Jesus had compassion on the individual.

- *Matthew 20:34 So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.*
- *Mark 1:41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.*

6. The compassion of Christ is extended to the ignorant and to the weak.

- *Hebrews 5:2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.*

7. Compassion is something that can be and shown be demonstrated by all.

- Compassion can be shown to those who struggle to pay a legitimate debt. *Matthew 18:33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?*
- Compassion can be shown to those who have been hurt and left to suffer on their own. *Luke 10:33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,*
- Compassion can be shown to a child repenting and returning home. *Luke 15:20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.*

8. Compassion can be identified with and expressed in a variety of methods.

- Compassion can be associated with healing. *Mark 5:19 Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.*
- Compassion can be associated with people not having a leader or a sense of direction. *Mark 6:34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.*

- Compassion can be associated with hunger. *Mark 8:2 I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat:*
  - Compassion can be associated with someone caught up in the world of the occult. *Mark 9:22 And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.*
  - Compassion can be associated with those who are grieving. *Luke 7:13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.*
9. The sovereignty of God is bound up in the divine displaying of compassion.
- *Romans 9:15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.*
10. Compassion is to a distinguishing mark of all Christians.
- *1 Peter 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:*
11. Lack of compassion is a sign that salvation has not touched the heart.
- *1 John 3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?*
12. The eternal destiny of a person may be dependant on where or not compassion was shown as a strategic moment.
- *Jude 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:*