> For the Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to him.
> — *2 Chronicles 30:9*

Book: Old Testament / 2 Chronicles
Topics: mercy, conversion, Forgiveness, grace, repentance

Interpretation:
2 Chronicles 30:9 invites us to turn to the Lord for mercy. Mercy is a very important theme in the Bible because it refers to the compassion and undeserved kindness that God gives us despite our mistakes and sins. In this sense, God is ready to forgive and provide help to all who turn to Him with a humble and repentant heart.

As humans, it is common for us to distance ourselves from God and forget His love and mercy. Sometimes we allow ourselves to be carried away by circumstances and difficulties and lose sight of the fact that God is always ready to extend His love and a helping hand to us. However, the good news is that at any moment we can turn to Him and experience His love and grace.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.
> — *2 Corinthians 12:9*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: mercy, grace, Jesus, strength, weakness

Interpretation:

In *2 Corinthians 12:9, Paul* tells us how God told him that His grace is sufficient and that His power is made perfect in weakness. The apostle, after receiving a heavenly vision, tells us of his weakness, and this statement is God's answer to his request to remove the messenger with whom he was wrestling.

This verse shows us the wonderful truth that God's grace is sufficient for us. We often feel overwhelmed by our failures, weaknesses, and sins. But according to Paul, God's grace is more than sufficient to cover all of our weaknesses. In fact, the more we recognize our weaknesses, the more we can experience the supernatural power *of Christ* flowing through us.

Application to our lives

In everyday life, it's easy to fall into the trap of perfectionism and self-importance. We want to be strong and be able to handle all of our challenges without help. However, this attitude leads us into a vicious cycle that drains us and makes us feel weaker and more vulnerable. Instead, we must learn to trust in the power of God and His all-sufficient grace. In our weaknesses, we can find a wonderful opportunity to experience the supernatural power of Christ flowing through us.

It is important to realize that our weaknesses do not define us or make us less valuable in the eyes of God. On the contrary, it is our weaknesses that make us dependent on His grace and strength. We must embrace our weaknesses and learn to trust in God's power to overcome them.

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> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.
>
> *— Ephesians 2:4-5*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: mercy, grace, Jesus, love

Interpretation:
The book of Ephesians was written by *the apostle Paul* as a letter to the church in Ephesus while he was imprisoned in Rome. Throughout the letter, Paul speaks of salvation by grace through faith in *Jesus Christ*.

The Bible verses in *Ephesians 2:4-5* tell us a very harsh and difficult reality: *we were dead in sin*. This state of spiritual death is caused by separation from God caused by the original sin *of Adam and Eve*. Since then, mankind has been alienated from God and has lived in darkness.

The love and mercy of God

Ephesians 2:4 is a powerful reminder of God's mercy. The fact that God is rich in mercy means that He has an endless abundance of love and compassion for His people. Not because we have done anything to deserve His love or mercy, but because His love is selfless and He is willing to forgive those who repent.

This verse also highlights the connection between God's love and mercy. God loved us so much that He sent *His Son Jesus* to die for us on the cross. This shows God's great love for us. And because of His great love, He shows us mercy and forgives us of our sins.

The importance of faith in Jesus

The word *"saved"* in *Ephesians 2:5* means that we have been saved from a state of spiritual death. But to receive this salvation, we must believe in *Jesus Christ as Savior*, believe in Him and in His atoning sacrifice on the cross. Only then can we receive eternal life and be reconciled to God.

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> Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
> *— Hebrews 4:16*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: mercy, grace, Prayer

Interpretation:
This verse from Hebrews encourages us to come to God's throne of grace with confidence to receive mercy and grace in our time of need. The imagery of the throne indicates God's presence and His authority as King and Judge. Grace is the unmerited favor that God gives us, and mercy is the forgiveness that we do not deserve.

How can this verse help the reader?

This verse gives us confidence that we can turn to God for help when we are in trouble. When we face problems, we are not alone. We can freely pray to God and ask Him for what we need without fear. This divine invitation allows us to find peace and relief by talking to God about our difficulties and concerns in all areas of our lives.

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> Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!
>
> — *Isaiah 30:18*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: mercy, compassion, grace, patience, righteousness

Interpretation:
Isaiah 30:18 speaks of God's patience and mercy. Despite our mistakes and sins, God is always ready to forgive us and patiently waits to show us mercy. Through divine justice, God grants us His mercy, and those who trust in Him will be blessed.

Reflecting on the verse

When faced with difficulties and trials, it's easy to fall into despair and fear. However, *Isaiah 30:18* reminds us that God is always there and always shows us His mercy and compassion. We can be confident that God will not abandon us and is always ready to forgive if we seek His love and guidance.

This verse also calls us to trust in God and believe in His justice. God is just and merciful, and He will help us overcome any adversity we face. We must learn to trust Him and remain faithful to Him even in difficult times.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
> *— Isaiah 55:7*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: mercy, conversion, Forgiveness, life, righteousness, thoughts

Interpretation:
Isaiah 55 speaks of God's call to His people to come to Him and receive His blessings. In verse 6, God calls them to seek Him while He is available, and it is in this context that verse 7 calls us to turn from our wicked ways and return to God and His mercy.

Let the wicked forsake his way

God calls us to forsake the wicked and sinful paths we have strayed into. The word "wicked" in this verse refers to those who have been unrighteous and have gone against God's will. Wicked ways will lead us to destruction and separation from God. It is important to remember that we cannot serve two masters and must choose between God and the world.

Evil thoughts

Our thoughts and desires can lead us to temptation and sin. God calls us to reject the evil thoughts that separate us from Him and replace them with thoughts of love, kindness, and justice. We must remember that God knows our deepest thoughts, and if we want to draw closer to Him, we must be sincere and strive for purity of heart.

Return to the Lord

Turning away from our evil ways and evil thoughts, we must turn to God and His mercy. God awaits with open arms those who repent and turn to Him. His love and forgiveness are boundless and always available to us.

God will be generous in forgiveness

The verse concludes with the promise of God's forgiveness and mercy. He is ready to forgive us and cleanse us from all our sins. We must remember that no sin is too grave for God to forgive, and that

He is always ready to receive us.

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> ‘Return, faithless Israel,’ declares the Lord, ‘I will frown on you no longer, for I am faithful,’ declares the Lord, ‘I will not be angry forever.’
>
> *— Jeremiah 3:12*

Book: Old Testament / Jeremiah
Topics: mercy, anger, Forgiveness, grace

Interpretation:
Jeremiah 3:12 is a verse that teaches us about God's love and mercy for His people, even when they rebelled and disobeyed Him. In this verse, God sends a message to Israel, calling them to turn to Him and not fear His wrath, for He is merciful and will not remain angry forever.

The message of *Jeremiah 3:12* is a message of hope and forgiveness. God calls His people to return to Him, to abandon their rebellion, and to seek His love and grace. God will not punish Israel with the full weight of His wrath, but He is ready to forgive and restore their relationship with them.

This message is of great importance to us as believers *in Christ*. In everyday life, we often find ourselves in situations where we disobey God, showing rebellion and disobedience. However, this verse teaches us that God is always ready to forgive us and show us His love and mercy.

One of the most important lessons we can learn from *Jeremiah 3:12* is that we must be willing to repent and turn to God when we make mistakes. We often tend to justify our mistakes or think our sin is too great to be forgiven. However, this verse shows us that God is always ready to forgive us if we only repent of our sins and return to Him with a humble and obedient heart.

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> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”
> — *Matthew 18:21-22*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: mercy, Forgiveness, grace, neighbor, sin

Interpretation:
In the Bible verses *Matthew 18:21-22*, we find *Peter* asking *Jesus* how many times he should forgive his brother who had wronged him. In this passage, Jesus emphasizes the importance of forgiveness and how we should learn to forgive our neighbors.

The value of forgiveness

To better understand the value of forgiveness, it is important to know the meaning of the word. Forgiveness involves releasing another person from the punishment or revenge that they deserve for hurting us. In other words, forgiveness is releasing guilt and pain so that you can move on.

That is why Jesus answers Peter by saying that we should forgive not only seven times, but seventy-seven times. In other words, we should learn to forgive always. That is, we should forgive not just once, but several times, without any reasonable limit.

The importance of forgiveness

Jesus also shows us an example of the importance of forgiveness in our lives. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, *“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins” (Matthew 6:14-15)*.

This teaching of Jesus shows that forgiveness is crucial to our happiness and well-being. When we forgive others, we free our hearts from bitterness and resentment and allow ourselves to freely experience inner peace and harmony with others.

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> For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
> — *Matthew 6:14*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: mercy, Forgiveness, grace, sin

Interpretation:
Christianity is all about forgiveness, but often, even though we know we should forgive, we struggle to put this command into practice. *Matthew 6:14* talks about the importance of forgiveness and how it can impact our spiritual lives and our relationships with others.

What does it mean to forgive?

Before we delve into this verse, it is important to understand what forgiveness means in the biblical context. Forgiveness involves releasing the wrongdoer from the punishment and debt that resulted from their actions. It does not mean forgetting what happened, but rather giving up the right to revenge or retribution.

Forgiveness and the escalation of evil

It often happens in everyday life that when someone hurts us, our first reaction is to want revenge. However, this response only leads to an escalation of evil. Forgiveness, on the other hand, is an act of love and mercy that stops this escalation and the cycle of evil.

Forgiveness and our hearts

Matthew 6:14 tells us that if we forgive others, God will forgive us. This passage shows us that forgiveness not only affects our relationships with others, but it also has a profound effect on our spiritual lives. When we forgive others, we release the burden of resentment and bitterness from our hearts.

Why is it hard to forgive?

Even though we know it is right to forgive, we often find it difficult to do so. We hold on to our feelings of anger, sadness, and pain, and forgiving can seem like a sign of weakness. However, forgiveness is an act of courage because it requires making a decision to let go of the pain and choose the freedom that forgiveness offers.

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> But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.
> *— Matthew 9:13*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: mercy, repentance, righteousness, sacrifice

Interpretation:
In this verse, Jesus is speaking to the Pharisees (the church leaders of that time) after healing a paralytic. The Pharisees criticized Jesus for associating with sinners and tax collectors, to which Jesus responded with the phrase, **“I desire mercy, not sacrifice.”**

The Pharisees believe that righteousness consists in offering the sacrifices established by the law, but they forget the words of God, spoken through the mouth of the prophet Hosea: **“I desire mercy, and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings” (Hos. 6:6)**. The Lord means that sacrifices and all formal piety without love for others, without deeds of mercy, are worthless in the eyes of God.

"For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners" or, in other words, the Lord came so that sinners would repent and correct themselves. He came to call to repentance not those who consider themselves righteous and imagine that they have nothing to repent of, but those who humbly recognize themselves as sinners and ask God for mercy.

True, the Lord came to save everyone, including the imaginary righteous, but until they abandon the dream of their righteousness and recognize themselves as sinners, their calling will be fruitless, and salvation is impossible for them.

To summarize, it is necessary to understand and accept that all people are sinners! We must apply mercy in our lives, always thinking about helping our neighbors, and not justifying ourselves by observing all religious laws. Mercy is a call to action, to be attentive to the needs of others and to act when necessary to help those in need, thus we reflect the love that God gave us.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.
>
> *— Micah 7:18*

Book: Old Testament / Micah
Topics: mercy, Forgiveness, sin

Interpretation:
This verse can be divided into two parts. In the first part, we see *Micah's* rhetorical question. There is no God like the God of Israel, who forgives his people and forgets their sins. Evil and rebellion deserve divine punishment and wrath, but mercy and forgiveness are a tangible reality in the life of the believer.

In the second part, we see the explanation of this fact. God does not hold back his wrath forever because he delights in mercy. Divine mercy is the quality that moves God to forgive sinners and restore them to right relationship with Him.

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> But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.
>
> *— Nehemiah 9:31*

Book: Old Testament / Nehemiah
Topics: mercy, Forgiveness, grace, nearness

Interpretation:
The Bible verse in *Nehemiah 9:31* is a wonderful reminder that despite our mistakes and sins, God is still merciful to us. This is a very comforting thought for those who seek hope and comfort in religion,

as it makes it clear that even if we fail, God will never abandon us.

The word *“mercy”* refers to the compassion or tenderness we show to those in need or suffering. It also refers to the kindness shown to those who have made mistakes or failed in their duties. In this sense, God’s mercy is a reflection of God’s love for us, regardless of our mistakes.

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> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him.
> *— Philippians 1:29*

Book: New Testament / Philippians
Topics: mercy, faith, grace, suffering

Interpretation:
One of the most difficult aspects of the Christian life is persecution. The thought of suffering for your faith can be frightening and distressing to most people. However, *Philippians 1:29* shows us that it is not only faith *in Christ* that is important, but also suffering for Him.

The message of the verse

Philippians 1:29 shows us that suffering for Christ is a privilege. This verse shows us that the experience of persecution is something we do, not something that just happens. In other words, God calls us to suffer for Christ. Although suffering can be painful and difficult, Jesus reminds us that it is a blessing to be persecuted for righteousness’ sake *(Matthew 5:10)*.

The importance of suffering for Christ

Persecution is a reality for many Christians around the world. In some countries, followers of Jesus face death or imprisonment simply for believing in Him. However, in developed countries, we often overlook the fact that we may also face persecution in various forms, such as discrimination at work or school, social exclusion, and other forms of discrimination.

The significance of suffering for Christ is that it reminds us that faith in Jesus is important and we must defend it with our lives. Persecution helps us examine our conscience and strengthen our faith in

difficult times.

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> Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.
>
> *— Proverbs 28:13*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: mercy, confession, Forgiveness, grace, repentance, sin

Interpretation:
In life, we all make mistakes and sins, some more serious than others. However, there is a Bible teaching that teaches us how to deal with our mistakes and how to obtain mercy. This is a powerful truth, and it is important that we understand it so that we can apply it in our lives.

It is natural to want to hide our mistakes and sins. We often feel embarrassed and afraid of the reaction of others. *But it is important to remember that there is nothing we can do to hide our sins from God*. He sees everything and knows everything. Moreover, hiding our sins can cause us to make more mistakes in the future. If we do not face our mistakes and sins, we will not be able to repent and learn from them. This can cause us to stray from what is right and lead us down a path of self-destruction and alienation from God.

Thankfully, God is a God of mercy and forgiveness. He wants us to repent of our mistakes and return to Him. There is always time to ask for forgiveness and find grace in His arms. As mentioned in *Proverbs 28:13*, if we confess our sins and turn from them, God promises to show us mercy and help us to walk in the right path. *It is important to remember that God wants the best for us and that His love is unconditional*.

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> Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.
> — *Psalm 112:5*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, generosity, honesty

Interpretation:
Psalm 112:5 mentions the virtuous man, emphasizing his ability to practice mercy and justice in his daily life. This verse encourages us to reflect on the role of compassion and justice in our lives and how we can apply these values ??to become better people and build a more just and equal society.

First, this verse speaks of mercy—a virtue that involves compassion and empathy for others. Mercy encourages us to show empathy and seek to understand the situation of others, rather than judge or criticize them. If we want to be like the virtuous man in *Psalm 112:5*, we must have a sensitive heart and be willing to help those in need. By showing mercy, we can change the lives of others for the better and strengthen our interpersonal relationships.

Furthermore, this verse also suggests that the virtuous man lends. The idea of ??lending implies generosity and a willingness to share what we have with others. It's not just about lending money or material goods, but also about giving our time, resources, and skills to help others. By lending, we demonstrate our solidarity and commitment to the common good, which enriches both our lives and the lives of those who receive our help.

This verse also emphasizes the importance of justice in the life of a virtuous person. Justice implies the impartial and fair application of the laws, norms, and values ??of our society. A virtuous person is one who acts fairly in interpersonal relationships, at work, and in all areas of their life. By doing so, they contribute to building a more just and equal society in which the rights and needs of all are respected.

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> Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

> — *Psalm 130:1-2*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, dependence, grace, listening

Interpretation:
Psalm 130 is a beautiful song of repentance, expressing humanity's need to cry out to God from the depths of their being. The first verse speaks of a supplicant's voice coming from the depths of the soul. Verse 2 of this Psalter, in particular, emphasizes the psalmist's plea for God to hear his voice.

Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord

The word *"depths"* in these verses has a deeper meaning than just physical depth. It denotes the depth of our pain, torment, sorrow, and suffering. The psalmist cries out to God from the depths of his troubles, desperately seeking a solution or answer.

The word *"cry"* means to beg with tears, to plead persistently. These verses describe a deep and sincere cry to God, coming from the very heart. The author acknowledges his need for a savior and turns to God in faith, trusting in His love and mercy.

The importance of prayer

Prayer is one of the fundamental pillars of Christian spiritual life. Through it, believers communicate with God, expressing their feelings, needs, gratitude, and petitions. *Jesus* Himself taught us to pray *the Lord's Prayer* and repeatedly withdrew to solitary places to be alone with *His Heavenly Father*.

These verses from *Psalm 130:1-2* remind us of the importance of praying with humility and sincerity. The psalmist, conscious of his sin and needing help, turns to God, asking for His mercy. He knows that God is a God who hears and is always ready to help those who trust in Him.

The voice of the psalmist

The psalmist begs God to hear his voice. This request has a double meaning: on the one hand, the psalmist longs to be heard by God, and on the other, he desires to recognize God's voice and find answers in it.

In this sense, the psalmist's voice represents his inner being, his soul, his spirit. He knows that if God hears his voice, he will find the peace and rest he so desires. The psalmist believes that God hears him and therefore turns to Him with a sense of complete devotion and trust.

Our relationship with God

Psalm 130 is a prayer that speaks of our relationship with God. *He is our Savior, our Redeemer*, and our only source of hope. The psalmist acknowledges his need for God and knows that only God can save him from sin and its consequences.

In our daily lives, we can also find comfort and hope in prayer. When we find ourselves in trouble or despair, we should turn to God with humility and sincerity, knowing that He hears us and answers us. In moments of joy and gratitude, we should also turn to Him with a heart full of thanksgiving and praise.

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> Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
>
> *— Psalm 23:6*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, grace, life, nearness

Interpretation:
Psalm 23 is one of the most famous and beloved psalms in the entire Bible. Written by King *David*, this verse is a testimony of trust in God's care and provision for His children. Verse 6, in particular, is a wonderful promise that God not only accompanies us in the present but also guarantees our future in Him.

God's goodness and mercy

"Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life." This is a powerful statement of God's character and a reminder that He is a kind and loving God, always desiring to bless His children with His grace and kindness.

The Hebrew word for "goodness" implies favor and generosity—not only to the righteous but also to sinners and the needy. On the other hand, "mercy" refers to God's compassion and forgiveness—a gift He gives us generously.

The persistence of the promise

"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." This conclusion of verse 6 assures us of God's promise of goodness and mercy throughout our lives. David declares his intention to remain in the house of God, which can be interpreted as a physical place, like the Temple in Jerusalem, or as an analogy for fellowship with God in this life. In any case, the promise is that God not only walks with us in the present but also cares for our eternal future.

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> Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good.
> — *Psalm 25:6-7*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, goodness, sin

Interpretation:
Psalm 25 has long been considered a prayer of trust and hope in God's promises. In verses 6-7, the psalmist asks the Lord to remember His love and mercy for His people, and also acknowledges his sins and asks forgiveness for the mistakes and misdeeds he committed in his youth. These verses are relevant for all believers, as they remind us of the need to remember God's goodness in our lives, regardless of our circumstances.

The constancy of God's mercy

The psalmist emphasizes the enduring nature of God's compassion and mercy. Often in difficult times, we feel abandoned by God, but these verses remind us that His love is eternal and that He will never abandon us.

God is just and holy, and therefore we must seek His grace and mercy through prayer and obedience to His commandments. The Apostle *Paul* wrote in *Romans 3:23-24, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."*

Youth and rebellion

The psalmist speaks of the sins and rebellious acts of his youth. Youth is a period of life when a person often experiments, tries new things, and learns from mistakes. In most cases, these mistakes stem from inexperience and impulsiveness. Young people are more prone to rebellious acts and making risky decisions that can have negative consequences.

As an adult, the psalmist acknowledges that these actions may have left deep wounds and pain in his life, so he asks God not to remember them. In these verses, the psalmist not only asks for forgiveness for his past mistakes but also acknowledges the need to release this burden in order to move toward a better future.

Divine mercy

The psalmist's prayer reflects a broken and repentant heart. He asks God to remember him in His mercy, demonstrating his faith in God's goodness. Mercy is a divine quality that can only be bestowed through the sacrifice *of Jesus Christ* on the cross.

God's mercy is inexhaustible and available at any time, even after the most terrible mistakes in life. In this sense, *Psalm 25:6-7* serves as a reminder to all believers that there is no sin that cannot be forgiven, and that God is always ready to show us His mercy.

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> Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord; may your love and faithfulness always protect me.
>
> *— Psalm 40:11*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, faithfulness, love, protection, reliability

Interpretation:
In *Psalm 40:11, King David* pleads with God not to turn away from him, but to extend mercy to him forever. In this petition, we see that David understands the importance of God’s mercy in his life. God’s mercy is defined as the undeserved love He shows us despite our mistakes and failures. It is a fundamental characteristic of His divine nature and a reminder that our God is compassionate and full of love.

When times are tough in life, it is easy to become discouraged. It is natural to feel that things are not going as they should, and it is in these moments that we must remember that God's mercy never leaves us. David understands this and prays for it in his prayer. Our petition to God is not simply a request for what we need, but an expression of our deepest need: *the need for God's love and mercy*. We must keep this meaning in mind as we read and meditate on this verse.

We find numerous stories throughout the Bible of how God's mercy has changed the lives of many people. From the moment *Adam and Eve* committed their first sin, God has continued to show His mercy throughout history through His children. *Jesus* also taught us about mercy in *the New Testament* as He treated the sick, the poor, and the marginalized in society.

When we experience God's mercy in our lives, we should consider how it might affect our actions in our daily lives. We can change our behavior and attitude toward others and learn to be more tolerant, patient, and compassionate. When we understand that we are experiencing God's mercy, we can receive that mercy and then pass it on to others. Let us remember that mercy is not only for us, but also for us to share with others.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
>
> *— Psalm 51:1-2*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, purification, sin

Interpretation:
Psalm 51 is a psalm of repentance and supplication to God for mercy, forgiveness, and cleansing from sin. In it, *King David* confesses and laments his sins of adultery and murder, and acknowledges his need for God's grace. *Psalm 51:1-2* is a heartfelt plea for help and forgiveness that many believers have offered to God over the centuries.

What is repentance?

Repentance is an act of honesty and humility before God. It consists of acknowledging one's mistakes, sins, and transgressions before God and asking for forgiveness. This is not simply a verbal act, but is accompanied by a change in attitude and life, a commitment to do right and follow God's ways.

God's mercy

In these verses, the psalmist begs God to have mercy on him, that is, to show compassion and forgiveness. God's mercy is not limited to forgiveness; it also encompasses His unconditional love, protection, and guidance. The psalmist's plea is based on trust in God's loving nature, his past success in forgiving, and hope for His response.

Rebellion and forgiveness

Psalm 51:1-2 speaks not only of forgiveness but also of God's many mercies—a reminder of His ability to forgive countless offenses and sins. The psalmist acknowledges his need for God's forgiveness and grace, but also acknowledges his many failures. To receive forgiveness, one must first acknowledge sin and the need for forgiveness.

Cleansing and washing

In biblical language, the act of washing has profound spiritual meaning. It is not simply a physical cleansing, but a symbolic act representing the purification of the soul. By washing away wickedness and sin, David asks God to completely cleanse him, to free him from everything that separates him from God. This process of purification is essential for everyone who desires to draw closer to God and live in obedience to His commandments.

Sin and its corrupt nature

Sin is the source of all evil and corruption in the world. In its most basic form, sin is rebellion against God and His will. When we succumb to sin, we turn away from God and His way and plunge into the darkness of selfishness and ambition. Sin corrupts us from within and leads to immoral and dishonest actions. Only by being cleansed and freed from sin can we free ourselves from its influence and live righteous and holy lives.

God's role in our purification

It is impossible to cleanse our hearts of sin and wickedness on our own. Only God, in His infinite mercy and grace, can forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Only by His power and love can we be cleansed and restore a healthy relationship with Him. By asking God to wash away our unrighteousness and sin, we acknowledge our need for His help and believe in His goodness, which can completely cleanse us.

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> May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.
> *— Psalm 90:17*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: mercy, encouragement, grace, work

Interpretation:
This biblical passage mentions the light of the Lord as a way to ask for His presence and guidance in our lives. Light in the Bible symbolizes the Lord and His path, calling us to follow Him to find salvation and happiness. This divine light also symbolizes the truth and wisdom we can find in God's commandments.

The work of our hands and divine confirmation

Psalm 90:17 also mentions *"the work of our hands,"* prompting us to consider the importance of our work and the impact our actions have on our lives and society. The Bible teaches us that our work must have a divine purpose and must be carried out honestly and fairly. By doing so, we affirm God's presence and His will in our lives.

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> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
> *— Romans 12:1*

Book: New Testament / Romans

Topics: mercy, Holiness, obedience

Interpretation:
Romans 12:1 calls us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God. It is important to understand that the sacrifice mentioned here does not refer to the offering of an animal in the Temple, but rather to the offering of our own lives. *Paul* calls us to dedicate our whole selves to God—our minds, our thoughts, our emotions, our desires, and our physical bodies.

Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices

The idea of ??presenting ourselves as a living sacrifice may seem radical and impractical, but this idea is found throughout *the New Testament*. These verses are a call to live in obedience to God as an act of worship. That is, our entire being is to be dedicated to serving God, not just at certain times of the day or week.

It is also important to note that this living sacrifice does not involve denying ourselves or denying our needs. Rather, it is about giving our whole selves to God, trusting that He will direct our lives and provide for us along the way.

True worship

When Paul speaks of *“true worship,”* he means something deeper than simply worshiping God in a temple. This worship is about our personal devotion to God, experienced daily. Here Paul suggests that the true act of worship is to give our whole being to God, which means total devotion and living by His principles and values.

It is important to note that when we give ourselves completely to God, we lose nothing, but rather gain everything in Him. When we give ourselves to God, our lives begin to have a greater purpose, our desire for worldly things diminishes, and we begin to experience a peace and joy that transcends the problems we may face.

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> But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

> — *Romans 5:15*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: mercy, grace, Jesus, punishment, sin

Interpretation:
Romans 5:15 is an example of the love and grace of God through *Jesus Christ*, who offers us salvation through His sacrifice on the cross. It compares *Adam's* transgression with God's gift through Jesus Christ, where we can appreciate how death and destruction came to us through original sin, but life and redemption are possible through the work of the cross.

Adam's transgression

This verse speaks of Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden, which occurred when he disobeyed God's command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. As a result, death and the curse entered the world, as disobedience resulted in man's separation from his Creator. From that moment on, all people were subject to death and the curse.

God's gift through Jesus Christ

However, God, in His infinite love, did not want to leave mankind in this situation. God's grace and the gift of life were manifested in Jesus Christ, who sacrificed Himself to pay the price for mankind's sins. Thus, through Jesus Christ, we are offered eternal life and salvation.

Comparison between the crime and the gift

Romans 5:15 clearly shows us that Adam's crime is not comparable to God's gift through Jesus Christ. Although Adam's crime brought death and sin into the world, God's gift through Jesus Christ brought grace and life. God is a God of grace and mercy, and His love for us is inexhaustible.

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> What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!
> — *Romans 6:15*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: mercy, freedom, grace, law, sin

Interpretation:
In the sixth chapter of *Romans, St. Paul* addresses the problem of how sin separates us from God and how *Jesus'* sacrifice reconciles us to Him. In *verse 15*, the apostle asks himself a rhetorical question and answers decisively.

What does "law" mean in this context?

In Judaism, *"law"* refers to the set of commandments and rules that God gave to His people through *Moses in the Old Testament*. However, with the coming of *Jesus Christ, "law"* took on a different meaning. In this case, "law" refers to God's justice and the values ??that should guide the life of a Christian, such as love, forgiveness, and solidarity.

We are not under law, but under grace

In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul explains that the coming of Jesus Christ represents a radical change in the way people can approach God. Previously, keeping the *"law"* allowed us to receive divine grace. But with the death and resurrection of Jesus, grace becomes a free gift offered to us out of love for God.

Why should we not sin even if we are not under the law?

Being under grace does not mean that we can sin with impunity. On the contrary, the love of God calls us to live consistently with the values ??that Jesus taught us and that are reflected in the Gospel.

In *verse 16* of the same letter, St. Paul explains: *"Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?".*

What does this verse tell us about Christian morality?

Christian morality is not based on following a series of external rules, but on striving for justice and love. Sin is not simply doing something forbidden, but turning away from God and the values ??He represents. Therefore, reflection and discernment are necessary to know how to act at any time.

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> He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
>
> — *Titus 3:5*

Book: New Testament / Titus
Topics: mercy, baptism, Holy Spirit, rebirth, righteousness, Salvation

Interpretation:
Titus 3:5 tells us that salvation is not achieved by works of righteousness that we do. That is, we cannot earn salvation through our own efforts or merits. Instead, *salvation is given to us by the grace of God*.

This is a transformative and liberating message for believers because we are not under constant pressure to do enough good works to achieve salvation. Instead, we can trust in God's grace and mercy to grant us salvation.

There are two important terms in this verse that we should consider. *The first is the washing of regeneration*. This refers to the cleansing that occurs in us as a result of salvation. *The second is renewal in the Holy Spirit*. This term refers to the inner transformation that occurs in us as a result of salvation.

Regeneration and renewal are processes that occur simultaneously when we are saved. We cannot experience one without the other. When we are saved, our hearts are cleansed from all impurity and our spirits are renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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