

Our Merciful God

Exodus 34:1-8

Moses requested to see God's glory (Ex. 33:18). The Lord told Moses: "**Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.**" (Exodus 33:20) God's glory is holy and man is sinful. So much is the difference that sinful man cannot witness God's glory and live.

God's solution was to hide Moses when the Lord appeared in his glory. After the Lord passed by him then Moses could see the Lord as he was leaving. Moses got a glimpse but was not allowed to see God's full glory while still on Earth.

In the morning at God's appointed time, Moses went up Mount Sinai to meet the Lord. "And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD." (Exodus 34:5)

Notice what God says about himself. "And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, **merciful** and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth." (Exodus 34:6)

After declaring who he was, the next word that comes from him is MERCIFUL. The Lord then adds that he is gracious and longsuffering. This is precisely what us poor sinners need! We need God's great mercy. It brings God glory to give us his mercy. We are such great sinners. We have a merciful God. When we place our faith in Jesus Christ we do not get the punishment we deserve. Do you need to bring the Lord glory by receiving God's mercy?

And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, **God be merciful to me a sinner.** Luke 18:13

James Utter

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