

Article for TFT: Compassion of God

Purpose: The world thinks that God is unloving because of death and disasters, pain and suffering. They say: “How would a compassionate God allow such things?” The purpose of this study is not to show why God allows suffering. But to see what scripture says about God’s Compassion and how He showed it at different times and in different ways. Then maybe we will be reminded that God is compassionate and to not ask Him “WHY me?” But to know that regardless of circumstances, God is with us, cleaving to us and has a plan despite our suffering.

The Hebrew word for Compassion is “*rachamin*” from the root word *recham* which is the word for “womb”. Think of it as womb love which is the love of a mother when she first sees her newborn child fresh from the womb.

racham, H7356 rakh'-am; from H7355; compassion (in the plural); by extension, the womb (as cherishing the fetus); by implication, a maiden:—**bowels, compassion**, damsel, tender love, (great, tender) mercy, pity, womb.

râcham, H7355 raw-kham'; a primitive root; to fondle; by implication, to love, especially to compassionate:—have compassion (on, upon), love, (find, have, obtain, shew) mercy(-iful, on, upon), (have) pity, Ruhamah, ✕ surely.

Psalm 139:13-14 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's **womb**^{H990}. 14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.

H990: beṭen, beh'-ten; from an unused root probably meaning to be hollow; the belly, especially the womb; also the bosom or body of anything:—**belly, body**, as they be born, within, **womb**.

So, the Hebrew language has a word for the body or womb but it is different than the word translated compassion.

Deu 30:1-3 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call *them* to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, 2. And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; 3. That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have **compassion**^{H7355} upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.

1 Ki 8:49-50 Then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling place, and maintain their cause, 50. And forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them **compassion**^{H7356} before them who carried them captive, that they may have **compassion**^{H7355} on them:

2 Ki 13:23 And the LORD was gracious unto them, and had **compassion**^{H7355} on them, and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.

2 Ch 30:9 For if ye turn again unto the LORD, your brethren and your children *shall find compassion*^{H7356} before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for the LORD your God *is* gracious and merciful, and will not turn away *his* face from you, if ye return unto him.

Psa 78:38 But he, *being* full of **compassion**^{H7349}, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.

H7349 *rachûwm*, rakh-oom'; from ^{H7355}; compassionate:—full of compassion, merciful.

Psa 86:15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of **compassion**^{H7349}, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Psa 111:4 He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD *is* gracious and full of **compassion**^{H7349}.

Psa 112:4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: *he is* gracious, and full of **compassion**^{H7349}, and righteous.

Psa 145:8 The LORD *is* gracious, and full of **compassion**^{H7349}; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

Isa 49:15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have **compassion**^{H7355} on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Lam 3:32 But though he cause grief, yet will he have **compassion**^{H7355} according to the multitude of his mercies.

Mic 7:18-19 Who *is* a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth *in* mercy. 19. He will turn again, he will have **compassion**^{H7355} upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

New Testament:

Mat 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with **compassion**^{G4697} on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

G4697: *splanchnízomai*, splangkh-nid'-zom-ahee; middle voice from ^{G4698}; to have the bowels yearn, i.e. (figuratively) feel sympathy, to pity:—have (be moved with) compassion.

Mat 14:14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with **compassion**^{G4697} toward them, and he healed their sick.

Mat 15:32 Then Jesus called his disciples *unto him*, and said, I have **compassion**^{G4697} 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.

Mat 20:30-34 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, *thou* Son of David. 31. And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, *thou* Son of David. 32. And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? 33. They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. 34. So Jesus had **compassion**^{G4697} on *them*, and touched their eyes and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

Mark 1:40-41 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. 41. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

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.

G1653: elee'o el-eh-eh'-o; from G1656; to compassionate (by word or deed, specially, by divine grace):—**have compassion (pity on)**, have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).

Show or obtain mercy, console, help the afflicted or wretched.

Mar 6:33-34 And the people saw them departing and many knew Him and ran afoot hither out of all cities, and outwent them, and came together unto him. 34 And Jesus when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with **compassion**^{G4697} toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

Mar 9:21-24 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. 22. And ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have **compassion**^{G4697} on us, and help us. 23. Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. 24. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

Luk 7:12-15 Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. 13. And when the Lord saw her, he had **compassion**^{G4697} on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

Luk 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**^{G4697}, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

Rom 9:15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have **compassion** ^{G3627} on whom I will have **compassion** ^{G3627}.

G3627: oikteírõ, oyk-ti'-ro; from οἷκτος oĩktos (pity); to exercise pity:—**have compassion** on.

Heb 5:2 Who can have **compassion** ^{G3356} on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.

G3356: eleéō, el-eh-eh'-o; from ^{G1656}; to compassionate (by word or deed, specially, by divine grace):—**have compassion** (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).

Heb 10:34 For ye had **compassion** ^{G4834} of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

G4834: sympathéō, soom-path-eh'-o; from ^{G4835}; to feel "sympathy" with, i.e. (by implication) to commiserate:—**have compassion**, be touched with a feeling of.

1 John 3:17 But whoso has this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his **bowels of compassion** ^{G4698} from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

G4698: spláchnon, splangkh'-non; probably strengthened from (the "spleen"); an intestine (plural); figuratively, pity or sympathy:—**bowels**, inward affection, + tender mercy.

Jude 1:21-22 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the **mercy** of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have **compassion** ^{G1653}, making a difference:

G1653: eleéō, el-eh-eh'-o; from ^{G1656}; to compassionate (by word or deed, specially, by divine grace):—**have compassion** (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).

Conclusion:

God has shown great compassion for His creation throughout history. As the Creator He has shown the same mercy as a mother does to her unborn and newborn baby. One that came from her womb so it is **womb love**. Nothing is stronger than that love so she will respond whenever that child is crying because they are hungry or cold or tired or hurt. God responds to us with the same compassion, grace, mercy and love!

Eph 3:19 And to know the **love of Christ**, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness **of God**.