

A New Day of Mercy

An illustration of an empty tomb with a large stone rolled away, set against a background of a rising sun with rays of light.

The Blessings of Mercy Series – Part 1
Easter 2017

Ephesians 2:4-5, Matthew 28:1-10

Anthony Grove Baptist Church

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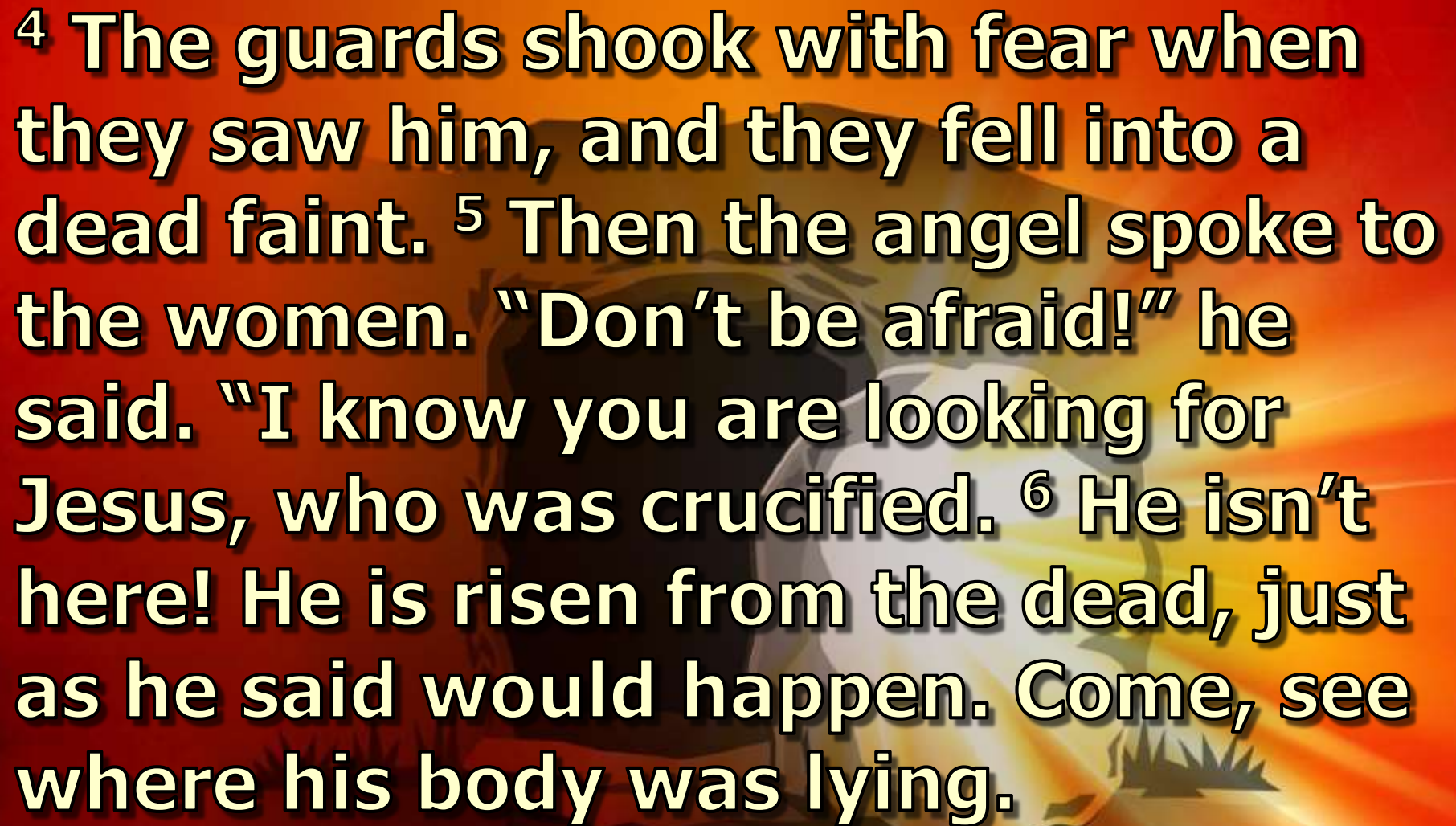
April 16, 2017

Ephesians 2:4–5

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

Matthew 28:1-10

¹ Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. ² Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. ³ His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow.

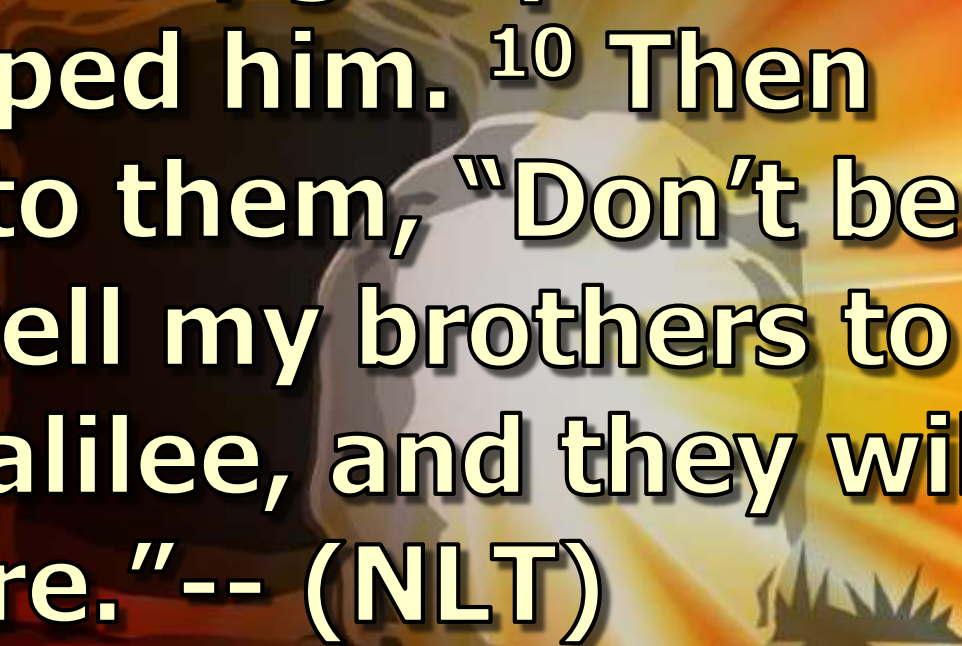


⁴ The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. ⁵ Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.

7 And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you.” 8

The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel’s message.

⁹ And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."-- (NLT)

A glowing, translucent stone with a rough, crystalline texture is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image. It emits bright, golden-yellow rays of light that fan out towards the bottom right corner. The background is a gradient of warm colors, from deep red at the top to bright orange and yellow at the bottom, with some darker, shadowed areas on the left.

A New Day of Mercy



Mercy: **Undeserved Forgiveness &** **Unearned Kindness**



**1. When I Am Ashamed I Need
God's Mercy.**

Example: A Humiliated Woman.



A. I Need God's Mercy When I Mess Up

John 8:2–11² but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. ³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. ⁴ “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” ⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger.

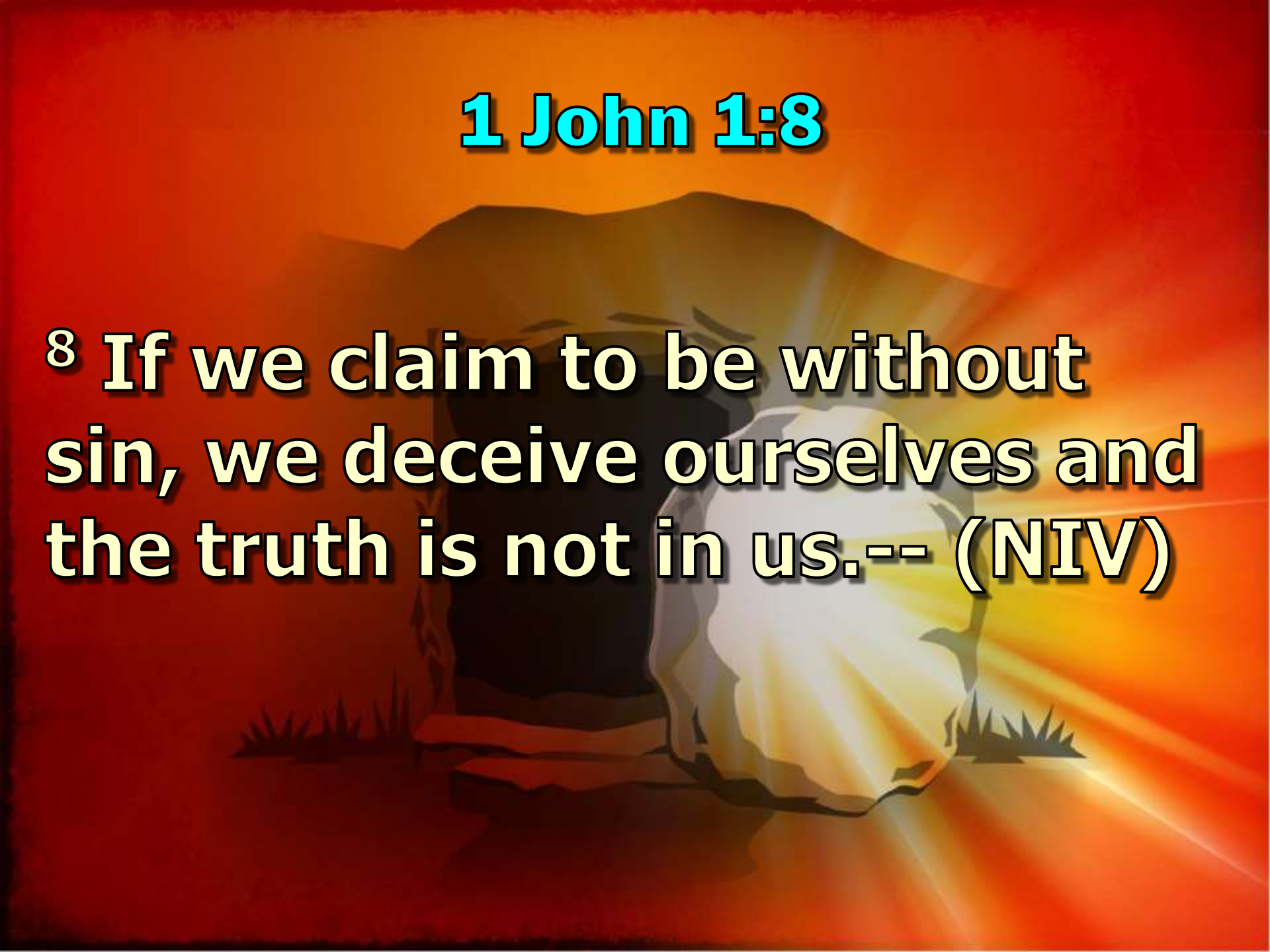
7 They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!" 8 Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. 9 When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. 10 Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" 11 "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."-- (NLT)

B. God's Mercy **Forgives Me & Frees Me**

**Isaiah 61:1¹ The Spirit of GOD,
the Master, is on me because GOD
anoointed me. He sent me to
preach good news to the poor,
heal the heartbroken, Announce
freedom to all captives, pardon
all prisoners.-- (The Message)**


1 John 1:8

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.-- (NIV)



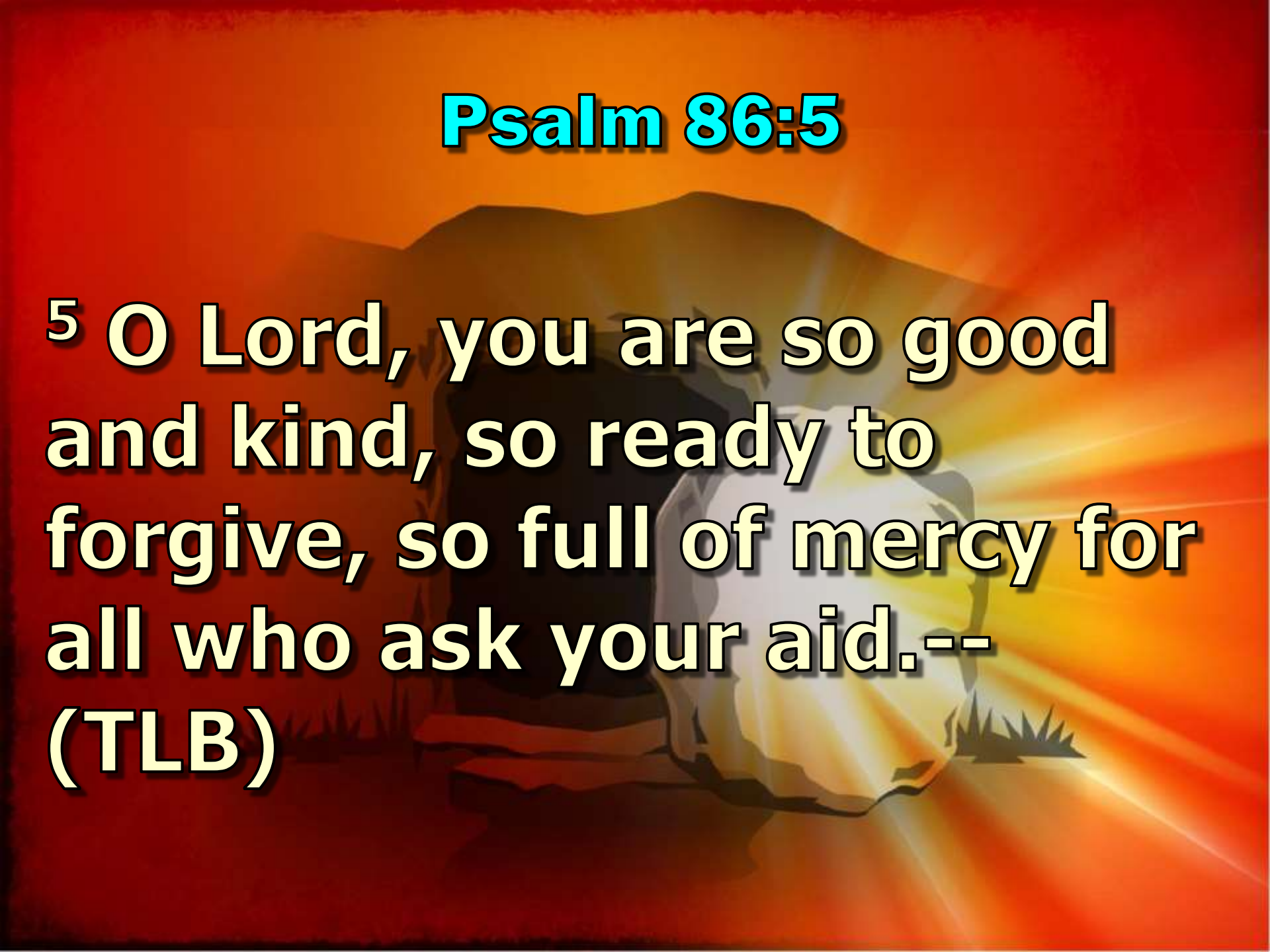
John 12:47b

**47 . . . , for I have come to
save the world and not to
judge it.-- (NLT)**



Psalm 86:5

**5 O Lord, you are so good
and kind, so ready to
forgive, so full of mercy for
all who ask your aid.--
(TLB)**



Hebrews 4:15

¹⁵ Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin!-- (CEV)

Hebrews 4:16 ¹⁶ Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.-- (NIV)

2. When I Am Angry I Need
God's Mercy.

Example: A Disappointed Man.



A. I Need God's Mercy When I Don't Have What I Need

John 5:2–9² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." 8 Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,-- (NIV)

B. God's Mercy Makes The Impossible Possible .

Luke 18:27²⁷ Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."-- (NIV)

2 Peter 1:3³ For as you know him better, he will give you, through his great power, everything you need for living a truly good life: (TLB)

**3. When I Am Afraid I Need
God's Mercy.**

Example: A Dying Man



A. I Need God's Mercy When Facing Death.

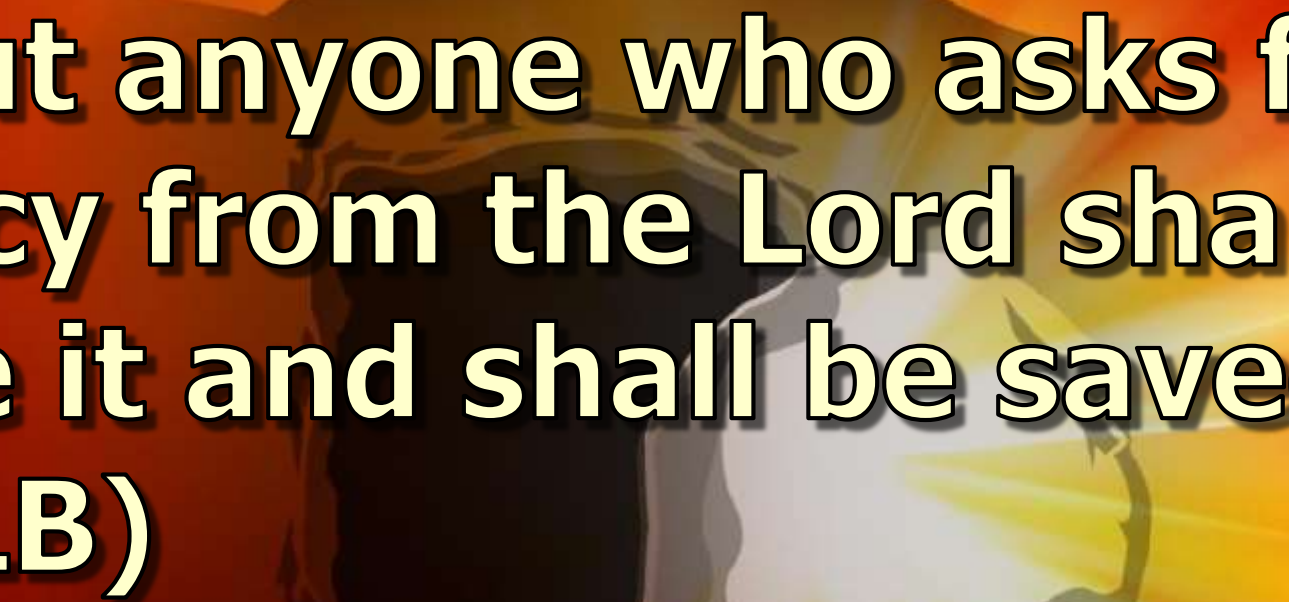
Luke 23:39–43³⁹ One of the criminals hanging there insulted Jesus by saying, “So you’re really the Messiah, are you? Well, save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other criminal scolded him: “Don’t you fear God at all? Can’t you see that you’re condemned in the same way that he is?” ⁴¹ Our punishment is fair. We’re getting what we deserve. But this man hasn’t done anything wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom.” ⁴³ Jesus said to him, “I can guarantee this truth: Today you will be with me in paradise.”-- (GW)

B. God's Mercy Will Save Me For Eternity

John 11:25²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;-- (NIV)

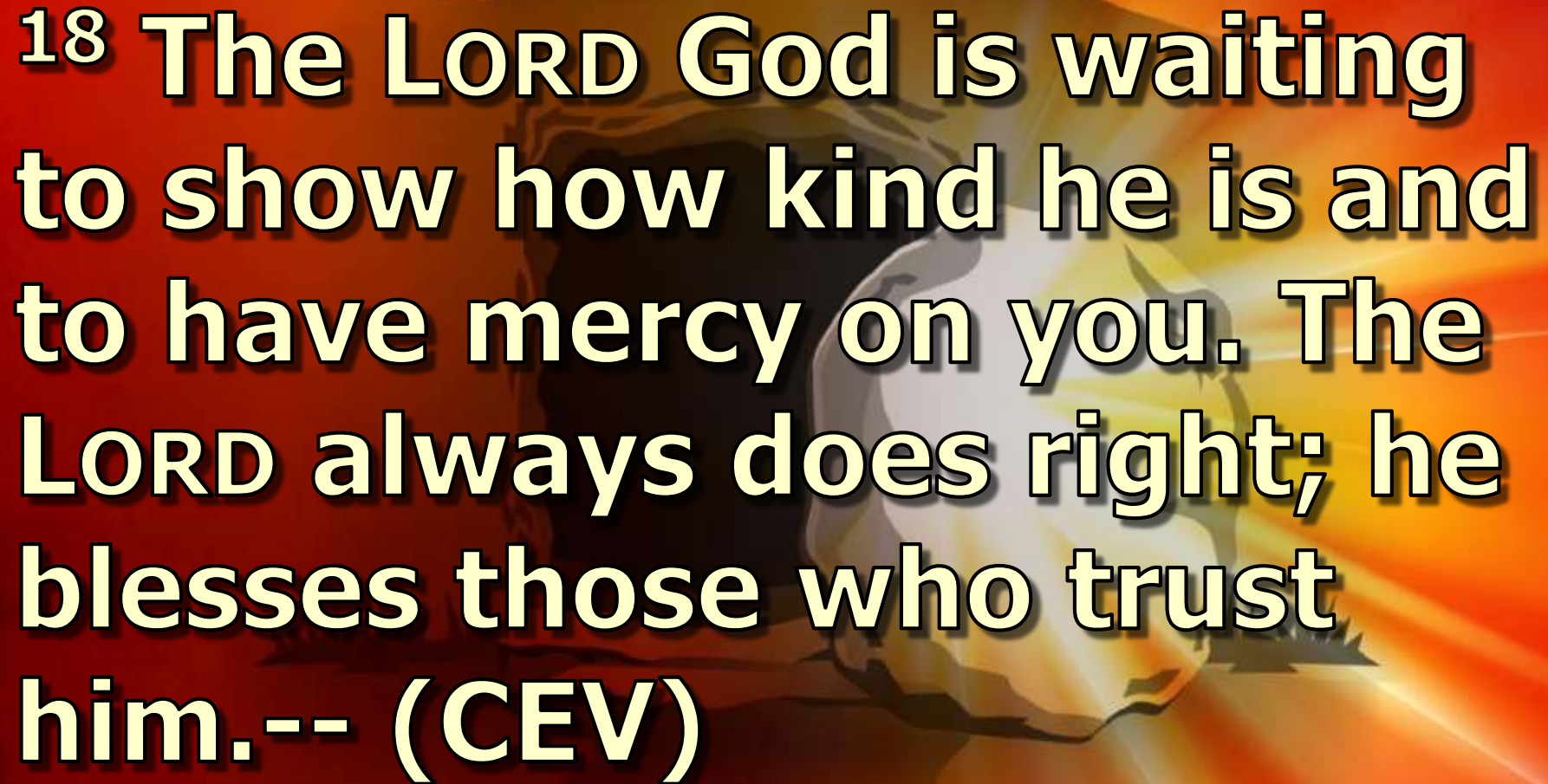
Acts 2:21

**21 But anyone who asks for
mercy from the Lord shall
have it and shall be saved.'-
- (TLB)**



Isaiah 30:18

18 The LORD God is waiting to show how kind he is and to have mercy on you. The LORD always does right; he blesses those who trust him.-- (CEV)



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