## February 22, 2021

Ps. 40:11, "LORD, do not withhold Your <u>mercy</u> from me, may Your love and faithfulness always protect me."

The Hebrew word for *mercy* is **ra cha mei cha** which means a deep compassionate mercy or loving-kindness. **Millard Erickson** defined mercy as this: "God's mercy is His tenderhearted, loving compassion for His people. It is His tenderness of heart toward the needy. If grace contemplates humans as sinful, guilty and condemned, mercy sees them as miserable and needy."

Our Father understands our needy spirit and He remembers that we are but dust. In fact, that is why He came to save us from our own sins and selfishness. Why would God do that for us? He is motivated by His loving-kindness and His unconditional love for us. **Ps. 116:5**, "*The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.*" For a person to go to hell, he must first step over the cross of Christ; pass by the empty tomb of Christ; and say no to the resurrection and call of Christ.

Rm. 5:8, "But God demonstrated His love for us in this; while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." He has done everything for you but the choice is left in each person's hand. I pray that you have reached out and received the gift of salvation through the sacrifice Jesus made for you upon the cross.

Dear LORD, thank You for Your mercy and loving-kindness. You understand what we need and You have met all of our needs according to Your great love and power. We praise You Holy Name, In Jesus Name, Amen