Theme - His Grace And Mercy

Is it possible that we can take each day's blessing for granted to the point that rather than thank God for what we have been given, we refuse to receive it because it is the same blessing we had yesterday?

Lamentations 3:22-23 is a passage that addresses this subject. The profit Jeremiah lamented over the condition of Israel but at the same time recognised that every day God was actually giving them a new blessing and a new act of mercy.

It reads, "It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

Each day of our lives presents new challenges and God responds by providing us with sufficient grace and mercy to see us through each new day. The song writer says, "Great is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hands hath provided, Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me."

That, bad as things are, it is owing to the mercy of God that they are not worse. We are afflicted by the rod of his wrath, but it is of the lord's mercies that we are not consumed, When we are in distress we should, for the encouragement of our faith and hope, observe what makes for us as well as what makes against us.

Things are bad but they might have been worse, and therefore there is hope that they may be better. The church of God is like Moses's bush, burning, yet not consumed; whatever hardships it has met with, or may meet with, it shall have a being in the world to the end of time.

It is persecuted of men, but not forsaken of God, though it is cast down, it is not destroyed (2 Co. 4:9), corrected, yet not consumed, refined in the furnace as silver, but not consumed as dross.

Our God is an inexhaustible fountain of mercy, the Father of mercies.

We all owe it to the sparing mercy of God that we are not consumed. Others have been consumed round about us, and we ourselves have been in the consuming, and yet we are not consumed; we are out of the grave; we are out of hell.

Had we been dealt with according to our sins, we should have been consumed long ago; but we have been dealt with according to God's mercies, and we are bound to acknowledge it to his praise.

That even in the depth of their affliction they still have experience of the tenderness of the divine pity and the truth of the divine promise. They had several times complained that God had not pitied (ch. 2:17, 21), but here they correct themselves.

God's compassions fail not.

These rivers of mercy run fully and constantly, but never run dry. they are new every morning; every morning we have fresh instances of God's compassion towards us; he visits us with them every morning (Job 7:18); every morning does he bring his judgment to light, Zep. 3:5.

Closing:

When our comforts fail, yet God's compassions does not, great is his faithfulness. Though the covenant seemed to be broken, it still continues in full force; and, though your plans and your efforts be in ruins, the truth of the Lord endures for ever.

Whatever hard things we suffer, we must never entertain any hard thoughts of God, but must still be ready to own that he is both kind and faithful.