

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

February 8, 2025 – A 21 Day Journal & Prayer on God's Daily Mercies – Erlinda Cruz

Defining & Understanding Mercies (Part 2)

The Hebrew words for mercy include rachamim, ḥanan, and ḥesed.

- Rachamim: The word for mercy as compassion. It is the plural of racham, which means "womb". The word racham is closely related to the word for "womb".
- Ḥanan: A verb that means "to be gracious, show favor".
- Ḥesed: Means "steadfast love" or "kindness or love between people". It can also refer to God's mercy to forgive and save.

Explanation

Mercy in the Bible is a natural part of God's character. It is the tendency to be kind to those who are suffering, even when they don't deserve it. Mercy is also the act of forgiving those who deserve punishment. In the Bible, mercy is shown in many ways, including:

- Restoring fortunes: God promises to restore the fortunes of his people after exile.
- Compassion: Jesus demonstrated compassion for the suffering and helpless.
- Forgiveness: God forgives people when they repent, even though they don't deserve it.