

DIVINE RICHES

By Keith Greer

Let us examine some of God's" **divine riches**."

Riches of Mercy. "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us." {Ephesians 2:4} God extends to mankind divine mercy which He demonstrates by His willingness to forgive men of their sins and allow them to again be brought into fellowship with Him.

Riches of Grace. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence." {Ephesians 1:7,8} Man can not earn it, merit it, nor does he deserve the grace bestowed upon him by God sending His Son to pay the ransom price for our sins. The richness of God's grace is seen in giving man the divine remedy for a problem for which he had no solution!

Riches of Goodness. "Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?" {Romans 2:4} God's goodness is expressed in His longsuffering and forbearance of man's sins. He sent the Holy Spirit with the message aimed at man's heart to convict him of those sins, John 16:8-11.

Riches of Glory. "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19) Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us, John 14:1-4. Man's obedience to the commands of God places him in a position to be received into glory with Christ on the day of judgment. Christ will give us the reward for faithful service and we can be together in glory forever in heaven - such riches that man cannot even begin to understand!

Why are these" divine riches"? Simply put, because they are offered by a merciful and loving Father in heaven. Only God can give them. God's word tells us that every physical blessings of life is given by God and an expression of His love for us, James 1:17.

Men have difficulty in grasping just how blessed we are as God's children. God in His infinite wisdom planned provisions to help men with his journey here and prepare him for the next. Dear reader, have you received the benefits of these **divine riches** in your life? ***