

August 5

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Do I see myself as God sees me, as one that He loves and has chosen to receive His mercy? If I don't follow His commands, do I really consider the Lord to be the Sovereign Ruler of my life? If I refuse to be kind and merciful toward others, is Jesus ruling my life?

1 **God will have mercy upon whom He will have mercy** — *Romans 9:18*
Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

Why do I want to believe that I can somehow force God to be merciful?

What examples of God's mercy can I praise Him for?

2 **I am chosen by God** — *1 Thessalonians 1:4* *Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.*

Why is it hard to accept the idea that God chose me?

Why does the devil want me to think that my faith is about my choosing God?

3 **I am to pursue a lifestyle that is consistent with God's rule over my life** — *Colossians 3:12* *Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering... 14* *And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.*

Why is it even now more important that my life demonstrate Christ's rule?

How is the Lord's rule demonstrated in the little things of my life?

Holy Spirit, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Romans 8:1-21

Evening: Psalms 68, 69