"… the Lord said to Eliphaz… "Take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has." So Eliphaz and Bildad… and Zophar went and did as the Lord commanded them; for the Lord had accepted Job." Job 42:8 – 9

How merciful the Lord is to Eliphaz and his two companions! Little did they know that in their condemnation of Job they were sowing seeds that, if left unattended, would be harvested in their own lives! But the Lord demonstrates His mercy and offers them a way of escape and at the same time vindicates His servant Job in their eyes! Had they not obeyed the Lord in offering sacrifice and humbling themselves before Job and had they not been willing to receive his intercession for them, judgment may have soon fallen upon them in the same manner that they had judged Job!

The Children of Israel had murmured and said that they wished they would die in the wilderness… and the Lord heard their murmurings – and indeed, they died in the wilderness! (Numbers 14).

"Lord, I need mercy! Please don't judge me according to my folly."

How often have we judged others harshly? "Lord, have mercy!"

How readily we condemn others in spite of our own sinfulness! "Lord, have mercy!"

How demanding we can be on those who aren't living up to our standards – standards we seldom can live up to ourselves! "Lord, have mercy."