

**Sinners**  
**By Glenn Thompson**

Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, “Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” When Jesus heard that, He said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” - Mathew 9:10-13

God desires mercy and not sacrifice. Some of the things I desire are long naps, good food and fellowship with brothers and sisters. God desires to give me mercy. God desires to sit down at a table and eat with me. I can picture the setting, at least in our culture, the intimacy of having a meal with someone.

Can you imagine how great the desire of God and His Son to impart to us mercy. By sending His Son to earth, He put Jesus in direct contact with sin. God hates sin, yet in spite of that, He desires to give me mercy. Praise His name forever.