

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

EL-RACHUM – THE GOD OF MERCY!

Written by IMA-OBONG EFFIONG IGANI-TIMOTHY

"You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favour her, yes, the set time, has come." — Psalm 102:13 (NKJV)).

As we step into the month of August and journey through the 'Ember' months, we will be exploring the powerful and revealing names of God. Each name uncovers a unique aspect of His nature, drawing us deeper into relationship and trust with Him.

We begin this journey with El-Rachum—the God of Mercy. This name reminds us that mercy is not just something God shows occasionally; it is who He is. His compassion runs deep, tender, and unwavering. In a world often short on grace, El-Rachum invites us to rest in His faithful, mother-like mercy that reaches for us even in our lowest moments.



EL-RACHUM

"One of the most tender and powerful names of God revealed in Scripture is El-Rachum—the God of Mercy. This name doesn't just describe what God does; it reveals who He is at the core of His being. God is not occasionally merciful or temporarily compassionate. Mercy is embedded in His very nature. It is His heartbeat, His posture, His unfailing response to humanity's weakness and need.

In Exodus 34:6, when God passed before Moses and proclaimed His name, He didn't begin by declaring His power or holiness. Instead, He began with His mercy:

"The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate (Rachum) and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness."

This word Rachum is from the same root as the Hebrew word rechem, which means "womb." God's mercy is not just pity or reluctance to punish—it is a deeply felt, womb-like compassion. Just as a mother instinctively moves to protect, nurture, and cover her child, so God moves toward His children in mercy. His mercy flows from the place of covenant love, from a depth of feeling beyond our human comprehension.

Throughout Scripture, El-Rachum consistently bends toward the broken, the weary, the ashamed, and the undeserving. He extended mercy to Nineveh when they repented (Jonah 4:2). He welcomed the prodigal son in Jesus' parable with open arms and a running embrace (Luke 15:20). He forgave David after adultery and murder when David cried out in Psalm 51:1:

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions."

Even in His judgment, God remembers mercy (Habakkuk 3:2). Even when humanity fails again and again, God does not grow weary of extending compassion. He is not like man. He does not run out of patience. The psalmist declares in Psalm 103:8-11:

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love... He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities."

This month, as we reflect on the God of Mercy–El-Rachum–we must also ask ourselves: What does it mean to truly encounter His mercy?

It means acknowledging that we are not self-sufficient. It means recognising our need—not only for forgiveness of sins but for daily sustenance, for restoration, for grace to walk this path. Mercy doesn't just save us from punishment; it lifts us when we are low, silences the voice of condemnation, and gently restores us to right standing.

It means believing that even when we have strayed, like sheep, El-Rachum runs to meet us (Luke 15:4-7). His mercy doesn't wait for perfection. It meets us in our failure and lifts us into restoration.

It means knowing that every morning comes with new mercies (Lamentations 3:22-23). You may feel like yesterday disqualified you. But God's mercy renews today—fresh, undeserved, and powerful.

El-Rachum is speaking to many hearts this August. To those burdened by regret, shackled by shame, numbed by failure, silenced by life—His mercy is reaching out. Not as a second chance, but as a loving invitation: Come back. Come up. Come near.

You are not too lost to be found. Not too broken to be healed. Not too dirty to be cleansed. Not too far gone to be restored.



The cry of the blind beggar still echoes in the streets of the spirit: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (Mark 10:47). And the God of Mercy still stops, still hears, and still answers.

Let August be the month you touch El-Rachum—deeply, personally. Cry out. Lift your heart. Position your soul. He is not far. He is not hard. He is near. And He is merciful. "The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made." (Psalm 145:9) He is El-Rachum. Let mercy speak over you this month. Let it restore you. Let it reintroduce you to the embrace of the Father.





EL-RACHUM - THE GOD OF MERCY ARISES FOR YOU

"You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favour her, yes, the set time, has come." — Psalm 102:13 (NKJV)

This verse echoes through generations as a divine announcement, a holy interruption in the midst of human affliction. Psalm 102 is classified among the penitential psalms—a cry from the depths of sorrow, anguish, and despair. The psalmist does not write in ease or comfort; he writes from a place of affliction, representing the voice of a weary soul. Verses 1–11 open with lamentation: a body withered like grass, bones burning like a hearth, heart smitten and withered, life resembling the desert owl. It is the portrait of someone weighed down by both personal affliction and national decay. But then in verse 12, a dramatic shift begins: "But You, O Lord, shall endure forever..." Suddenly, faith begins to rise from the ashes of sorrow, and then comes verse 13—a prophetic turn.

"You will arise and have mercy on Zion..."

This is no longer just the psalmist's desire; it becomes a divine proclamation. God will arise. This is the language of divine motion—of God stepping into human history to turn things around. It is reminiscent of other moments in Scripture where God "arises" to act. Psalm 68:1 declares, "Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered." When God arises, opposition flees. Bondages break. Heaven touches earth. The cry for mercy becomes the fuel that stirs the heart of El-Rachum, the God who is full of compassion. The Hebrew word used here for "mercy" is racham, which is tied to the same root word as

The Hebrew word used here for "mercy" is racham, which is fied to the same root word as womb—rechem. It conveys a deep, almost maternal kind of compassion: a protective, nurturing, and unfailing love. It is not mere pity; it is a mercy that births restoration. This is the character of God as revealed in Exodus 34:6, when He passed before Moses and declared Himself:

"The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth..."

God is not only merciful by action but by nature. Mercy is who He is. And this mercy is not triggered by merit—it is stirred by the very brokenness we are tempted to hide. "You will arise and have mercy on Zion..." Zion represents the place of God's dwelling, His chosen ones, His covenant people. Spiritually, it refers to you and me—those redeemed and restored by the blood of Christ. Hebrews 12:22 says, "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God..." This promise is not abstract; it is personal. You are Zion. You are the one mercy is reaching for.

"For the time to favour her, yes, the set time, has come."

This part of the verse is where the Spirit breathes divine urgency. There is a time in the Spirit called "the set time"—the kairos, the appointed moment when heaven aligns with earth to release God's plan. Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." And in the mystery of God's calendar, now is your time.

We see this principle all through Scripture:

- Sarah's womb was barren for decades, but in Genesis 21:2, it says, "Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time..." Not when it was convenient. Not when it was expected. But at the set time.
- Joseph languished in prison, forgotten by men. But Psalm 105:19-20 tells us, "Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him. The king sent and released him..."
- Hannah was provoked and shamed, yet in 1 Samuel 1:20, "in the process of time," the Lord remembered her and gave her a son.

There is a "set time" ordained for mercy to break cycles, heal wounds, and reverse verdicts. And just like the psalmist, God is stirring your spirit now to declare it: "Yes, the set time has come!"

You may be looking at your situation and wondering how and when God will come through. Perhaps the delay has wearied your soul. But El-Rachum—the compassionate, merciful God—is not late. He's precise. His mercy does not operate according to your calendar, but it is never withheld. In fact, it is often released in the most unlikely seasons, so that only He can take the glory.

He arose for Israel in Egypt when Pharaoh's oppression was unbearable (Exodus 3:7-8).

He arose for Naomi and Ruth after famine and widowhood.

He arose for Lazarus when decay had already begun (John 11).

And now, beloved, He is arising for you.

God is releasing this word in a prophetic season. We are entering a period—these final months of the year—when the mercy of God will begin to manifest in undeniable ways. Not because we earned it. Not because we are strong. But because His mercy endures forever (Psalm 136), and because He has set His heart on Zion.

You may have travailed in prayer. You may have been in a night season. But the word of the Lord says in Isaiah 66:9:

"Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the Lord.

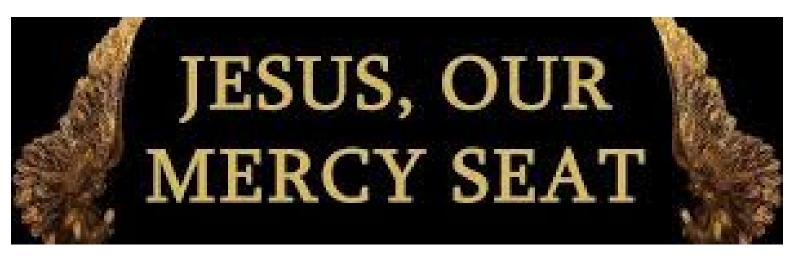
"Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God.

The answer is no. He will arise. He will show mercy.

And you will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living (Psalm 27:13).

This is your set time. Believe it. Receive it. And position yourself in prayer and faith to walk in it.

The God of mercy is not done with you. El-Rachum is arising for Zion—He is arising for you.





REFLECTION

In a world filled with chaos, delays, and disappointments, we are reminded today that El-Rachum—the God of mercy—still arises for His people. When everything around us seems out of control, God steps in right on time, not according to our schedule, but according to His perfect plan. The cry of Psalm 102:13 is not just for ancient Zion—it's a personal word for us: now is the set time. His mercy is not earned, it is received. Whether you are weary, broken, forgotten, or regretful, God is reaching for you. Mercy is His nature, and today He whispers, "This is your time." Let hope arise. Let faith be stirred. The God of mercy is arising—for you.

SAY THIS PRAYER WITH ME PLEASE!!!

El-Rachum, God of Mercy, I come before You with a heart open to Your grace. Thank You for seeing me, hearing me, and never turning away when I cry out. Arise, O Lord, and show me Your mercy in this set time. Heal every wound, restore every broken place, and let Your favour rest upon me. Help me to let go of the past and receive the fresh fire of Your presence. In Jesus' name, Amen.



NEWS CORNER



ACCEPT JESUS TODAY!!!

God's mercy is fully revealed in Jesus Christ, who gave His life so we could be forgiven and restored. If you haven't yet received Him, you can do so today. Turn to Him, confess your need, and invite Him into your heart as Lord and Saviour. His arms are open wide in mercy and love—waiting for you to come home. Accept Jesus Today!

If you need to discuss further or want someone to pray with you, please feel free to contact me on: +44 7448624608

AUGUST PRAISE BREAK!!!



JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY IN AUGUST AS WE BREAK FORTH IN PRAISE, HALLELUYAH!!!!!!!!