

# Mercy & The Principle of Fulfillment – God’s Design & Satan’s Goal



The redemptive gift of **Mercy** is notably wonderful *and* mysterious. As the seventh [Wisdom pillar of the redemptive gifts](#), **Mercy** has the capacity for great fulfillment and thereby, is set squarely in the sights of the enemy of our souls. **Mercy & The Principle of Fulfillment – God’s Design, Satan’s Goal** is a broad stroke to further highlight God’s purposeful design and frame the enemy’s plan for derailing one’s **Mercy** portion.

## *The Principle of Fulfillment, Defined*

Arthur Burk’s original study of the gifts provides a succinct definition of **fulfillment**: using all of your abilities to do what God designed you to do. **Ephesians 2:10** states it this way:

*For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

[God’s design of His original workmanship remains](#), regardless of what hand life has dealt us. This is true of each of the redemptive gift portions. Then there is **Mercy**, who is the capstone of all that has gone before. Let's dive into the overview of **Mercy & The Principle of Fulfillment – God’s Design & Satan’s Goal**.

## *Mercy’s Unique Design*

**Mercy** sees the parts and the whole. Though they can view alignment in a linear way (as below), a mercy receives and processes information in a manner different than the other six redemptive gifts. **Mercy** doesn’t just *do* life; **Mercy** *feels* life. It is this that helps Mercy span [the gulf that exists between function and emotion](#).

**Prophet** | **Servant** | **Teacher** | **Exhorter** | **Giver** | **Ruler** | **Mercy**

Drawn to **Prophet**, **Mercy** becomes the connector of the community of the human spirit in a more circular fashion. To freely move and flow, bringing the effects of **Mercy’s** birthright of worship and celebration of God to all aspects of their being, is the expression of Most High God’s presence in which **Mercy** thrives.

Fulfillment springs from discovering that God’s design of you is [perfectly suited](#) for the works He has prepared for you to do and be in your lifetime. Whether or not the **Mercy** redemptive gift is most dominant in your life, I believe that without healing and developing the **Mercy** portion, the other six gifts are impeded in coming into the fullness of their unique strengths and Wisdom principle as God intended.

## *Happiness or Fulfillment?*

**Happiness**, like beauty, is fleeting. While writing this **Mercy** post, I happened across a secular article on the topic of happiness. By the time I finished reading it, I could feel a hopeless despair creeping around the edges of my mind. Written from an evolutionary point of view, with pointed assumption of “no creator” and for certain, “no Creator God”, the writer concluded that humanity was born for fight and mere survival. They went on to state that since happiness has no constancy (with which I agree) and due to its come and go nature, it should resolutely be put out of one’s hopes and pursuit. The concept of **fulfillment** was non-existent.

For those who do believe in a God who created our human race with purpose and for fruitfulness, He demonstrated agreement with one thought the writer expressed: *Happiness is not the primary goal of life*. Where the writer left off with no hope (futility) and a playground for Satan's goal (which we will look at shortly), God instead illustrated the **Principle of Fulfillment** starting with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

### ***Made to Solve Problems***

To more clearly see how our culture has evolved, it befits us to study to know God's original design. *All of us were made to solve problems*. Irrespective of one writer's bleak outlook on the issue of **happiness**, our culture has made an art of defining it anyway – *either not having problems, or, having enough money to pay others to take care of and solve those problems*.

Most of us are familiar with the phrase *too much of a good thing*. Considering Adam and Eve were living in Paradise, its abundant, flourishing life of nature and animal kingdom would soon present issues. One need only look at an untended garden or hoarded animals to recognize that abundance creates more or withers away. Therefore, God introduced problem solving by telling Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply. [What did He mean by be fruitful? And multiply?](#)

It helps to identify what God knew. Having created them in His image, He understood the capacity to learn and digest enormous amounts of information He had woven into their design. He gave them a body, a soul (with a brain), and life-giving spirit. We witness today that the potential He placed within is staggering.

He also knew their human spirit and soul needed something to motivate them to learn how to be not just busy but fruitful. All He hardwired into them required an outlet for them to grow. In His wisdom, He determined the pressure brought to bear by having a specific problem to solve would be the vehicle to fulfillment. If left unmotivated, underachievement would be their lot, while He had much more in mind. They were to take the life of the Garden to the non-garden parts of the earth, replicating (multiplying) what He had set in motion.

God designed them - and us - to experience fulfillment. The way we do that is to embrace the right problems our Father presents us that will cause us to grow and develop. **Fulfillment** is the inheritance of **Mercy** matured.

### ***Satan's Goal***

The devil is cunning in the use of three key objectives by which he operates: to kill, to steal, and to destroy.<sup>1</sup> There are myriad ways by which any of the three may affect and manifest in one's spirit, soul, and/or body. For the **Mercy** portion's spiritual and natural fulfillment (not *happiness* with no problems in life), Satan has a goal –

***to orchestrate assaults on each person's life so they do not have a chance to develop who they are***

If he can keep them busy doing many things and chasing after *happiness* (opposite of *contentment* in life with Christ), he scores victory upon victory for himself. The epitome of pride that he is, he does not care about the individual. His goal is to leave God's incredible creation of humanity fraught with frustration, futility, boredom, and no experience of fulfillment. Though we are caught up in the battles, Satan is still at war with our Creator.

Even now defeated, he will not stop seeking to consume fulfillment of our lives for his own honor until his allowed reign ends. You and I were created for God's pleasure, to live and thrive, not just to fight and survive. What He created long ago was pronounced *good* and *very good*. **Mercy's** strength of spirit comes from realizing Satan's goal and resisting futility to discover and develop who they are. *Redemptive living in motion*.