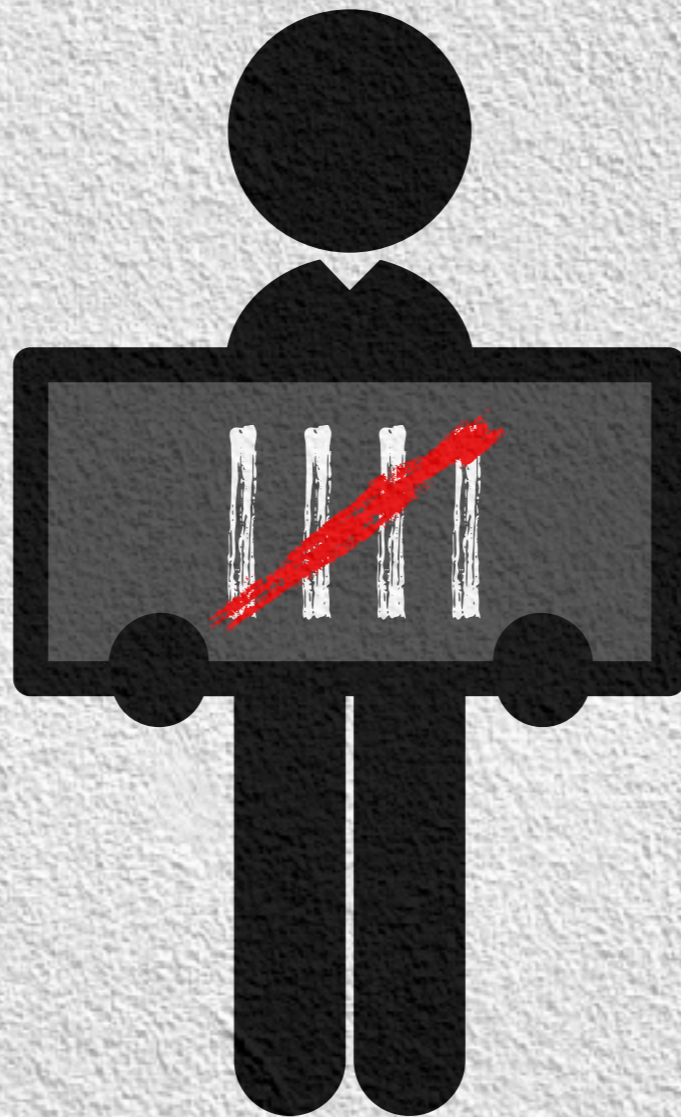


UNFORGIVING

THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT **MATT. 18:23-35**



THE TEACHING

MATTHEW 18:15-18

“If your brother sins against you, **go and tell him his fault**...alone... But if he does not listen, **take one or two others along with you**... If he refuses to listen to them, **tell it to the church**. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”

“If your brother sins, **rebuke him**...” (Lk. 17:3b).



THE SETUP

MATTHEW 18:21,22

"...and *if he repents*, **forgive him**..." (Luke 17:3c).

"Lord, **how often** will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as *seven times*?" (Matt. 18:21).

"...if he sins against you *seven times in the day*, and *turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,'* **you must forgive him**" (Luke 17:4).

"Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you *seven times*, but until **seventy times seven**'" (Matt. 18:21).



THE ILLUSTRATION

MATTHEW 18:23-34

KING	100 SHILLINGS
RECKONING	TOOK HIM BY THROAT
SERVANTS	FELL DOWN & BEGGED
10,000 TALENTS	REFUSAL
INABILITY TO PAY	CAST INTO PRISON
FELL DOWN & BEGGED	FELLOW SERVANTS
"I WILL PAY YOU ALL!"	EXCEEDING SORROW
KING'S COMPASSION	TOLD THE KING
RELEASED HIM	KING'S ANGER
FORGAVE HIM	KING'S SUMMONS
SERVANT "WENT OUT"	TORMENTORS
FELLOW-SERVANT	UNTIL HE PAID ALL



THE APPLICATION

MATTHEW 18:35

"So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

"This king did the same as my heavenly Father will do to you! You must forgive your brother or sister with all your heart, or my heavenly Father will not forgive you." | ERV



THE UNRAVELING

MATTHEW 18:23-34

KING	GOD
RECKONING	PLAN OF SALVATION
SERVANTS	CHRISTIANS
10,000 TALENTS	UNPAYABLE DEBT
INABILITY TO PAY	CANNOT JUSTIFY SELF
FELL DOWN & BEGGED	BEGGING FOR MERCY
PROMISE TO PAY	DELUSION OF ABILITY
RELEASED HIM	MERCY OF GOD
FORGAVE HIM	GRACE OF GOD
SERVANT "WENT OUT"	LEFT "PRESENCE" OF GOD
FELLOW-SERVANT	BROTHER IN CHRIST



THE UNRAVELING

MATTHEW 18:23-34

100 SHILLINGS	EASILY PAYABLE DEBT
TOOK BY THROAT	EGOTISTICAL HAUGHTINESS
BEGGING	PLEADING FOR MERCY
REFUSAL	UNWILLING TO FORGIVE
CAST INTO PRISON	HOLDING A GRUDGE
FELLOW SERVANTS	BROTHERS & SISTERS
EXCEEDING SORROW	PAIN OF BRETHREN
TOLD THE KING	PRAYERS OF SAINTS
KING'S ANGER	GOD'S WRATH
KING'S SUMMONS	JUDGMENT DAY
DELIVERED TO TORMENTORS	HELL
UNTIL HE PAYS ALL	ETERNITY



THE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

8. I am in **unpayable debt** to God.

7. God "**settled my account**" through His plan.

6. As I obey, **God will stamp my debt "PAID."**

5. When a brother sins against me, **I should mourn**, as he has marred his relationship to God.

4. Many feel the pull of the gospel **only until they "go out"** from God's "presence."

3. Even **innocent bystanders are affected** by my refusal to forgive others.



THE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

2. I should never hesitate to forgive a penitent brother of any sin.

**1. If I don't forgive others,
God won't forgive me...**

...even when I repent.

