THE PARABLE of ONE THING GOD WON’T FORGIVE

Matthew 18:21-35

V: 21  (A) The word sin here comes from the Greek word ham-ar-tan-o – to miss the mark and not share in the prize. It was commonly used to describe shooting an arrow at a target with a bow and failure to hit the bulls eye. Used figuratively: to err especially morally, to sin, our faults, offences and trespasses.

(B) Peter wants to show JESUS how generous he was – LORD, how oft shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Till seven times

V: 22  (A) But JESUS can see through Peter’s cloak of self-righteousness to the unloving heart inside. GOD’S forgiveness is like Hebrews 8:12 . . . their sins and iniquities I will remember no more. Isaiah 1:8

(B) If you are counting past one – you’re making a list and checking it twice to find out who’s naughty and nice and not forgiving – GOD’S Way – You are remembering!

(C) Until seventy times seven is a Hebrewism which means on and on and on - we are to forgive without limit! Colossians 3:13.

(D) We are to be to others as GOD has been to us! Mark 11:25-26

V: 23  Therefore is the Kingdom of Heaven (the Church) likened unto . . . . Where do you picture yourself in this parable? Which servant are you?

V: 24  A talent in gold is $788,400,000 in today’s money at $900 per ounce gold! We owe GOD an un-payable debt.
V: 25 No man can pay for his own sins for *there is none righteous, no not one.* (Romans 3:10-20) and those who think they are severed from CHRIST and fallen from grace. Galatians 5:4

V: 26 The only way to begin is to own up to the KING for your debt. Psalms 51, Isa.64:6

V: 27 GOD’S love and grace in forgiving us should bring love and grace into our hearts towards others. Isaiah 61:10-11

V: 28 (A) But this *wicked* disciple is unwilling to accept grace and pardon. He’s going to Pay the KING back yet – legalist -. Zechariah 3:1-5, Luke 15:22, Romans 1:16-17 and 6:3-6, Matthew 22:11-14.

(B) *A pence* was a day labours wages – one hundred pence is $15.00 at best. *Took him by the throat* was strictly legal under Roman law. Romans 2:1-6

V: 29 The *fellow-servant* only asks for the same *patience* from him that he sought from the KING (Verse 26) – grace for grace.

V: 30 The legalist can never remember *all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.* Romans 3:23
V: 32  *I forgive thee all that debt...* If GOD marked our sins (made a list) who could stand just before HIM? Psalms 130:3-8


V: 34 (A) *Deliver him to the tormentors* – Greek Bas-an-izo, to torture (not just prison) – to torment in torment.

(B) *Till he should pay all that was due* – How can he?

(C) He will never get out. He has sealed his own doom! Cf: Psalms 88:1ff

V: 35 (A) Remember, *from your hearts*. The heart in Hebrew is the mind, the emotions and the will (your walk in daily life)

(B) Remember, forgive like GOD and forget (Hebrews 8:32) by refusing to think and dwell on those who offend you.

(C) Remember, the Lord’s Prayer – our forgiveness is based upon grace for grace – our forgiving those who trespass against us. Matthew 6:14-16.