

# 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 labourer's 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: 33 Grace for Grace is required. Matthew 5:7, Luke 17:34, Ephesians 4:32

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.