

PORTRAIT OF THE *King*

ADVERSARIES

“The Parable of a Merciful King and an Unforgiving Servant”

MATTHEW 18:21-35





- Example of Jesus & Stephen Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60
- Example of Joseph Genesis 50:19-21
- Example of David I Samuel 4:6, 12
 II Samuel 19:22-23

Forgiveness Is Godliness



“Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.”

Proverbs 19:11



“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:32



“bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”

Colossians 3:13



- A little child (vs. 1-4)
- A wandering child (vs. 5-14)
- Being reconciled to God (vs. 15-20)

Context of Matthew 18



“lifting a charge of guilt from someone else and a promise to that person that you will not remember their wrong in the future”

Defining Forgiveness



KEY POINT:

We have been forgiven by God so that we might forgive others like God forgives.



I. Peter asks about forgiveness (vs. 21).

Outline of Matthew 18:21-35



“If a man commits an offense once, they forgive him; if he commits an offense a second time, they forgive him; if he commits an offense a third time, they forgive him; the fourth time they do not forgive him.”

**Rabbi Jose ben Jehuda,
2nd century A.D.**



- I. Peter asks about forgiveness (vs. 21).
- II. Jesus answers Peter's question (vs. 22).

Outline of Matthew 18:21-35



- I. Peter asks about forgiveness (vs. 21).
- II. Jesus answers Peter's question (vs. 22).
- III. Jesus illustrates forgiveness (vs. 23-34).

Outline of Matthew 18:21-35



- The largest named number – *muriown*, which is translated “10,000”
- Represented an immeasurable amount or number

**The Meaning of
“Ten Thousand Talents”**



“and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—”

Philippians 3:9



“I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.”

Isaiah 44:22



“and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—”

Philippians 3:9



“lifting a charge of guilt from someone else and a promise to that person that you will not remember their wrong in the future”

Defining Forgiveness



- a Roman silver coin worth about \$0.18
- an average daily wage
- about 3 months wages



A Denarius



- I. Peter asks about forgiveness (vs. 21).
- II. Jesus answers Peter's question (vs. 22).
- III. Jesus illustrates forgiveness (vs. 23-34).
- IV. Jesus teaches a lesson about forgiveness (vs. 35).

Outline of Matthew 18:21-35



“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”

*“and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our
debtors.”*

Matthew 5:7; 6:12



“Christians are the most forgiven people in the world.
Therefore, we should be the most forgiving people in
the world.”

Ken Sande, *The Peacemaker*



*“See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God;
that no ‘root of bitterness’ springs up and causes
trouble, and by it many become defiled;”*

Hebrews 12:15



“²⁷ But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.”

Luke 6:27-28



“It is a smaller thing to wish well or even to do well to one who has done you no evil. It is far greater—a sort of magnificent goodness—to love your enemy, and always to wish him well and, as you can, do well to him who wishes you ill and who does you harm when he can.”

Augustine of Hippo



Are you more like the forgiving king or the unforgiving servant?

Are you holding anything against anyone right now?

Should you be?

