

## Grace To Forgive II

<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

<sup>24</sup> When he had begun to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

<sup>28</sup> But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and began to choke him, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow slave fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.' <sup>30</sup> But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed. <sup>31</sup> So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened. <sup>32</sup> Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup> ~' Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. <sup>35</sup> My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

Matt 18:23-35

1. **Forgiveness is part of who the CHRISTIAN is. (Mtt. 18:21-22)**
2. **Christians are in the forgiveness BUSINESS. (Mtt. 18:23)**
3. **The first slaves debt is UNCOUNTABLE and UNPAYABLE. (vs. 24)**
4. **The Christian is to forgive EVERYONE, for EVERYTHING, all the time. (vs. 32-33)**
  - a. **Forgiveness is not CONDITIONAL.**
  - b. **Forgiveness does not TOLERATE sin.**
  - c. **Forgiveness does not necessarily eliminate CONSEQUENCES.**
  - d. **Forgiveness is not FORGETTING.**
5. **The Christian who REFUSES to forgive, is under God's DISCIPLINE. (vs. 34; Heb. 12:5-11)**
6. **The time to forgive is NOW.**