## "THE PARABLES OF JESUS"

### The Unmerciful Servant (Mt 18:21-35)

##### INTRODUCTION

1. **"The Parables Of Jesus"** we have considered so far have centered around the kingdom of heaven itself...
2. The next parable we shall consider is one that describes "the character of the citizens" which are to make up the kingdom...
	1. It is commonly called **"The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant"**
3. **THE PARABLE AND ITS MESSAGE**
	* 1. **The Message is about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
	1. **THE PARABLE ITSELF...**
		1. A king shows mercy to his servant by canceling his huge \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - [**Mt 18:23-27**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.23-27)
			1. The mercy of the king goes beyond the actual request
		2. That servant in turn then refuses to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a fellow servant's petty debt - [**Mt 18:28-30**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.28-30)
		3. The final result: Upon this cruel servant the king imposes the former sentence, even adding to it! - [**Mt 18:31-34**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.31-34)
	2. **THE LESSON OF THE PARABLE...**
		1. As stated by Jesus Himself - [**Mt 18:35**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.35)
			1. **"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."**
			2. Failure to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a brother will bring severe punishment!
		2. **"Prompted by gratitude the forgiven sinner must always yearn to forgive whoever has trespassed against him"** (unknown)
		3. We can also draw several subsidiary lessons:
			1. We are all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ debtors - [**Mt 18:23**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.23)**;** cf. [**Ro 3:23**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%203.23)
			2. None are able to \_\_\_\_\_\_ what is owed - [**Mt 18:25**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.25)
			3. But by Christ's atoning sacrifice, the \_\_\_\_\_\_ is paid - [**Mt 18:27**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.27)**;** cf. [**Mt 20:28**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2020.28)
			4. Only those who are willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_others can be assured that they are indeed forgiven - [**Mt 18:35**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.35)**;** cf. [**Mt 6:14-15**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%206.14-15)
			5. It should be easy to forgive others, for what we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God is infinitely more than what others owe us - [**Mt 18:32**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.32)**,**[**33**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2018.33)
			6. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ person is destined for everlasting punishment! - [**Mt 18:34**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2018.34)**,**[**35**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2018.35)**;** cf. [**Ro 1:31**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%201.31)

[Perhaps the most important point we learn from this parable is that the kingdom of heaven is to consist of people who are both forgiven and forgiving, who have both received mercy and are merciful. - cf. **[Jm 2:13](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/James%202.13%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Understanding the importance of forgiving others, how can we develop a forgiving spirit?]

1. **DEVELOPING A FORGIVING SPIRIT**
	1. **FOCUS ON GOD'S FORGIVENESS OF YOU...**
		1. This is where the unmerciful servant went wrong
		2. This is how Paul suggested we develop a forgiving spirit - [**Ep 4:32**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Eph%204.32)**;**[**Col 3:13**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Col%203.13)
	2. **ALLOW THE LORD TO HELP US TO FORGIVE AND FORGET"...**
		1. Is this possible? By the grace of God, yes!

The example of Joseph - [**Gen 41:51**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%2041.51)And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, *said he,* hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house.

The attitude of Paul - **[Php 3:13](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Phil%203.13%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)** Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do,* forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,