

The Cost of Forgiveness

Matthew 18:21-35

Wendy Thomas, August 11, 2013

“A parable is a figure of speech in which a comparison is made between God’s kingdom, actions, or expectations and something in this world, real or imagined.”

Arlund Hultgren

He owed a _____ he could not pay.

He was owed a _____, that could not be paid.

He became a _____.

“That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your bothers and sisters from your heart.” Matt. 18:35 (NLT)

Forgiveness is **not** _____.

Forgiveness is **not** _____ the behavior of another.

Forgiveness is **not** the same as _____.

Forgiveness is **not** _____.

Forgiveness **is** _____.

Forgiveness _____ us.

Lord, I forgive (individual) for (what they did) and for how that made me feel.

Lord, I release (individual) to You, and my right to seek revenge. I choose not to hold on to my bitterness and anger, and I ask You to heal my hurt. In Jesus’ Name, Amen

Neil Anderson, Victory Over the Darkness and The Bondage Breaker

Matthew 18:21-35

New Living Translation (NLT)

Parable of the Unforgiving Debtor

²¹Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”

²²“No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

²³Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him.

²⁴In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars.

²⁵He couldn’t pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

²⁶But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’

²⁷Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

²⁸But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

²⁹His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it,’ he pleaded.

³⁰But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

³¹When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened.

³²Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me.

³³Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’

³⁴Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

³⁵That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart.”