

PRE-CONCLUSION:

The following parable taught by Jesus shows us the need to examine ourselves and realize that just as Jesus **forgives** us of all of our sins, so must we **forgive** all of our neighbors all their **trespasses**. (Luke 11:4 1 John 1:9)

Matt 18:23-35

23 **Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.**

24 **And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.**

25 **But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.**

26 **The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.**

27 **Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.**

28 **But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.**

29 **And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.**

30 **And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.**

31 **So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.**

32 **Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:**

33 **Shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?**

34 **And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.**

35 **So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.**

CONCLUSION:

As Christians it is our responsibility to **forgive** others even as Christ **forgave** us.

Col 3:12-13

12 **Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;**

13 **Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.**

Amen! Timothy II



INTRODUCTION:

When Jesus was dying on the Cross He asked God the Father to **forgive** those that were crucifying Him, because they did not know what they were doing. How much tougher can it be for you to **forgive**?

Luke 23:34

34 **Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.** And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FORGIVE?

To **forgive** someone does not just mean to say it in words, but to mean it in your heart and DO IT!

To **forgive** in the Greek means the following:

863 aphiemi (af-ee'-ay-mee);

To **forgive**, to lay aside, let go, put away, remit, to yield up.

This means that once we **forgive** someone, we need to lay it aside, let it go, put it away, remit and yield up the matter, and then we must **forget it!**

WHAT IT MEANS TO TRESPASS & REPENT:

When a person **trespasses** against you, whether it is your children, a friend, a family member, an associate, etc., it is OK to rebuke (reprove, admonish) them. However, once they **repent**, you 'must' **forgive** them! It doesn't matter how many times they **trespass**, if they **repent**, you 'must' **forgive** them!

Luke 17:3-4

3 Take heed to yourselves: **If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke (reprove, admonish) him; and if he repent, forgive him.**

4 **And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.**

To **trespass** in the Greek means:

3900 paraptoma (par-ap'-to-mah); A side-slip, unintentional error, willful transgression, a fall, fault, offence, sin, or trespass.

To **repent** in the Greek means:

3340 metanoeo (met-an-o-eh'-o); To think differently, or afterwards to reconsider morally, to feel compunction, to be sorry, to repent.

FORGIVE ALL:

Actually, you need to **forgive** all people their **trespasses** whether they **repent** or not. Jesus said:

Matt 5:44 Luke 6:27-28

44 **But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which spitefully use you, and persecute you;**

THE RESULTS OF FORGIVENESS:

If you **forgive** all people their **trespasses**, then God will **forgive** you your **trespasses**. If you do not **forgive** people their **trespasses**, then God will not **forgive** you your **trespasses** against Him!

Matt 6:14-15

14 **For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:**

15 **But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

Mark 11:25-26

25 **And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.**

26 **But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.**

Luke 6:37

37 Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: **forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:**

FORGIVENESS IN THE CHURCHES:

The following is a story written by Paul. It concerns the Church needing to **forgive** a person who had committed a terrible sin. (1 Cor 5:1-9)

First they needed to purge him out of the Church, but once he **repented** and returned, they needed to **forgive** him. Otherwise, he could have too much sorrow and might fall away for good.

2 Cor 2:5-11

5 **But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge (be too severe to) you all.**

6 **Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many.**

7 **So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch (too much) sorrow.**

8 **Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.**

9 For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.

10 **To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ;**

11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.
