

VENGEANCE REVENGE BITTERNESS FORGIVENESS HATRED MERCIFUL

GABRIEL RUHL | SUNDAY MORNING | JULY 30, 2017

“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 Shouldest 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.” (Matthew 18:23–35)

INTRODUCTION

1. THE _____

A. The _____ Party

“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33b)

“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. 16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.” (Matthew 18:15-16)

B. The _____ Who Sinned

“Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24)

C. The _____ King

“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.” (Psalm 147:5)

“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.” (Proverbs 15:3)

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32)

2. THE _____

A. Forgiveness is Preceded by _____

“Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.” (Luke 17:3)

B. Forgiveness Sometimes Requires _____

“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.” (Luke 17:4)

C. Forgiveness is _____

“He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.” (Micah 7:19)

“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:12)

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” (Isaiah 1:18)

“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.” (Hebrews 10:17)

D. Forgiveness is _____

“Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.” (Matthew 10:8)

“Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.” (Colossians 3:13)

E. Forgiveness Prohibits _____

“Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.” (1 Peter 2:23)

F. Forgiveness Prevents _____

“Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;” (Hebrews 12:15)

Quote: “Bitterness is the poison we swallow, in our effort to harm the one who wronged us.”—**Unknown**

3. THE _____

A. The Priority of _____

“The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.” (Psalm 145:8)

“For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.” (Psalm 86:5)

“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36)

B. The Priority of _____

Quote: “It may take a while for your feelings to catch up with your will. But your will needs to respond to the scriptural mandate to forgive.”—**Dennis Rainey**

“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.” (Matthew 6:14–15)

Quote: “As Christians we have no choice. We forfeit our fellowship with God and blessings here below when we don’t forgive.”—**R.T. Kendall**

CONCLUSION

