

Date: 6/4/17 RBC SF3006

Title: The Result of an Unforgiving Heart

Text: Matthew 18:23-35

The kingdom of Heaven is different when it comes to relationships between citizens on Earth. Those of us who are born again know what it means to be forgiven for our sins. Because we have been forgiven we have the capacity to forgive others who sin against us. The God of Heaven expects nothing less. This parable is clear about our responsibility to forgive those who sin against us.

The king is God.

The unmerciful servant represents an ungrateful sinner.

The debt the servant owed his master. (about 20 million dollars).

The debt of the servant who was mistreated was about 200 dollars.

The king punished the ungrateful and unmerciful servant.

Some principles about forgiveness.

1. Forgiveness for our sins is conditional upon us forgiving others.

**Matthew 6:14-15** - For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

2. Forgiveness is not forgetting the wrong it is forgetting about what we think they deserve.

3. Forgiveness doesn't mean that justice is not free to operate.

4. Forgiveness is giving the person who wronged you over to God.

**Romans 12:19** - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

5. There are common actions that are an indication of an unforgiving heart.

Severe anger at the person.

Thoughts of what you want to do to them.

Holding a grudge without seeking reconciliation.

A bitter spirit.