

“The Great Cost of Forgiveness- For God and Us” 11/19/17

Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon Series- “*Essential Jesus: The Man, the Mission, the Message*”

LESSON 1- The great cost of forgiveness is paid through the compassion of GOD

- A. In order to realize the cost we need to understand the KING
(Psalm 115:3; Isaiah 6:3; Ezek 18:1; Psalm 51:4)
- B. In order to realize the cost we need to understand the coming JUDGMENT
(Matt 12:36; Heb 4:15; Rom 2:16; Revelation 20:12; Romans 3:23; 6:23)

*“For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing,
Whether good or evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:14)*

- C. In order to realize the cost we need to understand the size of our DEBT
(Denarius- 1days work; 10,000 talents = 165,000 years of labor; infinite)
- D. In order to realize the cost we need to understand the King’s COMPASSION
(Not under any obligation to forgive; the ‘setting aside’ of wrath; Rom 2:4)

Going Deeper *Are we truly seeing the GREAT compassion of God in our forgiveness?*

LESSON 2- The cost of forgiveness is paid through the experience of the SAINT

- A. The saint recognizes that there does exist real OFFENSES
(Matt 18:28-30, there is a real **legal** debt here; what is the **moral** reply?)
- B. The saint recognizes his own situation demands FORGIVENESS
- C. The saint recognizes the warning in not forgiving from the HEART
(**Matt 5:23-25**; Luke 17:4; Eph 4:26-27; Mark 11:25 “stand praying”)

Going Deeper *As you keep your eyes on God’s GREAT compassion, does it translate to forgiveness to others? (anything else is hypocrisy)*

*“bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; **even as** Christ forgave you, so you also must do.” (Col 3:13)*

*“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, **just as** God in Christ forgave you.” (Eph 4:32)*

*“and forgive us our sins, **as we** have forgiven those who sin against us.” (Matt 6:12)*