



THE  
**PARABLES**  
OF JESUS

1 Lighting Cue!

LIGHTING CUE

2 Group

Matthew 18:21-35  
p. 823

3

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring

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Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'<sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.<sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.'<sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'<sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.<sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and

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Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.<sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.<sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'<sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.<sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

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Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

God's mercy TEACHES US...

7

God's mercy TEACHES US...

1. His standard is greater than ours

8

<sup>29</sup>“Behold, God does all these things,  
twice, three times, with a man, <sup>30</sup>to bring back his soul  
from the pit, that he may be lighted with the light of life.  
Job 33:29-30 (ESV)

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Job 33:29-30 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>Thus says the LORD:

“For three transgressions of Damascus,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,  
because they have threshed Gilead  
with threshing sledges of iron.

Amos 1:3 (ESV)

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Amos 1:3 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD:

“For three transgressions of Israel,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,  
because they sell the righteous for silver,  
and the needy for a pair of sandals—

Amos 2:6 (ESV)

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Amos 2:6 (ESV)

<sup>23</sup>So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there  
remember that your brother has something against you,  
<sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be  
reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer  
your gift.

Matthew 5:23-24 (ESV)

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Matthew 5:23-24 (ESV)

<sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matthew 5:28 (ESV)

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Matthew 5:28 (ESV)

<sup>38</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup>But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Matthew 5:38-39 (ESV)

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Matthew 5:38-39 (ESV)

<sup>43</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,  
Matthew 5:43-44 (ESV)

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Matthew 5:43-44 (ESV)

God's mercy TEACHES US...

1. His standard is greater than ours
2. He's greater than our sin

16



1 denarius per day

17

1 denarius per day

Modern equivalent -

18

1 denarius per day

Modern equivalent -  
(a) \$15 per hour = \$30,000 per year

19

1 denarius per day

Modern equivalent -  
(a) \$15 per hour = \$30,000 per year  
(b) 1 talent = \$600,000

20

1 denarius per day

Modern equivalent -

(a) \$15 per hour = \$30,000 per year

(b) 1 talent = \$600,000

(c) 10,000 = \$6 Billion

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God's mercy TEACHES US...

1. His standard is greater than ours
2. He's greater than our sin
3. Merciless Christianity is a contradiction

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(a) 100 Denari = 20 weeks of common labor

23

(a) 100 Denari = 20 weeks of common labor  
(b) 100 Denari = \$12,000

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God's mercy TEACHES US...

1. His standard is greater than ours
2. He's greater than our sin
3. Merciless Christianity is a contradiction
4. God's expectations for our actions

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LUKE 15:1-2

1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

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