

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

4-19-15 Ken Carlton

Title: \$12 BILLION DEBT

Main Text: Mat 18:21-35

Sermon Description: The fourth discourse in Matthew (Chap 18) could be divided into four sections under adjectives that characterize the members of Christ's church as loyal subjects of the kingdom of God.... His citizens are: Lowly (1-4), Loving (7-14), Lawful (15-20), and Long-suffering (21-35). In the form of a parable – the most attention in this passage is given to the obligation of forgiveness as it relates to the 4th characteristic. Calvin identifies 3 points of great contrast in this parable of the unforgiving servant: "...the master is contrasted with the servant, the large sum of money with small or ordinary sums, and extraordinary kindness with extreme cruelty..." There are 3 basic categories of characters in the story to note as well (35)... 1. The King as the heavenly Father, 2. The servant as professing believers, and 3. The fellow servants as various relationships in the kingdom. A summary of the theme of this portion of discourse 4 could be stated as follows: A chief hallmark of Christ's church is our identity as the lavishly forgiven and as such, the lavishly forgiving ones

Heading: THE LONG-SUFFERING SERVANT UNDERSTANDS...

1. THE KING IS TO BE FEARED (Mat 18:21-26)

- a. Settling of accounts (23, Prv 20:8-10)
- b. Total collateral (25)
- c. Ultimate authority (26)

2. THE WEIGHT OF HIS DEBT (24, 28)

- a. Vertical debt (wage comparison)
- b. Horizontal debt (Mt 6:14-15)
- c. Nature of our debt (Col 2:13-14)

3. THE VALUE OF FORGIVENESS (28-31)

- a. Chain reaction of grace
- b. Practical worship
- c. Historical example: Chrysostom

Close: (Mt 16:21, 17:22-23, 20:18-19) Jesus proclaims the cost of forgiveness in the context of these events in the book of Matthew. Not forgiving others is to spurn the cost of our own forgiveness – The appreciation of mercy compels us to extend the grace of God (in kind) to others.

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme: Justice and debt	Theme: Fear the King	Theme: Our debts	Theme: Others debts	Theme: How of forgiveness	Theme: Cost of forgiveness
Verses: Prov 20:8-10	Verses: Mt 18:21-26	Verses: Mt 6:14-15, 18:21-27	Verses: Mt 18:28-35	Verses: Col 2:13-14	Verses: Mt 16:21, 17:22-23, 20:18-19

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Mat 19:1-12