

KINGDOM PARABLES





THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

MATTHEW 18:21-35



UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- All of us are familiar with this parable.
 - We've heard about the enormous debt that one servant owed.
 - We've heard about the kindness of the King.
 - We've heard about how harsh the forgiven servant was to his fellow servant.

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- In this lesson, let's examine some specifics that may make us feel uneasy.
- Today, we need to view this parable from a personal perspective and not, what I imagine, is the more generic approach.
- This parable should hit home a lot more than we allow it.

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- **WE ARE THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT!!!!**
- **We don't like to believe that.**
- **We don't associate ourselves with it.**
- **We don't like to be made to feel uncomfortable or evil.**
- **BUT, WE ARE.**
- **We need to be reminded of this.**

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- I have also always thought of this parable as the ungrateful servant.
- Ungratefulness to his master is demonstrated in several ways:
 - Do we pay attention to the fact that the servant at some point was given 10,000 talents? All indications are that he had not attempted to pay any of it back.

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- **Ungratefulness to his master is demonstrated in several ways: (cont.)**
 - **Not to mention the fact that the master forgave him of this enormous debt.**
 - **Then, the servant proceeds to have his fellow servant arrested for a rather insignificant debt. Do we consider how this also affected his master? He has cost his master a servant!**

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- *We are like this ungrateful servant in that we.....*
DON'T APPRECIATE HOW MUCH WE OWE GOD
- **We are the ones with the 10,000 talent debt.**
- **Instead, in many cases, we go through life and behave as though God owes us something.**
- **We forget that every good thing that we enjoy is a blessing from Him- James 1:17.**

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- *We are like this ungrateful servant in that we.....*

WASTE THE BLESSINGS OUR KING HAS GIVEN US

- What good are we doing with our blessings?
- I realize that it is impossible to pay God back for what he has done for us; but, is there no feeling of indebtedness?
- We've become very good at accepting and pretty bad about giving back.

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

- *We are like this ungrateful servant in that we.....*

MISTREAT OUR FELLOW SERVANTS

- Instead of forgiving or attempting to find out what may be negatively affecting our brother/sister, we just look at how we are being affected.
- Have we ever been guilty of mistreating a fellow Christian (servant of God) to the point that they are no longer serving?
- Are we are guilty of backbiting, gossiping, & judging.