

LIFE CHANGE SERIES
MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT
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James 2:13b
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Matt 5:7

⁷Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Matt 18:21-35

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²²Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶**"The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'** ²⁷The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

³⁰"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³Shouldn't you have

had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

I. The Depth Of Our Debt

- A. We stand in need of mercy
- B. 10000 talents
- C. talent = 15 to 20 years salary
- D. on \$10 a day, 5 day work week = just under \$4billion

II. The Benevolent Banker/ Merciful Master

- A. Mercy has forgiven our debt
- B. Can you imagine?
- C. It was even possible to work off this debt.
- D. Family was on the verge of disintegration
- E. All the plates of have finally fallen
- F. You have no dignity left
- G. He canceled the debt!**

III. The Wicked Servant

- A. He couldn't let it go
- B. Wow!
- C. Why?
 - 1. Did he still want justice?
 - 2. Was it greed or self-centered desires?
 - 3. His scale/measure was off.
 - a) He was measuring what the man owed to him.
 - b) He should have been measuring the debt which had been forgiven.

IV. The Law Of The Harvest – what you sow is what your reap

- A. We need to show mercy to others
- B. The wicked servant was tortured
 - 1. What must it be like to hold on to every wrong?
 - 2. What must it be like to cling to every offense?
 - 3. What must it be like to be paralyzed in relationship after relationship by your offended feelings that cause you to condemn people ergo never building meaningful relationships?
 - 4. What must it be like to live a life paranoid about everyone's actions?
 - 5. What must it be like to live a life devoid of mercy – torture?

John 8

Woman taken adultery – mercy triumphed over judgment

The thief on the cross

Parlay into gospel.