



# SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

JANUARY 9, 2005

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The Forgiven...

How valuable are you in the eyes of God?

turn  
become  
or never

The church (singly and severally) are the greatest BECAUSE they must have humbled themselves SINCE that is true, God has a dim view of those that "cause" sin.

The tempter (even if it is you) is in trouble. And do you have the same dim view of those aspects of your life that cause you to sin? Friends, habits, traditions, "there is nothing wrong with this"

Do you understand that the heavens rejoice over the repentance of one?  
God seeks the forgiven and will not let them perish.

So how then do we live?  
We seek to lost sheep with the same eagerness to restore according to this pattern.

Remember that the greatness and rejoicing is in the forgiveness.

Peter's practical question is much like ours when we want to obey but we don't think like Christ. "When do I get to stop being like this?"  
Can you sense that God values forgiveness?

In this parable it teaches that you had better value it as well.  
"But," you say, " he humbled himself!!!"  
Yep, he did and delivered him up to the "torturers".

So... do you want to be angry and bitter and offended and keep accounts of the wrongs done you?

Remember all those sins that you were wonderfully forgiven of, remember them? You want them back? And be tortured until you paid for them?  
I didn't think so.

## MEMORABLE VERSE

"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the man by whom the temptation comes!

*Matthew 18:7*

Matthew 18

1: At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "**Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?**"2: And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them,3: and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you **turn and become** like children, **you will never** enter the kingdom of heaven.4: Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.5: "Whoever receives **one such child** in my name receives me;6: but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

7: "Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the man by whom the temptation comes!8: And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.9: And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.10: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven.

12: **What do you think?** If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?13: And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.14: So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

15: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. **If he listens** to you, you have gained your brother.16: But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.17: **If he refuses to listen** to them, tell it to the church; and **if he refuses to listen even to the church**, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.18: Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.19: Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.20: For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

21: Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"22: Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.23: "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.24: When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents;25: and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.26: **So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, `Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'**27: And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.28: But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, `Pay what you owe.'29: So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, `Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'30: He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt.31: When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.32: Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ` **You wicked servant!** I forgave you all that debt because you besought me;33: and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'34: And in anger his lord delivered him to the **jailers**, till he should pay all his debt.35: **So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."**