

THE S. LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON,
JULY 31.

Lesson V. A Lesson on Forgiveness.
Matt. 18. 21-35. Golden Text, Matt. 6. 14.

Verse 21. Then came Peter—Matthew's peculiar interest in Peter has been noticed several times in previous lessons (compare Matt. 10. 2; 14. 28; 15. 15; 16. 18; 17. 4, 24).

How oft—Jesus had shown that if a man was at fault it was necessary to treat his case with patience, seeking not only reparation but for his reclamation from evil. But must one go on forgiving indefinitely? Would not seven times be a munificent treatment, especially since that was to be more than twice as generous as the rabbis?

22. I say not . . . seven times—The attitude of Jesus on the question of forgiveness is, that there must be no counting at all. To have your wrong forgiven is to have it canceled and to begin again on a new basis. Seventy times seven suggests that there is to be no limit to forgiveness. An allusion to the song of Lamech (Gen. 4. 24) is not improbable. The carnal man longs for vengeance 'seventy and sevenfold.' But the spiritually-minded man rejoices that he can forgive another with as much heartiness as he would avenge himself.

23. Therefore—This marks the close connection between the saying of Jesus and the parable of the unmerciful servant. Because, in the kingdom of heaven, there is no limit to the obligation to forgive, this kingdom is likened unto a king whose conspicuous generosity to a debtor laid upon that man the duty of dealing mercifully with others.

24. Owed him ten thousand talents—An impossible sum, representing a debt, say, of \$10,000,000, which would be incapable of discharge. Is our debt to God so enormous? The damage done by sin can scarcely be estimated. It is certain, however, that no man has the power in himself to repair that damage, or to make it right between himself and God. Besides this, the wrong done by one man reaches to others, involving even the innocent (represented here by the servant's wife and children being sold into slavery).

25. Payment to be made—Forgiveness is possible only as the full obligation of sin is met. In other words, it is costly. In this case, the sincere penitence of the debtor is reckoned a sufficient payment. The atoning work of Christ does not come into view in such parables as this: and the prodigal son. But it must not, therefore, be counted out. Repentance is not necessary in order to make God forgiving; it is the evidence that a man is ready to accept in all sincerity what a forgiving God has done for him in the death of his Son.

26. I will pay thee all—The man could hardly have realized how hopeless such an attempt would be. Like the prodigal son, he cares only to be as a hired servant, with a chance to work the debt off.

27. Being moved with compassion—This parable illustrates how unreasonable it is to give every detail of these picture-teachings of Jesus an exact significance. This phrase, for example, cannot mean that God is so heartless as to require anything man can do to rouse him to pity. All that God requires is a safe ground upon which to open up the flood gates of his free, forgiving mercy.

Forgave him the debt—He does more than the debtor asks for, which is like God.

28. A hundred shillings—A paltry sum compared with the debt just remitted. Probably the amount would not be more than seventeen dollars. The contrast displays the meagreness of our claims upon others as compared with God's claims upon us for our sin.

Pay what thou owest—Men, acting upon the harsh impulses of a barren justice, are apt to forget that God has dealt with them in undeserved mercy.

2. Have patience . . . I will pay—the same language used by his creditor, except that the latter, in proof of the superficiality of his penitence, made the astonishing promise to pay all.

30. Into prison, till he should pay—This was the act of a man blinded by his own madness. He injured himself by making it impossible for the servant to earn the wherewithal to pay.

33. Shouldst not thou also have had mercy?—Compare James 2. 13: "For judgment is without mercy to

him that hath showed no mercy." 34. His lord was wroth—The anger of God does not come into view until the man refuses to manifest to another a forgiving temper. "We are not apt to think that to treasure up the recollection of injuries which we think we have received from others may be a sin that is greater than any of these." If God requires of us what we, in cold justice, require of others, who of us is there can in all eternity pay all that was due?

Delivered him to the tormentors—While this detail might describe the punishment inflicted by an earthly monarch, it is scarcely a fair picture of the procedure of our heavenly Father.

DANGEROUS.

Nurse—"Doctor, the patient rallied a little last night, and shows unexpected strength this morning. He says he won't take any more of that vile medicine."

Dr. Kallowmell—"Dear, dear! We'll have to do something to get him out of that condition."

IMPRACTICAL.

New Employer—"But why did you leave your last mistress?"

New Maid—"Hivvens! Did yez expect me t' bring her along wid me?"

ONE-SIDED MAN.

"What part of a railway train do you regard as the most dangerous?" inquired the nervous man. "The dining car," answered the dyspeptic.

ARE WILLING TO PAY.

Having allowed considerable time to elapse, one is forced to the conclusion that everyone seems to think the high cost of living is worth it.

MERELY MORTAL MAN.

King George says it will take five million dollars to meet his household expenses each year. Naturally. He feels the cost of living, too.

GONE.

Jack—"I hear you had some money left you." Tom—"Yes; it left me quite a while ago."

Too many people look upon a friend as a person they can make use of.

THE BACHELOR'S WARNING.

Youngleigh—"Which is the better way to propose, orally or by letter?"

Cynicus—"By letter, certainly. There's a chance that you might forget to mail it."

HIS NIGHTWORK.

Cynical friend—"If the baby is the boss of the establishment and his mother is the superintendent, pray what position do you occupy?"

Young father (wearily)—"Oh, I'm the floorwalker."

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What Consolidation Represents

The Canada Machinery Company, Limited, was incorporated under the Canada Companies Act on July 5th, 1910, and has acquired the business and undertakings of the following companies:

1. MacGregor, Gourlay and Co., Limited, Galt, Ont.
2. John Ballantine and Co., Limited, Preston, Ont.
3. Hespeler Machinery Co., Limited, Hespeler, Ont.

And the Woodworking Machinery Departments of:

1. Goldie and McCulloch Co., Limited, Galt, Ont.
2. Sussex Manufacturing Co., Limited, Sussex, N.B.

The companies controlled constitute practically all the concerns in Canada manufacturing the lighter grades of woodworking machinery and tools. They also constitute a large percentage of the manufacturing capacity of iron working tools in Canada.

The intention of the Company is to perfect the organization of the different factories upon a uniform basis, thereby eliminating the excessive duplication of special machinery, etc., which has taken place in the past.

Security Back of Bonds

The reproductive value of the plants, as determined by the Canadian American Appraisal Company is \$1,027,973.33, over two and a half times the present bond issue of the Company. The bonds are being issued under a deed of trust and mortgage by the Company to the Montreal Trust Company, of Montreal, and are secured by a fixed and specific first mortgage and charge upon all present and future real and immovable property of the Company.

The total amount of bonds to be issued is limited to \$1,000,000, and can only be issued up to 66 2-3 per cent. of the appraised value of the affixed assets. Of this sum \$400,000 has been issued and is now being issued. The remaining \$600,000 can only be issued to an amount equal to 66 2-3 per cent. of expenditures on capital account subsequent to August 1st, 1910.

On or before the 1st of August, 1914, and annually thereafter, a cash sinking fund of 2 per cent. of all bonds outstanding is to be paid to the Trustees, and used to purchase and retire these bonds at not exceeding 110 per cent. and accrued interest, or to call bonds at that price if not so purchasable. All bonds so purchased shall be the property of the Trustee, and the coupons shall be collected by the Trustee and carried at the credit of the Sinking Fund.

Earnings and Advantage of Consolidation

It is conservatively estimated that the net earnings of the Company for the ensuing year, based on present output, will be \$120,000, showing the bond interest earned five times over. These earnings will be materially increased during the following years. The auditors' reports of the various factories have not as yet been completed, but the audit of one of the principal companies shows average net earnings for the years 1900 to 1910 of far more than the amount required to pay the interest on the entire issue of \$400,000 Bonds. Mr. George D. Forbes, the President of the Company, in a report, says the benefits to be accrued from the consolidation may be summarized as follows:

Increased efficiency, resulting in economy by specialising the output at the different factories and by eliminating the unnecessary duplication both in output and patterns.

Savings to be effected in the purchase of raw material and in administration. Economies in selling, distributing, manufacturing, and transportation charges.

The consolidation is being effected just at a time when the industry is showing tremendous development, and the new Company, by placing the different factories on a uniform basis, will be in a position to take full advantage of it.

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

The different companies are being taken over free from all floating liabilities, and the New Company will have ample working capital.

The Deed of Trust and all legal matters relating to this issue have been approved by Messrs Bicknell, Bain, Strathy & MacKelcan, of Toronto.

Negotiable 6 per cent. Interim Receipts issued by the Montreal Trust Company, Trustee, will be given pending delivery of definite bonds.

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