

The Lord Is Rich in His Grace and Mercy



Background: Forgiveness is difficult for many people. In the last year, there have been too many high profile assassinations. Too many murders on the street, where individuals let their anger boil to the point they took the precious life of a father, a mother, a leader in the community. In today's Gospel, we see 3 people that owe enormous debts. One is the overseer of a Lord's estate, who owes more than a lifetime of wages. The others owe the lord full year of crops. The overseer trying to protect his own status forgives the other individuals of half their debt, trying to make sure he would have friends to fall back on after he was fired. But the lord, sensing what the overseer has done forgives the

What will I do? *Marinus van Reymer (1542)*

entire debt of the overseer, So it is with our Lord, He did not forgive some sins! **He Forgave every sin that has occurred and will occur!** Thus, he expects us to live sanctified lives and forgive our neighbors in gentleness and kindness, seeking their soul to be in a full relationship with their Lord and Savior. May this attitude reign in our hearts throughout our earthly voyage.

The Lessons: Amos 8:4–7, 1 Timothy 2:1–15, & Luke 16:1–15 Because God, our Savior, “desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4), He urges “that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people” (1 Tim. 2:1). Christians should so pray “without anger or quarreling,” but “adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control” (1 Tim. 2:8, 9). For the Lord does not forget “the poor of the land” (Amos 8:4). He remembers them according to the foolishness of the cross. “For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God” (Luke 16:15). Though we try to justify ourselves “before men,” God knows our sinful hearts and calls us to repentance (Luke 16:15). Though we are “not strong enough to dig,” and we are “ashamed to beg” (Luke 16:3), He justifies us by His grace and welcomes us into His “eternal dwellings” (Luke 16:9). More shrewd than even “the sons of this world” (Luke 16:8), He requires His stewards of the Gospel to bestow forgiveness freely.