

## **EVIL FOR EVIL**

### **Romans 12:21; Matthew 18:21-35**

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1. *18:21* Peter was thinking like the Pharisees, and like our sinful human nature. He was thinking in the measurable terms of “law,” and not in the limitless terms of “grace.”
2. *18:22* Jesus answered not speaking of law or limits, but of mercy magnified.
3. *18:24* The unpayable debt represents the debt everyone owes for sin.
4. *18:25* Selling the family is a picture of how hopeless the situation is.
5. *18:26* One of the first indicators of someone who lacks a spirit of forgiveness is a haughty attitude.
6. *18:27* The moment a person acknowledges sin and turns to the Savior, the mountain of debt is paid in full...forever.
7. *18:28* Jesus was not teaching that offenses against us are insignificant, but that they are minute compared to the offenses every one of us has committed against God for which He has freely forgiven us.
8. *18:28* Although we have been totally forgiven before God by grace, often we act as if we are forgiven by our own merit.
9. *18:28-30* The behavior of the first servant seems unthinkable; it is hard to believe someone could act like this. This was exactly Jesus’s point: for a Christian to be unwilling to forgive is unthinkable.
10. *18:32* The sin of unforgiveness is even more wicked in a believer because we have infinitely greater motivation and power to be forgiving than does a person who has never experienced God’s grace.
11. *18:33* It was not that the king expected the forgiven servant to give the other a chance to repay; he expected him to have mercy and to forgive the offense entirely.

