



## “There are No Unforgiving People in God’s Kingdom”

Mt. 6:12, 14-15 • part 9

### I. Are we missing the *extent* of the problem of sin?

- = The derivation and origin of **harmartia** is uncertain.
- = What have we ‘failed to grasp?’ Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
- = Sin’s mission is to derail us at every turn from pursuing that which is our ultimate good — God Himself.

### II. We deny the truth about sin because of sin

- = Fallen man cannot see that only God is truly good:  
Ephesians 5:8; Acts 26:17-18
- = See: Colossians 1:13-14; John 12:44-46; Luke 1:76-79

### III. Sin isn’t about making mistakes

- = Sin is enslavement of all life to the hostile powers of death.
- = In Genesis — Sin isn’t just physically and spiritually dying; sin is being sold into the power of death.
- = Sin is a deep-seated condition of spiritual ignorance within every fallen person.
- = Sin can only be corrected when we are delivered from its power through faith in Jesus Christ.

### IV. Visiting the ‘grammar’ of sin in 1 John:

- = 1 John 2:12; 1:6-10
- = Is the tension between 1 John 3:9 and 1 John 1:8 intentional?

### V. Visiting the grammar of the ‘forgiveness’ of sin in Matthew 6:14-15

- = There is hypocrisy in our failure to forgive others.
- = God doesn’t forgive our sin *nature*.
- = Is the tension between Matthew 6:12 and 6:14-15 intended to cause us to reconsider the seriousness of forgiveness?

### VI. Wrestling with the tension

- = Jesus didn’t say to pray for our unforgiving spirit, because that would be a contradiction
- = Forgive others, because they too may succumb to the spirit of unforgiveness, just as you might.
- = Two truths you’ll miss if cherish your own failure to forgive: