

32. Matthew 6:12 – 5th Petition to Lord’s Prayer: Forgive Us Our Debts
The Manifesto of the King - *Sermon on the Mount: The Christian’s Religion*

I. WE ARE DEBTORS TO GOD

A. Sin as a Debt

B. Sin is the Worst Debt (Watson)

1. **Because we have nothing to pay.**
2. **Because it is against an infinite majesty.**
3. **Because it is not a single, but a multiplied debt.**
4. **Because it is an inexcusable debt.** *We cannot deny the debt. We cannot shift off the debt.*
5. **Because it carries men, if not paid, to a worse prison than upon earth.**

II. GOD DELIGHTS IN FORGIVING DEBTORS IN CHRIST

A. Christ Has Paid the Debt

1. **Only Christ Can.**
2. **We owe Creator perfect obedience. But Christ obeyed perfectly**
3. **We owe God an infinite debt for sin against Him. But Christ has paid that debt perfectly.**

B. God delights in forgiving Debtors in Christ (Micah 7:18-19) *God in Christ....*

1. **Delights in Mercy** (18) to Forgive! *Why?...because...*
2. **Pardons Iniquity**—“lift it up” and “takes it away”!
3. **Passes Over Transgression**
4. **No Longer Angry**—*Christ has taken eternal wrath in our place, now no condemnation to dread.*
5. **Has Compassion on Sinner!**(19)—*instead, looks upon sinner as does Beloved Son, for in Beloved*
6. **Subdues our Iniquities**—*not just justified before Him, but promise of sanctification/glorification!*
7. **Casts ALL Sins into Depths of Sea**—*never to be seen/float to surface to rise up in judgment against us!*

C. So the non-Christian must pray for forgiveness

1. So, if you are still lost and hopeless in your sin—come to Christ, now!
2. Come to God in Christ, **asking Him to forgive your debts**

D. And the Christian must pray for forgiveness

1. **Why**—didn’t you just say sins are permanently marked out? *Yes, they are!*
2. **How Daily**—*as we daily ask to be given bread, should daily ask to be forgiven of sin.*
Our—*as we daily ask for bread for others, should daily ask for others to know forgiveness*
Confess—*as we daily ask for specific needs (bread), should ask forgiveness of specific sins.*
3. **Remember we pray these petitions with sincere desire to obey and submit to them/answers**

III. WE ARE DEBTORS TO ONE ANOTHER

A. We are forgiven, not made perfect

B. Others will sin against you.

C. You will sin against others.

IV. WE SHOULD DELIGHT IN FORGIVING OUR DEBTORS IN CHRIST

A. Reflects Christ

1. **As God delights in Mercy, so should we imitate our Father in delighting in Mercy**
2. **As Christ exemplified such mercy and forgiveness, so should we imitate Christ!**
3. **Professes Christ outside Church**
4. **Preserves Unity within Church**

B. Reflects that have been forgiven by Christ (6:14-15; 18:21-35)

1. **Warning**
2. **Assurance**