

place in those days, with dismal and loathsome dungeons.

31-34. His fellow servants . . . very sorry; filled with pity for the unfortunate man and indignation against his hard-hearted oppressor. **Told unto their lord;** sure that he would listen, so merciful had he shown himself. **O thou wicked servant;** 'hard-hearted, hypocritical, ungrateful, selfish.' **Compassion . . . even as I.** Forgiveness received should be the measure of forgiveness shown. **His lord was wroth;** angry, indignant, at such cruel villainy. **The tormentors;** those who used tortures, such as the drawing of teeth or slitting of ears and noses, in the hope of finding concealed treasure.

35. So likewise . . . my heavenly Father . . . unto you. Like the king in the parable, what God hates most of all is an unmerciful spirit. **If ye from your hearts forgive not.** No sham or lip pardon will be enough; it must be real, thorough, and so, again and again, times uncounted, because the heart moves us towards forgiveness.

DAILY READINGS

(By courtesy of I. B. R. Association)

M.—The duty of forgiveness, Matt. 18: 21-35. T.—Joseph forgives, Gen. 50: 15-21. W.—David's forbearance, 1 Sam. 24: 1-12. Th.—Love to enemies, Matt. 5: 38-48. F.—Prayer and practice, Mark 11: 20-26. S.—Repentance and forgiveness, Luke 17: 1-5. S.—The great Example, Col. 3: 8-13.

Prove from Scripture—That Jesus can forgive sin.
Shorter Catechism—Ques. 21. Who is the Redeemer of God's elect? A. The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, for ever.

The Question on Missions—25. Where is Trinidad? It is the most southerly of the West India Islands, lying within sight of Venezuela, and is about the same size as Prince Edward Island.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise, 251 (Supplemental Lesson); 151; 161; Ps. Sel. 23; 395 (from PRIMARY QUARTERLY); 180.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—21, 22 What question did Peter ask of Jesus? How often did Peter think he ought to forgive? How often did Jesus say we should forgive? What does this mean?

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What did the king in the parable do for his servant?

2. How ought the servant to have shown his gratitude?

3. What will be the result of our refusing to forgive others?

23-27 How much did Jesus say a servant owed his king? Could he pay this debt? What did the king command? What did the servant ask? What did he promise? How did the king treat him?

28-30 Who owed some money to the forgiven servant? How much? How did he treat this fellow servant?

31-34 How did the other servants feel? Whom did they tell? What punishment was inflicted on the wicked servant?

35 What does God hate most? How are we to forgive?

Seniors and the Home Department—What had Jesus been telling His disciples?

21, 22 What may have led to Peter's question? What did the rabbis teach about forgiveness? Give some Old Testament passages referring to God's forgiveness. (Ps. 86: 5; Isa. 55: 7; Jer. 31: 34.)

23-27 What do the Gospels tell us of Jesus' compassion? (Luke 7: 13; 10: 33-37; 15: 20; 19: 41; John 11: 35.)

28-30 What is the penalty of an unforgiving spirit? (Matt. 6: 15.)

31-35 How does the Lesson illustrate the greatness of divine forgiveness? What effect should forgiveness have upon us? (Luke 7: 47.) Where does Paul teach the duty of forgiveness? (Eph. 4: 32.)

THE LESSON IN LIFE

1. When we have learned "how" to forgive, we shall not ask "how oft" we shall forgive. For we see the "how" in God's forgiveness. And that is just like a big, full stream, that keeps on flowing, day and night, forever and forever.

2. Every sin gets us deeper and deeper in debt to God. For what is sin but just failing to do what He has the right to expect of us? The sin is all the worse, and the debt therefore all the heavier, because of His great love to us. Oh, what a wonderful God He is, to cancel so freely all the debt written down against us!

3. A friend of the writer's was last winter looking forward to a sojourn in France. By way of preparation he was very diligently studying the French language. We all hope to spend eternity in heaven. It is time to learn its language, the speech of the gentle and forgiving.

4. One may refrain from giving insult for insult or blow for blow, because he is a coward. But there is another mark of a coward: it is to hit back for fear of being counted one.