

know what that rule of forgiveness is and he will give the obedience that it requires.

Now let us look at this story as Jesus tells it to Peter. This story is about an eastern king who reigned over a large territory. This territory was divided into sections called "provinces" just as the United States is divided into sections called "states", and just as each state has a ruler called "a governor", so each province had a ruler called "a satrap". All the people in these provinces had to pay taxes, and it was the responsibility of the satrap to see to it that the king got the money he had coming to him from the tax revenue that had been received.

One day the king decided to have the satraps give an account of the money that was owed him, and so the satraps were brought before him. One satrap owed the king 10,000 talents.

Let me give you an idea of just how much money that is. If a person worked one day he would receive a denarius. It took 6,000 denarii to make one talent. Therefore, a person would have to work 6,000 days to make one talent. This satrap owed the king 10,000 talents. Thus, this satrap owed the king 60,000,000 days of wages. However, this satrap didn't have the money. Therefore, the king commanded that this satrap, along with his wife and children, were to be sold into slavery, and that all his possessions were to be sold, and that all the money received from these transactions should be put towards the payment of the debt.

When the satrap heard this, he prostrated himself before the king, and asked the king to delay the time of payment, and promised the king that if he would do it, he would pay all the debt. But the King did something even better for him. He forgave the debt! He treated him just as though the debt had never been incurred!