



Pamagat: “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” [Petition #5]

Bible Text: Matt. 6:12 “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

Pagsasalin: At patawarin mo kami sa aming mga utang, gaya rin namin na nagpapatawad sa mga may utang sa amin.

Panimula:

1. The word “and” links the need for forgiveness from sins as a daily necessity.
2. Salvation is eternal, but sanctification is progressive.
3. Without daily cleansing from sins we will miss out on:
 - A. Spiritual progress.
 - B. Answer to prayers.
 - C. Usefulness in the Lord’s service.
 - D. Daily fellowship or walk with the Lord.
 - E. Loss of calm and courtesy when handling problems.

I. Word Definitions:

- A. Forgive – “to send away” not just the guilt and shame but the very act of sin.
- B. Debts – “something owed” – we owe God everything: our worship, our love, our service, our holiness.
 - Debts here are put for sin in Lk. 11:4
 - Matt. 6:14 puts it as “trespasses.”

II. The Need and Use of Repentance:

- A. Seek God for wisdom concerning your sins. (James 1:5)
- B. Meditate on the Lord’s holiness. (Isa. 6:1-5) – Remember, the Model Prayers did not begin with repentance and forgiveness.
- C. Take time for self-examination. (Ps. 32:5; 1 Cor. 11:31)
- D. Repent regardless of your emotions.
- E. Be thankful for God’s provision of forgiveness. (1 Jn. 1:9)

III. Some Thoughts Concerning Forgiveness:

- A. We cannot forgive sins that are committed against God. We cannot circumvent the Lord.
- B. We can forgive sins that are committed against us, even when the offender shows no visible sign of repentance – this is in the case of a minor offence. We can overlook faults and failures. (Lk. 17:3)
- C. We must stand ready to forgive. (Eph. 4:32) Unforgiveness and sins can hinder prayer. (1 Tim. 2:8)
- D. We must ask God for daily forgiveness. Here we keep short sin-accounts against God.

Katapusan:

1. Daily private prayers are the “secret” of the Christian’s daily victory.
2. Why some Christians excel in the faith, and others find little or no progress spiritually, the difference is prayer.
3. Little prayer, little holiness, and little power; Much prayer, much holiness, and much power.
4. Thank God that He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.