

THE PARABLES

The Unmerciful Servant



by Mary Berendes ❧ illustrated by Robert Squier

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The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35



RETOLD BY MARY BERENDES • ILLUSTRATED BY ROBERT SQUIER



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The parables of the Bible are simple, easy-to-remember stories that Jesus told. Even though the stories are simple, they have deeper meanings.

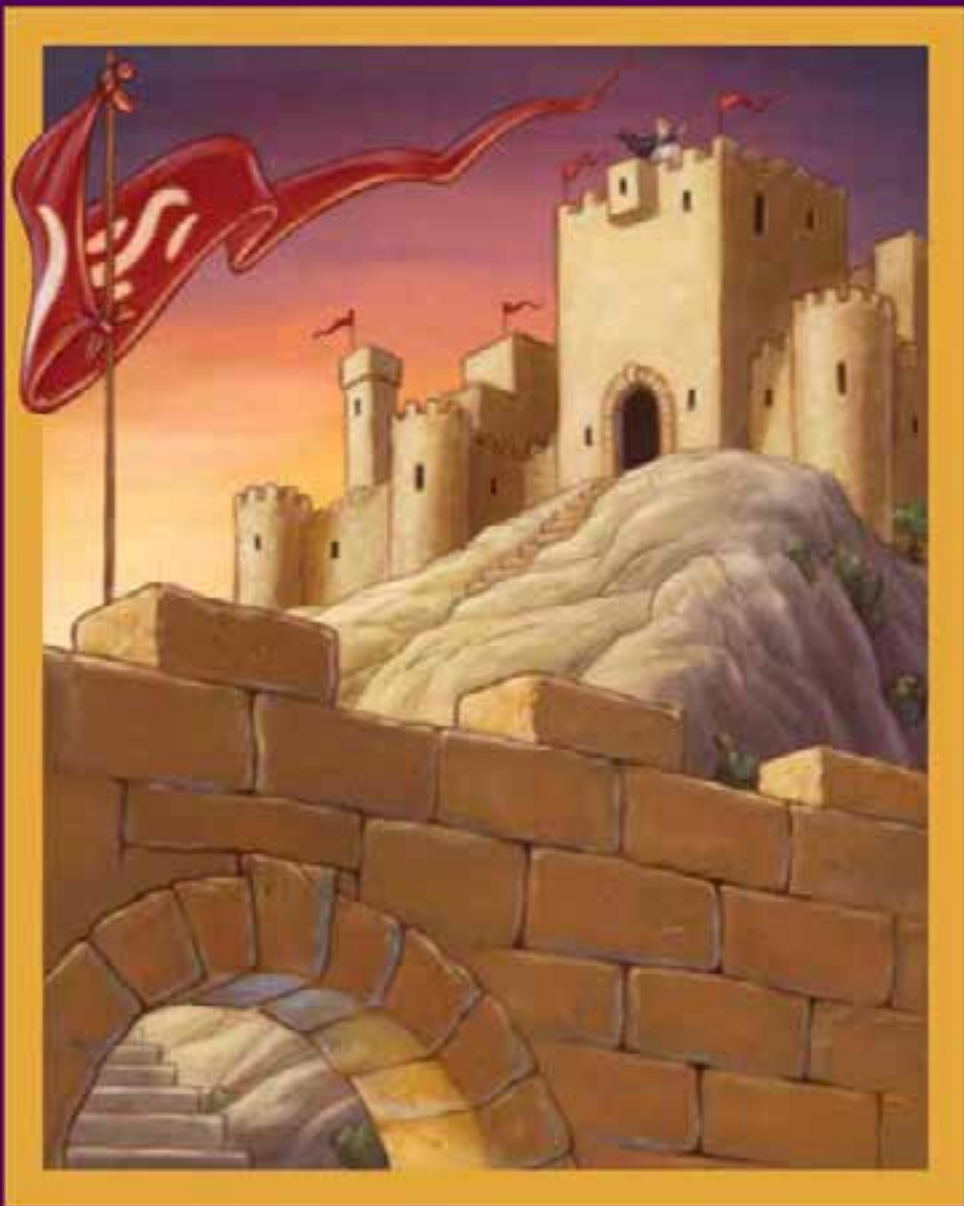
J

esus told his friends
this story:



There once was a rich king.
The king's servants owed
him money.





The king decided to have his servants settle their accounts. Many of the servants quickly paid their debts. But one servant owed one thousand coins.





The servant could not pay,
and the king became angry.
The king ordered that the
servant and his family were
to be sold!

The servant fell to his knees
and cried. “Please, great king.
Have patience! I will pay you
everything,” he begged.



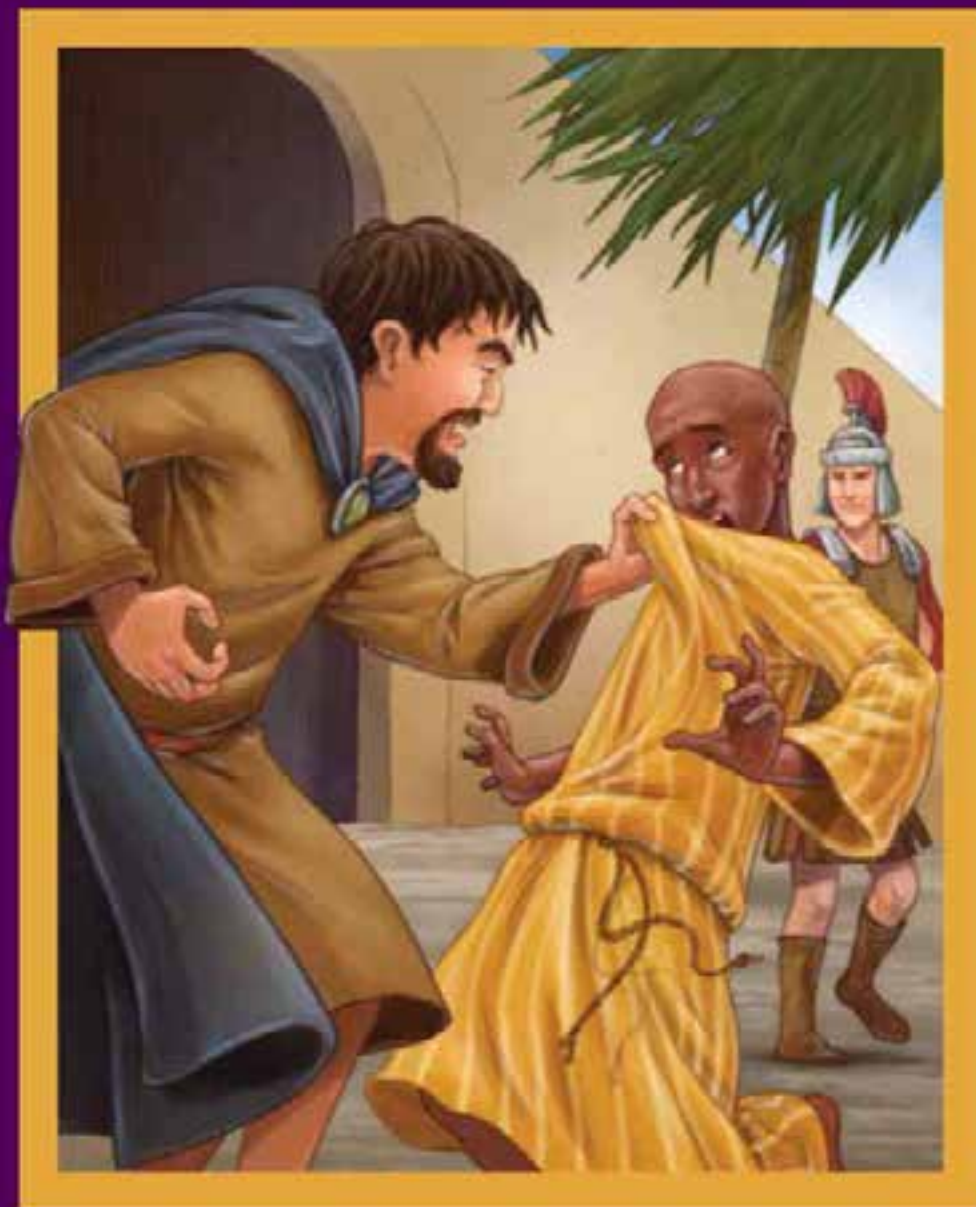
The king felt sorry for the servant. He decided to be patient and let the servant slowly pay off his debt.





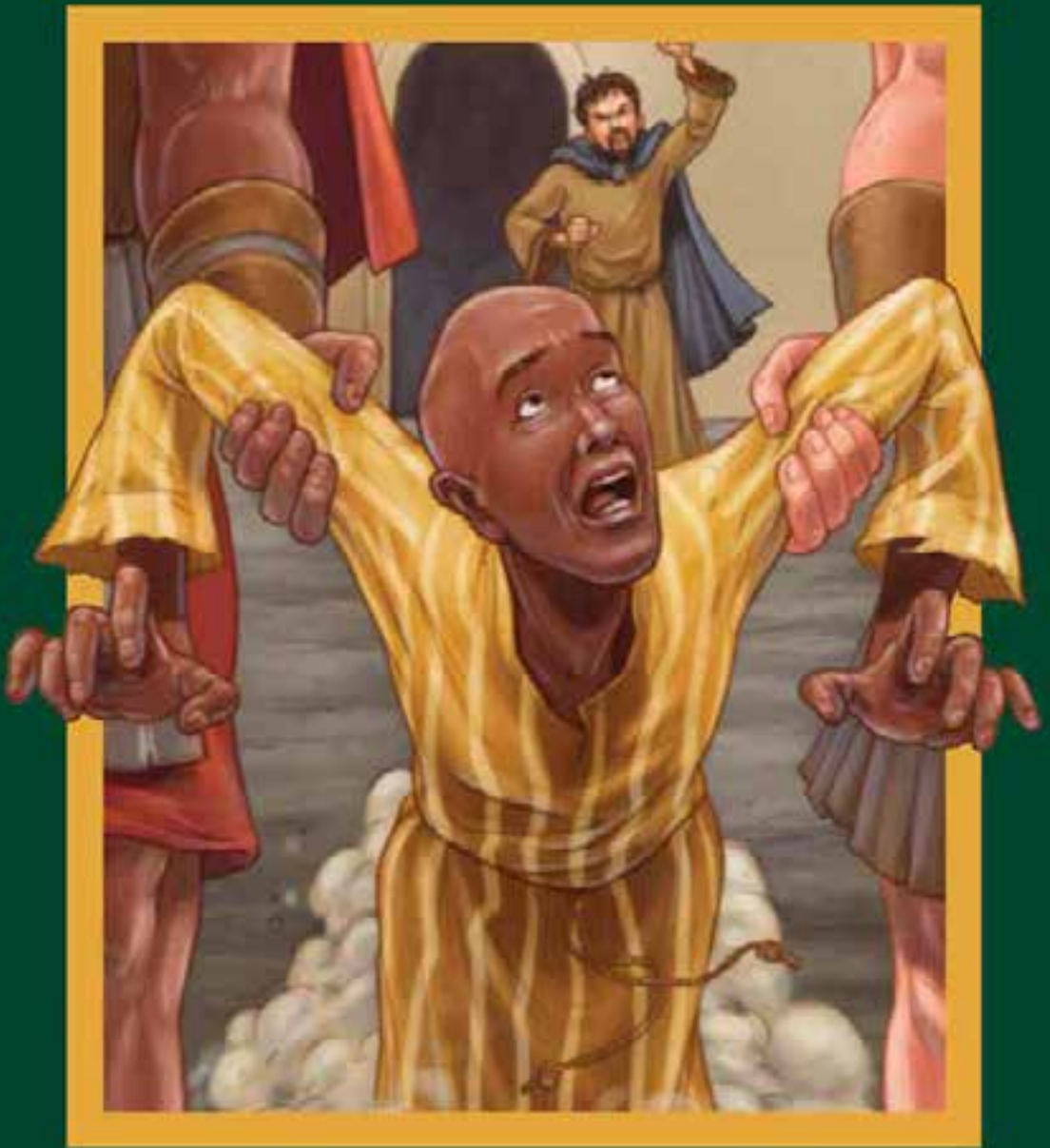
The servant thanked the king and left the room. As he passed the gate, he saw a man that owed him money. The servant grabbed the man and shook him. “Pay me what you owe!” he yelled.





The man could not pay his debt to the servant. “Please, have patience!” the man cried. But the servant was not patient. He had the man thrown in jail.





The king soon heard what had happened. He called the servant before him and said, “You wicked servant! I forgave you and showed you patience. Yet you did not do the same to others! I shall now throw you in jail until you can pay your debt to me.”