

What is God Like?"

July 21, 2019

Matthew 18:21-35

"Aslan, Aslan. Dear Aslan," sobbed Lucy. "At last."
The great beast rolled over on his side so that Lucy fell, half sitting and half lying between his front paws. He bent forward and just touched her nose with his tongue. His warm breath came all around her. She gazed up into the large wise face.
"Welcome, child," he said.
"Aslan," said Lucy, "You're bigger."
"That's because you are older, little one," answered he.
"Not because you are?"
"I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger." C.S. Lewis. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.

I. God is Just and keeps good Records.

- A. For the king to settle his account the record had to be produced.
- B. Many people think that God has a poor memory and just forgets the bad things we've done.
- C. What is hard for us to understand is that we are capable of much evil and we are guilty.

II. God is Merciful and Quick to Forgive.

- A. The servant doesn't ask for but receives forgiveness.
- B. Surprise, Surprise. God forgives him of his entire debt. Not because he prayed the right prayer, but he met the right condition. That is brokenness.
- C. That's not fair! Nope, never is! He has nothing to offer. God requires nothing of him.

III. God is Gracious and is Good to all!

- A. God allows us to misuse His grace.
- B. A.J. Gardner in his biography of Andrew Carnegie said the philanthropist had a habit of giving pipe organs to churches. In his lifetime, he had given 7,689 to individual churches. But there are two Andrew Carnegies — one a business man who is cold, ruthless, calloused, and the other a philanthropist who is kind and giving.
- C. He loves you enough to allow you to do wrong, but He loves you too much to let you get by with it.