



THE FREEDOM OF FORGIVENESS

“Be kind and compassionate to one another,
forgiving each other, just as in Christ God
forgave you.”

-Ephesians 4:32 NIV



CONSIDER

I. THE COMMAND

II. THE EXAMPLE

III. THE RESULT



TO "FORGIVE" =

"to let go" or "to loose"



REMEMBER THE OLD BUMPER
STICKER ...

GOD LOVES YOU!

A photograph of a vast, calm ocean under a deep blue sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, colorful glow that transitions from yellow to green to blue, resembling a rainbow. The water is dark blue with gentle ripples. The text is overlaid on the image.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ONE?

GOD LOVES YOU,
AND I'M TRYING!




The story of The Prodigal Son is
really the story of The Forgiving
Father



Consider the contrast in Matthew

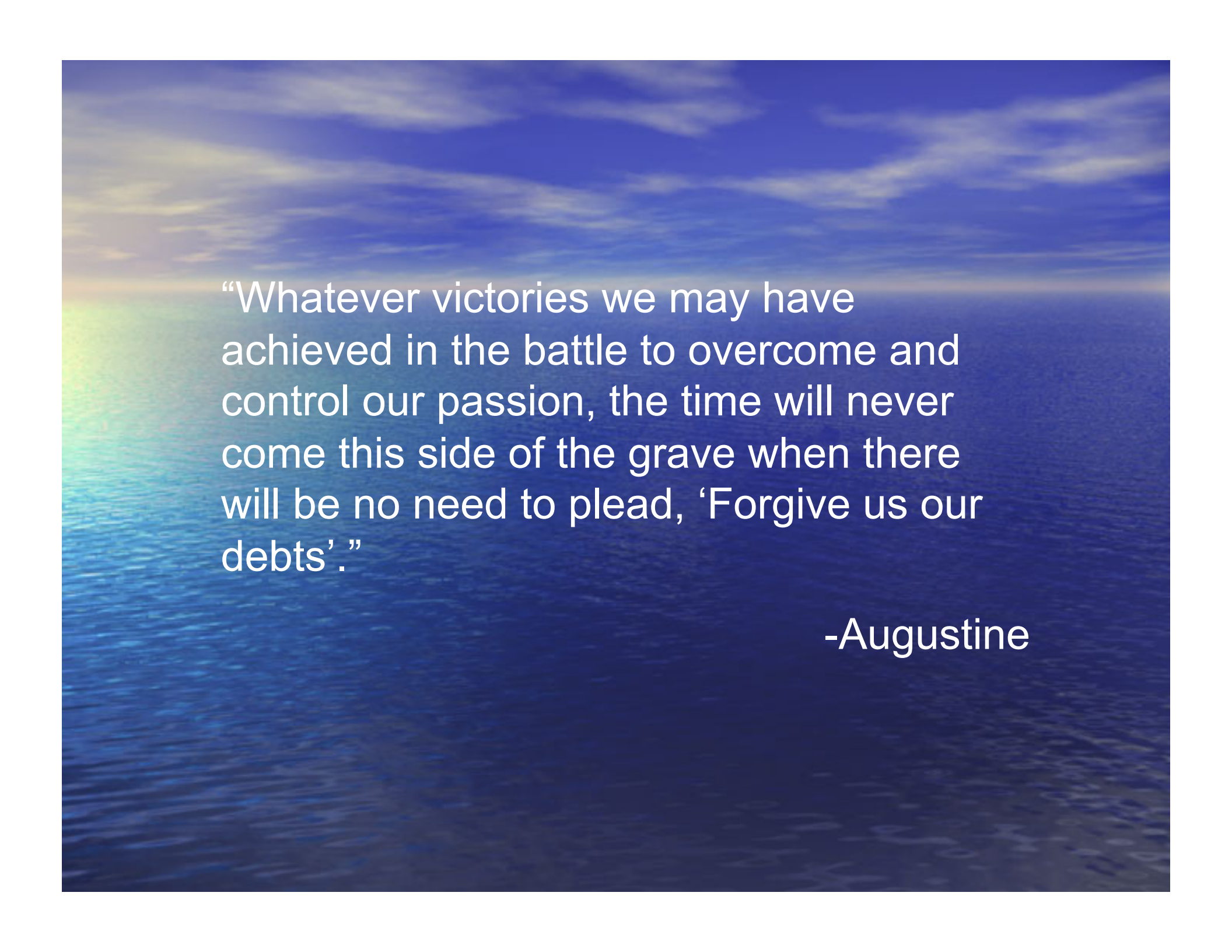
18:21-35

A \$10,000,000 debt vs. a \$20 debt



“Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you”.

-Colossians 3:13

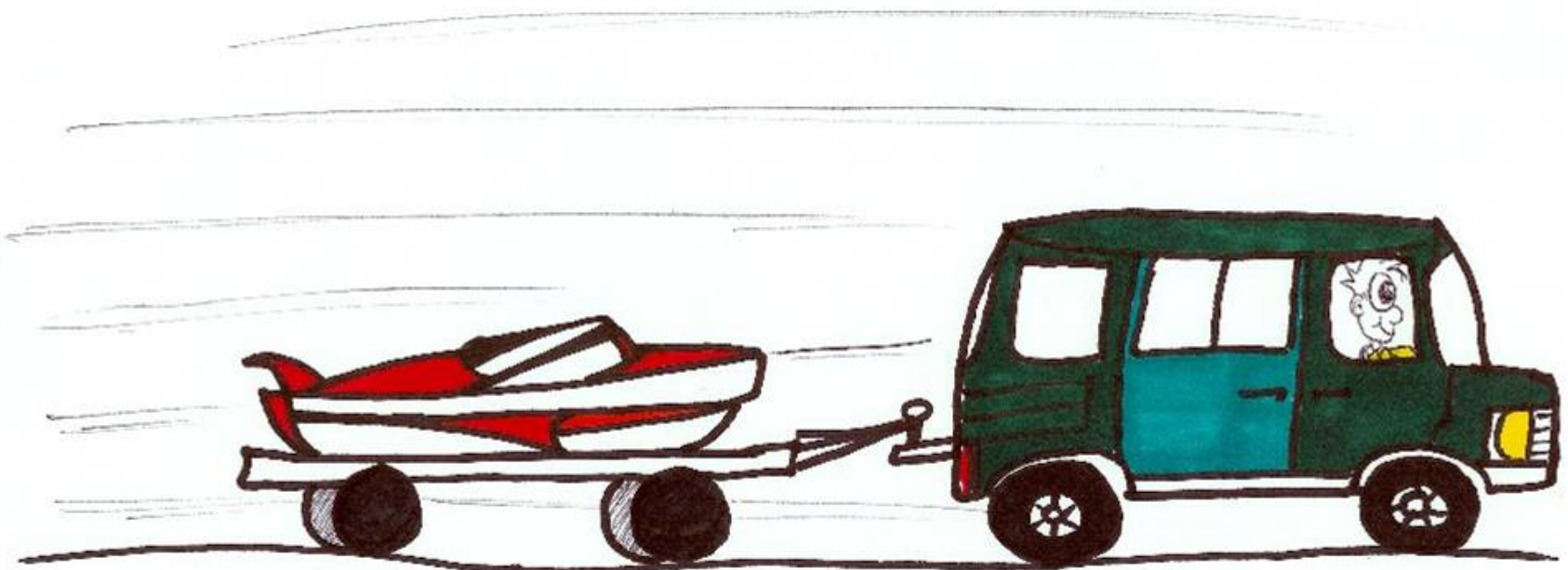


“Whatever victories we may have achieved in the battle to overcome and control our passion, the time will never come this side of the grave when there will be no need to plead, ‘Forgive us our debts’.”

-Augustine









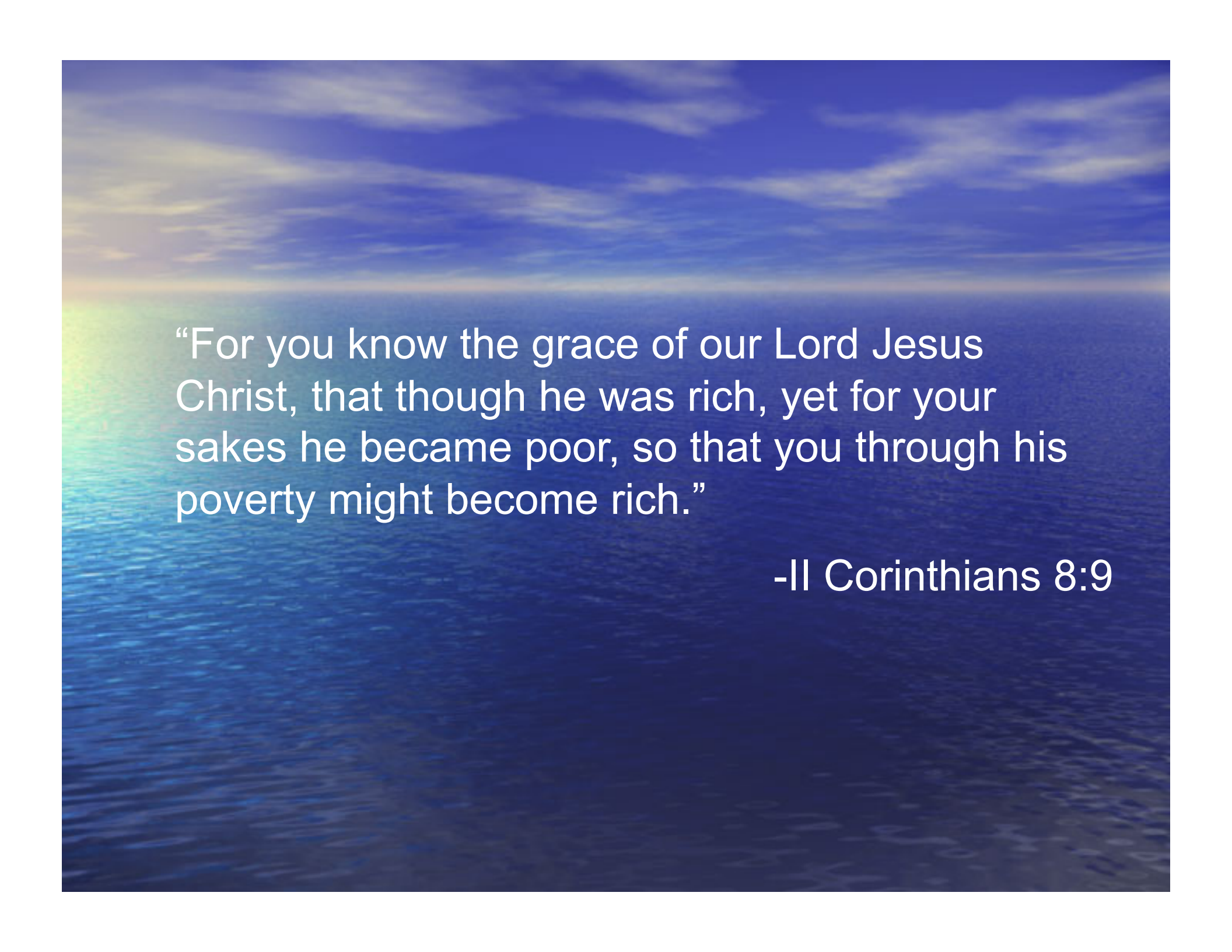






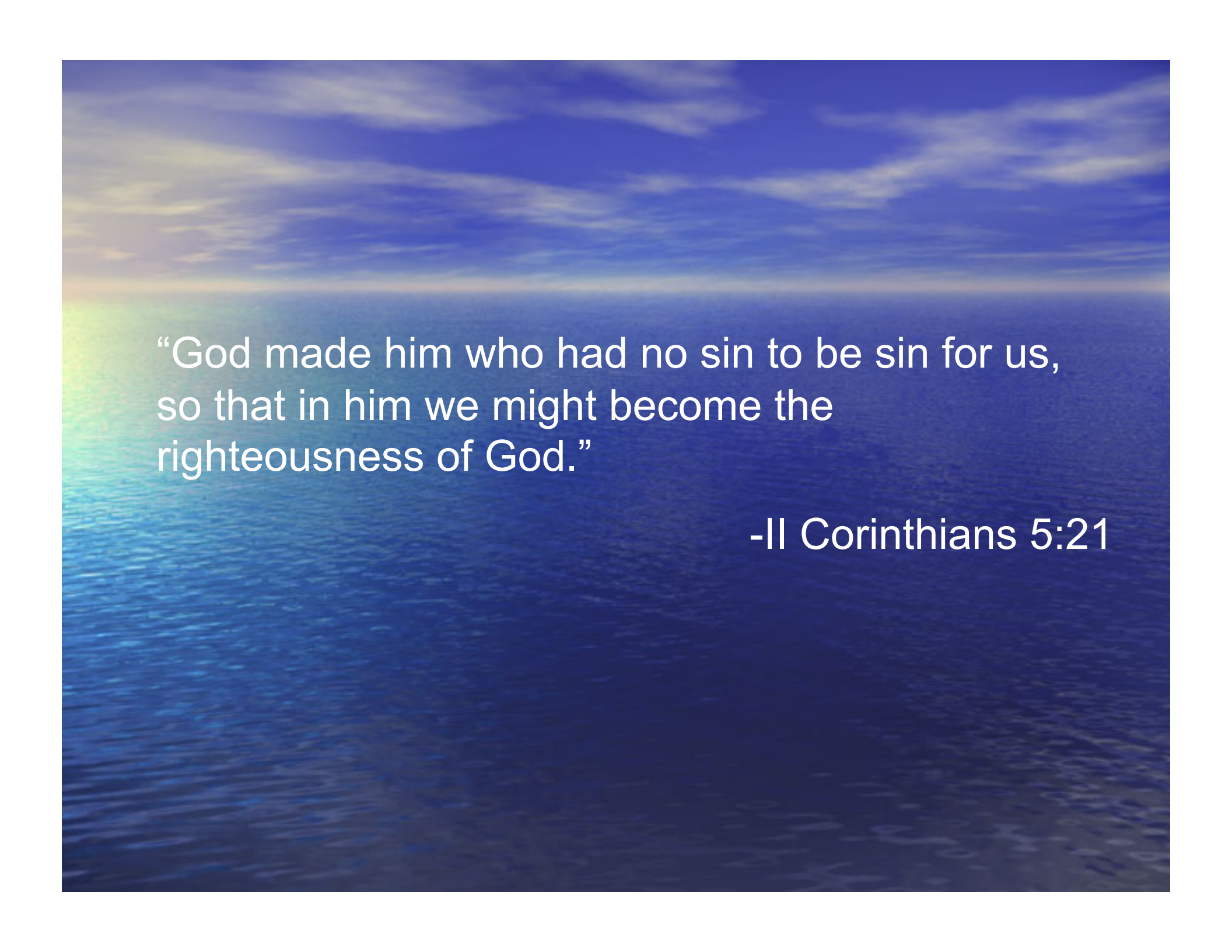
II. THE EXAMPLE –

- THE LORD JESUS CHRIST



“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”

-II Corinthians 8:9



“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us,
so that in him we might become the
righteousness of God.”

-II Corinthians 5:21




FORGIVEN!

-Psalm 103



AN OLD HYMN

“My sin, Oh the bliss of this glorious thought
– My sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed
to the cross and I bear it no more. Praise the
Lord, Oh My Soul!”



BIBLE EXAMPLES OF GOOD FORGIVERS

A. Joseph of Egypt

B. David

C. Ruth

EXAMPLES TODAY

A. Dorothy Lininger

B. Christians In India

C. A Little Girl



III. THE BENEFITS OF FORGIVING OTHERS



FORGIVENESS!

“For if you forgive others their
trespasses, your father in heaven will
forgive you”

- Jesus

A wide-angle photograph of a calm ocean under a vast, deep blue sky. The horizon is visible in the middle ground, with a soft glow of light from the sun, which is partially obscured by a faint rainbow on the left side. The water's surface is covered in gentle ripples, reflecting the blue of the sky. The overall mood is peaceful and expansive.

A CLEAR CONSCIENCE



FREEDOM

A closing Story



Will you, by God's Power

“.....Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other.....”

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