

In the three synoptic Gospels, we see three different uses of the measure that we mete, which is the same measure that we will receive from applying to judgment, what we hear, and how we give.

Matthew– the judgment you place on others will come back to you.

For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again, Matthew 7:7.

Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you shall be forgiven, Luke 6:37.

Mark– what we hear and take in will guide our thoughts and what we receive.

And He said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given, Mark 4:24.

Luke– how we give (generously or stingily) is how we shall in turn receive.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal, it shall be measured to you again, Luke 6:38.

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In the parable of [The Servants Entrusted with the Master's Money](#), Matthew 25:14-30 & Luke 19:12-27. After the Master had taken account of His servants and rewarded those who had made a profit, saying, “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

The Master then called in the servant who had done nothing with the talent given to him. In both gospel accounts, this unproductive servant did nothing with the money given to him and called the Master a hard man and a thief. The Master does not defend Himself or try to correct the servant but rather says to the servant, “I will judge you out of your own mouth, you wicked servant!” This did not work out well for the unproductive servant, in Matthew’s he was thrown into outer darkness, and in Luke’s account this servant was slain before the Master.

Thus, we see the concept of us reaping a harvest of even the thoughts that we have and believe in our heart. We see this in various scriptures and also in parables; God will not infringe upon man's free-will. “For, as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.”

In the healing of the ten lepers, crying out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” in [Luke 17:11-19](#).

We see the principle that God will at times meet us as to what we believe if our beliefs are righteous and do not violate His Word. For their healing came according to their religious beliefs.

These men were standing far off, as was required by the law of the OT. As they cried out to Jesus to “have mercy on them,” Jesus answered them, saying: “Go, show yourselves to the priests.”

Jesus did not, in this case, attempt to teach them that they only needed to have faith in Him; He worked through their current belief system. God will not infringe upon man's free-will.

The rest of the account is that as the men went, they were cleansed; however, one man, a non-Jew, when he saw that he was healed, turned back and worshiped Jesus. This man, I believe, was not only healed but also was made whole, whereas the other nine men were only healed. We are blessed and also limited according to what we currently believe and are able to receive.

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It's all a matter of the heart,  
and that's also how God responds to us.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life, [Proverbs 4:23](#).

Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed on *Thee*: because he trusts in Thee, [Isaiah 26:3](#).

God responds to us according to what we carry in our heart. We can be blessed or limited by what we currently believe in our hearts.

Thus, our heart determines what we can or cannot receive from God; therefore, make it a priority to keep your heart established and steadfast in God's Word and His love for us. And having this assurance will naturally lead to a greater Christian walk.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus, [Philippians 4:7](#).

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God, [Ephesians 3:19](#).

### A prayer to the Father:

Father in heaven, I come before You to honor, exalt, glorify, and magnify Your name. You greatly love Your people, and by Your mighty hand You have always protected, provided for, and led Your people, beginning with the exodus from Egypt.

We thank You for Your Son Jesus, who came to bring redemption to all of mankind and to bring us back into right relationship with God the Father, and that now as New Testament believers we can come to the throne room of grace boldly, **Hebrews 4:16**.

Jesus, we thank You that even as we fall along the way, we can repent, knowing that our sins are remitted and covered by the blood and that through our Lord Jesus Christ we can still be proclaimed to be righteous within Christ.

I thank You, Father God, for Your long-suffering, for You respond in like manner to our hearts' condition with much patience as we grow, mature, and learn Your kingdom's ways.

Thus, we pray a prayer patterned after the one in Ephesians; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto us the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: That the eyes of our understanding may be enlightened, knowing our calling and the riches of His glory in the inheritance in the saints and the greatness of His power to all who believe.

**Amen.**

# God's ways are Reciprocal

For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart *is* not with thee. , **Proverbs 23:7**.

The examples most of us think about is forgiveness; we can see this in the below scripture passage and in the below parable.

<sup>14</sup> For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: <sup>15</sup> But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses, **Matthew 6:14, 15**.

This same principle is also seen in the parable of the **Forgiving Master and the Wicked Servant**, **Matthew 18:23-35**.

And without applying the concept of “as a man thinks in his heart, so is he,” **Proverbs 23:7** to this, we come to some kind of reasoning that God is governing over us, dictating laws to us, and will respond in accordance to our disobedience.

However, when we realize that God's ways are reciprocal according to what we choose to keep in our hearts, and that He is not doing this “tit-for-tat” out of vengeance. We will then start viewing several scriptural teachings in a much different light. Realizing that God's response to us is dependent on what we choose to keep and meditate on in our heart.

Realizing this will also give us new insight on God's love and His goodness, and we will no longer see Him as a tally-keeper and a controlling overseer over our lives.

God's ways being reciprocal does not only apply to forgiveness and issues of our heart. We also see this concept applied to things we would consider to be external, such as sowing and reaping, what we hear and meditate on, etc.

