TENTH

Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. - Matthew 21:31

Sinners and prostitutes will enter before us into the kingdom of God because they repented first

We find it hard to forgive 100 pence, when the King forgave us 10,000.

Who finds these words difficult to accept? It is those who have been in the church a long time, faithful believers who have been faithful to the church, but not necessarily to Jesus.

Why do they not like these words? When Jesus accepted the offering of the sinner woman, why did those around her get upset? Jesus accepted her and her offering because she repented with tears and wanted to be at His feet.

Those who find it difficult to repent will not necessarily be found in the kingdom of God. But Sinners and Prostitutes, those at the bottom of the social order; from this group of people, there will be some who will repent and turn from their sinful lifestyles, even at the last minute when they are given an opportunity to do so.

How can the Lord accept worst kind of people before us, who have been going to church since our childhood? Those who have got used to the traditional practices of Christianity the religion, find it difficult to repent and forgive; not realising that repentance and forgiveness are the very essence of Christianity, the way of life.

Jesus asked us to forgive one another; He gave His own life in order that God will forgive our lifetime of sins; but we find it difficult to forgive our brethren of one or a few sins.