

Introduction and important background information the Golden Rule

Worldly philosophy and religion have their ethics...they are all humanistic...motivated by self interest...

**I. The Golden Rule is a Command—Comprehensive in its Scope—Emphatic in its Appeal****A. It has Qualifications** We should not do to others whatever they want...

- Observations:**
1. *The principle is comprehensive...*
  2. *All men are accountable...*
  3. *Jesus is addressing His disciples...*

**B. What Do We Want from Others?**

1. The natural man wants his sin confirmed and helped...
2. The Christian has different desires... *Matthew 6:33*
3. Jesus has taught us what is righteous...

- Lessons:**
1. Citizens of the Kingdom are under the rule of grace...their lives are different...they can love...*John 13:34-35*
  2. Our testimony is; "it is all of God..."
  3. Here is a sure rule to live by, *Galatians 6:1-2; Philippians 2:4-5*

**C. Some People Turn this Rule Upside Down and they say...**

1. Do unto others...
2. Do unto others...

**Lessons:** The rule of the Kingdom is "Whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them..."

1. It is comprehensive...
2. It is the tenor of the Christian life...
3. It is emphatic

- Observations:**
1. Christian love is active *Exodus 23:4-5; Deuteronomy 15:7-8*
  2. Christian love extends to our thoughts... *Proverbs 24:17*

**II. The Golden Rule is a Summary of the Whole Moral Law as it Relates to Man...****A. It Underscores the entire central theme of the Sermon on the Mount...****B. Jesus says "...it is the Law and the Prophets."**

1. The Law...
2. The Prophets...
3. All of Scripture *II Timothy 3:16*

- Lessons:**
1. *The practical application of what the Scriptures require of us in our relationships...*
  2. *The antidote to selfishness... I Corinthians 13:4-5*
  3. *We fall short...we need the grace of God in Christ...*