

Matthews Gospel "The Sermon On The Mount"
"The Golden Rule"
Matthew 7:12
Part 39

1. To Whom Is The Golden Rule Addressed?
2. Is The Golden Rule Unique?
3. Is The Golden Rule Achievable?

1. To Whom Is The Golden Rule Addressed?

Matthew 7:12

What Jesus was not saying:

- The Golden Rule is the Pathway to Salvation! Romans 3:28
- We are to follow The Golden Rule so others will treat us nice! Matthew 5:3-12
- Do unto others as they have done unto you! Matthew 5:43-48
- The Golden Rule is absolute? Matthew 6:22-23.
- The Golden Rule was given to solve the worlds ills, and set up a new order! 2 Timothy 3:1-9
- The Golden Rule is Universal, Given for all Men! Matthew 5:1-2

How should we apply this?

- We should put ourselves in the other person's situation:
- Ask ourselves what would we want done to us in that situation?
- We should then do that for the other person.

The Immediate Context: Matthew 7:1-20 The Christian and Relationships.

Matthew 7:1-5

Matthew 7:6

Matthew 7:7-11

The Wider Context: Matthew 5:17

2. Is The Golden Rule Unique?

- Apocrypha – The book of Tobit 4:15 "Do not do to anyone what you yourself would hate,"
- Confucius - "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others"
- Rabbi Hillel - "What is hateful to yourself, do not do to others."

The Silver Rule – (Negative) Do not do to others, what is hateful to you.

The Golden Rule – (Positive) Do to others what you wish they would do to you, Do – The sayings of Jesus tell us what we ought to do!

"The Golden Rule"- In England the expression for the word "rule" - is "a 12 inch measuring stick," it is called a "Straightedge."

Transferred over to the phrase "The Golden Rule," would read "The Golden Straightedge!"

Romans 3:20

J.B. Phillips Romans 3:20 "No man can justify himself before God by a perfect performance of the Law's demands – indeed it is the straightedge of the Law that shows how crooked we are."

3. Is The Golden Rule Achievable?

Matthew 5:17

Galatians 5:14

Matthew 22:37-40

J.B Phillips - "Treat other people exactly as you would like to be treated by them - this is the essence of all true religion."

Living Bible - "Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the teaching of the Laws of Moses in a nutshell."

Good News Bible - "Do for others what you want them to do for you; this is the meaning of the Law of Moses and of the teachings of the prophets."

The New English Bible - "Always treat others as you would like them to treat you: that is the Law and the prophets."

The James Moffatt Translation - "Well then, whatever you would have men do to you, do just the same to them; that is the meaning of the Law; and the prophets."

Jesus gave instruction as to how to practice "The Golden Rule!"

Beatitudes 1-4 Our Response to God (Poor, Mourn, Gentle, Hunger)

Beatitudes 5-8 Our Response to Man (Merciful, Pure, Peace Maker, Persecuted)

Jesus gave 6 illustrations of Kingdom Righteousness.

1. Christian and Anger – Matthew 5:21-26
2. Christian and Sex – Matthew 5:27-30
3. Christian and Divorce – Matthew 5:31-32
4. Christian & Sincere Speech – Matthew 5:33-37
5. Christian and Revenge – Matthew 5:38-42
6. Christian and Love – Matthew 5:43-48

Romans 8:5-8

Flesh – is referring not to our physical bodies but our natural human nature, “our sinful nature that is inherent to all human beings. The earthly nature of man apart from divine influence, and therefore prone to sin and opposed to God.”

Exodus 23:1-9

- New nature gives a new Appetite:
- New Behavior:
- New Environment:
- New Associations:

Application:

- Need to see God, Isaiah 6:1-4 must be born again
- See self as a sinner, Isaiah 6:5 Know that you can't do it.
- Ask God to weed out self,
- look at others differently,
- Ask God to fill us with His Spirit.