

May 22. Our Duty to Others

by J.R. Miller

Transcript

"So in everything, do unto others â€" what you would have them do unto you." Matthew 7:12

This is a wonderfully comprehensive rule of action! It bids us to consider the interests of others â€" as well as our own. It bids us to set our neighbor alongside of ourselves, and think of him as having the same rights as we have, and requiring from us the same treatment that we give to ourselves. It gives us a standard by which to test all our motives and all our conduct which bears on others. We are at once in thought, to change places with the person toward whom duty is to be determined, and ask, "if he were where I am, and I were where He is â€" how should I want him to treat me in this case?"

The application of this Golden Rule would instantly put a stop to all rash, hasty actions; for it commands us to consider our neighbor and question our own heart before doing anything. It would slay all selfishness; for it compels us to regard our neighbors interests as precisely equal to our own. It would lead us to honor others; for it puts us and them on the same platform.

The application of this Golden Rule would put a stop to all injustice and wrong; for none of us would do injustice or wrong to ourselves â€" and we are to treat our neighbor as if he were ourselves. It would lead us to seek the highest good of all other men, even the lowliest; for we surely want all men to seek our good. The thorough applying of this Golden Rule would end all conflict between capital and labor; for it would give the employer a deep, loving interest in the men he employs, and lead him to think of their good in all ways. It would also give to every employee a desire for the prosperity of his employer and an interest in his business.

The application of this Golden Rule would end all strife in families, in communities, among nations. The perfect working of this rule everywhere would make Heaven; for the will of God would then "be done on earth, as it is in Heaven."

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