

## The "Golden Rule" or the "Iron Rule"

Jesus teaches man the "Golden Rule" in the "Sermon on the Mount." It is written, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets" (Matt. 7:12). In this verse, Jesus commands all to treat mankind with a proper moral conduct. Treat your fellow man in a way you desire to be treated. It is an essential element of Christianity. Man has developed his own rule that many are living by today. It is called the "Iron Rule." It teaches man should do unto others before they do unto you. The "Iron Rule" is the standard for too many people. It is selfishness and greed exhibiting itself in blatant disrespect for the Lord and the "Golden Rule."

During most natural disasters one of the first problems law enforcement officers must deal with are looters. These are people without any moral fiber who are eager to steal from the weak and suffering members of society. Once the looters are forced back and people begin to rebuild their lives, another pack of vultures emerge on the scene who are equally bankrupt morally. People who are bent on fraud, work at schemes and scams to rob the wounded. Society condemns such activity and rightly so; this evil behavior is easily seen as morally corrupt.

There are other activities that are just as morally wrong that many are willing to close their eyes so they cannot see and stop their ears so they cannot hear. A movie star cheats on his spouse and they are excused from such immoral behavior. A teenager steals music off the internet and no one is alarmed. A popular sports hero uses steroids so he can reach the top of his game and that is considered as normal. Do not all of these practice the "Iron Rule?" People who are governed by selfishness and not righteousness.

Jesus desires all to practice the "Golden Rule." That means no cheating, stealing, or illegal drugs of any kind. There is a moral standard for man to live up to and follow. Changing values of many Americans have convinced multitudes that it is alright to take advantage of the weak, to make a profit from the suffering, and acceptable to cheat just to get ahead. However, the Lord teaches differently. How about you?

- Paul Vaughn, Centerville, TN (via Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL)

### People With Character

They walk with integrity.

They do what is right.

They tell the truth.

They don't gossip.

They don't mistreat people.

They side with those who are right.

They keep their word.

They lend money to those in need without interest.

They don't take advantage of people for financial gain.

- Adapted from the Psalms. Compiled by Andrew Stanley  
from "A Diamond In The Rough" -

*Indifference to evil is a great evil.*

## News & Notes

CONFESSIONS: Daniel & Cindy Mehlmauer.

SYMPATHY: To David McKittrick and family at the passing of his mother, Edna McKittrick. May God comfort this family.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Ladies are encouraged to participate to help make stuffed bears for kids.

MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLASSES: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. All men are urged to attend this class.

STUDY ON REVELATION: Each Wednesday at the 7:00 p.m. Bible study hour.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the Brown's home.

AREA-WIDE MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Jan. 14th, 8:30 a.m. at the Columbiana, OH Church of Christ.

NURSING HOME DEVOTIONAL: Rescheduled for next Saturday, Jan. 14th, 2:30 p.m. at Fox.

PANTRY: Vegetable soup.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Imogene Aebi, wife of Charles who filled-in several times during our pulpit vacancy, will undergo radiation treatments for five weeks. Her address: 2660 Layman Rd., Vincent, OH 45784. Irvin & Barbara Gainer in Texas (Jenny Rhodes' parents), and Tasha Hall Beatty (member at Southern Hills). She is to have very serious surgery on Jan. 26th for recurring cancer.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Eva Stefl, Hunter Thompson (Andrew & Sarah Malcomson's son), Mae McMahan, Jim Beagle, Doris Dunham, Betty Henthorne. Ruth Wright (Sharon Williams' sister) 1211 Mound St., Salem, OH 44460. CROSSROADS: Jim Mick, 13280 Echo Dell Road, East Liverpool, OH 43920. CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE: Sarah Miller & Ella Beagle. WORTHINGTON NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER: Margie Logston, 2675 - 36th St., P.O. Box 4010, Parkersburg, WV 26104.

### The Center of History

Every individual who considers Jesus Christ makes some judgment about Him. French philosopher and historian Ernest Renan said, "All history is incomprehensible without Christ." Kenneth Scott Latourette, former chairman of the department of religion at Yale Graduate School, wrote, "The short life of Jesus has been the most influential ever lived. Through Him millions have been transformed and have begun to live the life which He exemplified. Gauged by the consequences which have followed, the birth, life, and death and resurrection of Jesus have been the most important events in the history of man."

- Hadden W. Robinson -

### It Wasn't Too Late!

LAKE CHARLES, LA — Sam Harrison was born on a farm in rural West Virginia in 1916.

More than 100 years later, he was reborn in a baptismal pool in the southwest corner of Louisiana.

On a recent Sunday, the Enterprise Boulevard Church of Christ celebrated Harrison's decision to follow Jesus. As preaching minister Jason Clark put it, Harrison became "one of the world's oldest newborns."

- Christian Chronicle, Dec., 2016 -

**Obedience Is Faith In Action**