

Lesson VIII. THE GOLDEN RULE—TEMPERANCE LESSON February 20, 1910

Matthew 7 : 1-12—Memory Verses, 7, 8.

Golden Text—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.—Matthew 7 : 12.



1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged : and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye ?

4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye ; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye ?

5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye ; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

7 Ask, and it shall be given you ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you :

8 For every one that asketh receiveth ; and he that seeketh findeth ; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone ?

10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent ?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him ?

12 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.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Jesus went on to say that His disciples should not judge others harshly, or blame others too severely for their faults. "For you, too", Jesus reminded them, "have yourselves often done wrong. And, as you judge others, so they will judge you. If you are hard on their faults, they will be hard on yours. But if, when you see anything wrong in them, you are kind and forgiving and charitable towards them, they will be the same towards you. At the last day, too, if you have judged others severely, God will judge you severely. But if you have been lenient with others, He will be lenient with you." "For with what measure ye mete", said Jesus, "it shall be measured to you again."

"And why should you point out the small faults in your brother or neighbor", said Jesus, "when you may have been guilty of a far greater fault yourself ? That is like

one who should try to take a speck of dust out of another's eye, while a log, all the time, is in his own eye." "But", said Jesus also, "there are some who will not let you treat them kindly, but will drive you away with scorn and abuse. Have nothing to do with such people, for they are like dogs and swine, which trample precious gifts under their feet and seek to destroy the giver."

And because His disciples would need help to do all He had told them, Jesus said they must ask God for it. "For", He said, "every one that asks shall receive. An earthly father would not give a stone to his son instead of bread ; nor a serpent instead of a fish ; nor a poisonous scorpion instead of an egg. And God is better and kinder than any earthly father, so He will give His children all things that are good for them." And then Jesus gave His disciples a Golden Rule to guide them. He said, "Whatsoever ye