

# Daily Devotional by Dr. Gloria P. Holmes

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## "Gateway to God's Glory in the Midst of the Coronavirus Pandemic"

### "THE GOLDEN RULE"

*"So, in everything, do to others what you would have them do unto you; for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."*

St. Matthew 7:12

We are living through some turbulent times. As many have observed, we do not only have a coronavirus pandemic occurring, but also a pandemic of racism, injustice, and poverty. Is there a word from the LORD on the appropriate response of Christians? Of course, there is! The Holy Bible, which is the standard by which we live, teaches that God loves unity and diversity. Most people, whether they are believers or not, have heard of **"The Golden Rule"**, our scripture for today. This lesson is taught in Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount." I have read that all major religions have a similar teaching. If we think deeply about this scripture, we recognize that our world would operate almost perfectly if each one of us treated other people the way we wanted to be treated. This scripture is excellent for helping us choose what to do when faced with difficult decisions. As we reflect on the issues of justice, equality, and poverty, let us consider God's perspective. In the beginning, God made Adam and Eve and they were equally valued. **"The man said, this is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of man."** (Genesis 2:23) Man and woman are different but equal in God's sight. *No gender discrimination allowed!* When Peter thought Jews were better than Gentiles, the LORD gave him a revelation. **"Then Peter began to speak; I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism, but accepts from every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right."** (Acts 10: 34-35) The King James Version states: **"God is no respecter of persons."** No racism allowed! **"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."** (John 3:16) Paul taught: **"For the scripture saith, whosoever believes on Him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same LORD over all is rich unto all that call upon Him."** (Romans 10: 11-12). Yes, we serve a "whosoever" God. **"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."** (Galatians 3:28). No injustice is allowed based on socio-economic status, background, job title or political party! And the Apostle John gave us a glimpse into the future: **"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."** (Revelation 7:9-10)

Sisters and brothers, we are one in Christ Jesus and God still sits on the throne. Yes, we are thankful that the marchers and protestors we see, comprised of different genders, ethnicities, faith traditions and backgrounds, truly are just a reflection of the future glory which awaits us. There is no doubt about it; there will be unity and diversity because **"Black Lives Matter"** and all lives matter in the sight of God. Suppose everyone could grasp this truth that we are all equal in God's sight regardless of economic status, position, ethnicity, or gender. We each have personal biases and though we may fail at times, we must strive to implement the golden rule when we face various situations. *"So, in everything, do to others what you would have them do unto you; for this sums up the Law and the Prophets!"* A few words of a song I learned in elementary school come to mind: **"One world built on a firm foundation; one world built on love and peace."**

#### Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,  
You have taught me that you love and value all people. I ask you to touch the hearts and minds of those in positions of authority. Please help me to do unto others as I would have them do unto me. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

#### How will you respond to today's message?

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