

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

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In our examination of the different Volumes of The Sacred Law to be found on the Altars of Lodges in various Jurisdictions, we find a basic recurring thought, which, since the beginning of time, philosophers have been attempting to reduce to a single rule of life. Obviously there can be no capsule presentation of a universal principle. On the other hand, we find the majority of religious sects have one peculiar thing in common.

Here are a series of quotations taken from the sacred writings of various religions. They were a revelation and an eye opener to me.

HINDUISM:

"May I regard all things with the eye of a friend, with the eye of a friend do we regard one another."

CONFUCIANISM:

"He comes to ruin who says that others are not equal to himself."

SIKHISM:

"All are equal, the poor and the rich in God's design."

BUDDHISM:

"To one in whom love dwells, all men are Brothers."

MOHAMMEDANISM:

"No one of you is a believer until he desires for his Brother that which he desires for himself."

ZOROASTRIANISM

"That nature alone is good which refrains from doing unto another that whatsoever is not good for itself."

JEWISH TALMUD:

"What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. That is the entire law, all the rest is commentary."

SANSCRIT:

Written 200 years B.C. "This is the sum of all righteousness - deal with others as thou wouldst thyself be dealt by. Do nothing to thy neighbor which thou wouldst not have done to thee."

It becomes clear that stripped of their wrappings and peculiar dogmas, the inner essence of all religions is fundamentally the same. Here then is man's true master principle throughout the ages - our Golden Rule. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It is certainly the basis upon which the moral and spiritual development of the human race depends. Without a doubt it is synonymous with Freemasonry's principal dogma which is: "The Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God."

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