

October 22, 2023

Heaven's Code of Conduct

by George Slover

"Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7:12)

The Sermon on the Mount revealed in Matthew, chapters five through 7 has been called the Magna Charta of Christianity. In these chapters Jesus describes the essential character and conduct of those in his kingdom. Surely such marvelous principles must have been devised in the mind of God! Who would deny that if man would abide by it teachings that our world would be more peaceful?

Consider a quick summary of this great discourse. Jesus taught that true contentment is not found in what you possess or where you live, but in your character. (Mt.5:1-12) He says "don't get angry with your brother without a cause" for such is as bad as murder. (Mt.5:21-26) He teaches us not to have evil thoughts (Mt.5:27-30) and when you get married stay married (Mt.5:31,32). He instructs us to be trustworthy (Mt.5:33-37), not retaliate with evil for evil (Mt.5:38-42), and to love our enemies. (Mt.5:44-48)

In chapter 6 he teaches us to not be religious hypocrites (Mt.6:1-18) and to focus on heavenly treasures rather than earthly ones. (Mt.6:19-34) In chapter 7 we are told to be careful how we judge

others (Mt.7:1-5) and "whatever you would that men would do to you, do you even so to them." (Mt.7:12) Finally, he states that if you will follow these principles your life can have a solid foundation that is able weather the storms. (Mt.7:24-27)

I challenge anyone to find a better set of rules to by which to live! The secret to a fulfilled life is following heaven's code of conduct.

Israel's Teacher

By George Slover

Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? (John 3:10)

The above is a portion of a recorded conversation of Jesus with Nicodemus, a Jewish ruler. This man was a member of the Sanhedrin, and an official ruler of Israel. He was one who was to be well acquainted with Moses' law and an instructor of the people.

The question of Jesus is quite sobering. Jesus plainly reveals the ignorance of Nicodemus. Here was a man whose role was teacher in Israel who had missed simple truths of God's word. The Old Testament had plainly testified of the identity of the Messiah, yet many Jews

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Ladies' Class - Tuesday, October 24 at 10 a.m.

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

rejected him when he was in their very presence!

Would Jesus ask us the same question? Would he say to us, “You look in the Scripture, but you fail to understand my will”? We must lay aside all of the prejudices and meticulously examine his word that we might understand his precepts.

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jerry Richardson's lymphoma has returned and is undergoing chemo.

Dinah Williams continues to have mobility issues.

Don Simmons is still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times. **Alene** is having hip issues.

Lisa Mullen (Darrell's sister) is undergoing chemotherapy.

Vicki Stevens has cancer and is undergoing treatment.

Debbie McMurray is undergoing immunotherapy.

Mike McMurray had triple bypass surgery and is recovering at home.

Terry Behrns has been moved to rehab in Harker Heights.

Harold Hammons was taken to the ER Friday. No further details available when this bulletin was published.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making s application for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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