

"Notes on Romans 12:16"

1-Be of the same mind one toward another:-

1-This may be considered a general repetition of the command just given.

1-That is:

Enter into the mind or feeling of your brother, whether in joy or in sorrow.

2-In the mental and sentimental sphere keep the Golden Rule with him.

1-Matthew 7:12;

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.

3-Observe the characteristics of the Golden Rule:-

1-Observe the action:-

1-It carries us beyond the love of sentiment to the love that is seen in action.

2-It is useless to feel kindly to others if we do not act fairly.

2-Observe the breadth:-

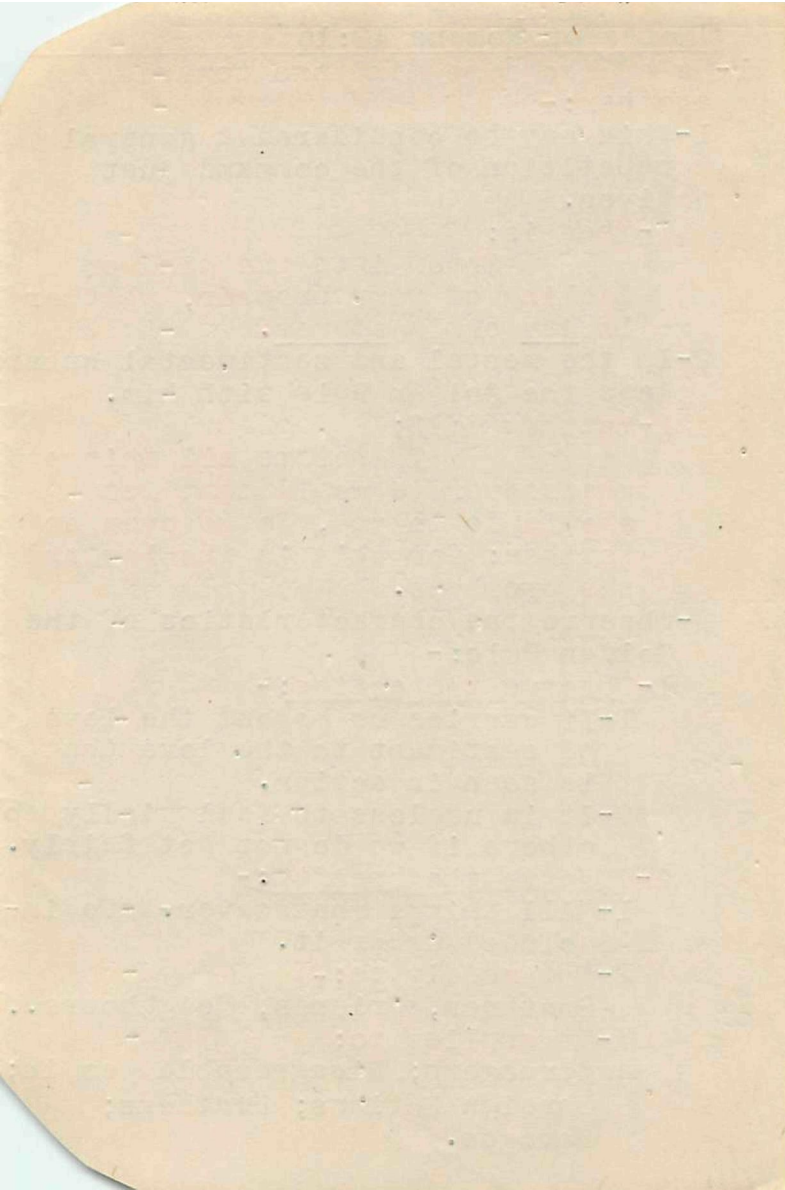
1-"All things whatsoever" are included under it.

2-Not merely to:-

Brethren, Friends, Neighbours..

3-It applies to:

Strangers; Disagreeable people; Foreign Nations; Heathens; Savages.



3-Observe the Lucidity:-

- 1-Here is a clear guiding light.
- 2-We can well perceive what we should like ourselves.
- 3-Accordingly we may see how others would also wish to be treated.

4-Observe the reasonableness:-

- 1-No one can possibly complain of this rule.
- 2-Nothing unfair is here laid upon us.
- 3-It is a principle of perfect justice, and every man is to be his own judge in regard to it.

2-Mind not high things but condescend to men of low estate:-

- 1-May be correctly read "lowly things or "lowly people."
- 2-Class distinctions, high positions, situations, social eminence are all to be avoided.
- 2-The greatest enemy to concord is pride.

3-Be not wise in your own conceits:-

1-Conceit:-

- 1-Overweeningly proud.
- 2-A fanciful or odd notion.
- 2-Do not be puffed with a sense of your own wisdom.
- 3-Let every man think soberly of his own abilities.
- 4-Over confidence in self leads to presumption, which is offensive to God and man. Proverbs 6:17.

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