

Officer's Code

-- 08/16/09, Sun Valley, tp

The Department of Defense demands that the officers of our Armed Forces adhere to a Code of Conduct. I am not surprised because I have on many occasions met such men and witnessed their attitudes. The nobility of these principles derives from the origins of the code. Here are some of the principles: **1. Strong belief in human rights. 2. Respect for the dignity of every other person. 3. The Golden Rule attitude toward one's daily associates. 4. An abiding interest in all aspects of human welfare. 5. A willingness to deal with every man as considerately as if he were a blood relative.**

1. Human rights are implied by the great love that God has for every man as expressed in **John 3:16**. 2. Respect for dignity of every man grows out of the Scriptures such as **Romans 12:17**. 3. Jesus taught the Golden Rule in **Matthew 7:12**. 4. Interest in all aspects of human welfare is taught in **1 Timothy 2:1-4, Matthew 5:44-48**. 5. Consideration for all men as if a blood relative calls to mind the many texts such as **1 Timothy 5:1-2**.

Officers are given the responsibility to lead and care for our young both in times of peace and in times of war. He is given a paper stating that the President as a representative of the people places a **"special trust and confidence" in his "patriotism, valor, fidelity, and abilities,"** he is thus commissioned. Of these lofty qualities, the key word is **Fidelity**. Patriotism is assumed, Valor is to be tested on the field of battle, Abilities may be partly inherited and partly developed in action. But Fidelity is **"a personal decision, a jewel within reach of every man who has the will to possess it."**

These words, so well put, could have as easily come from the lips of Jesus. Indeed, does He not stir up in us Faith, which is Fidelity, in every discipline of our lives? Jesus makes us all officers in His Own Armed Forces. We are responsible for the well being of all people who fall under our sphere of influence. Above all, we must be faithful in our daily lives: faithful in our marriage, faithful as parents, faithful in our doctrine, faithful in our worship, faithful in carrying out God's will to bring salvation and joy to others, faithful unto death, Revelation 2:10. Fidelity, like righteousness and holiness, is noble and within the reach of every man and woman if they so choose. No matter how few may be your gifts, you can glorify God with you Fidelity. tp