

A Study Guide for “The Golden Rule and War” by Mark Coppenger

- 1) Does the author agree that the golden rule supports a pacifist's beliefs? What are his beliefs as stated in the second paragraph?
- 2) How does the author support his belief that peace has been more deadly than war?
- 3) According to the golden rule what does the author believe we should do to the soldiers of tyrants? How does he support this belief?
- 4) What do Tolstoy, Simons, and Ramsey think about killing a Christian in love? How does the Author differ from this point?
- 5) What is the author's critic's first objection to the author's interpretation of the golden rule and what is his response to this?
- 6) What is the author's critic's second objection and how does the author respond to this?
- 7) What is the author's critic's third objection and how does the author respond to this? What do the examples from the ice cream parlor and Moby Dick point out?
- 8) What is the author's critic's fourth objection and how does the author respond to this?
- 9) What is the author's critic's fifth objection and how does the author respond to this? What is the example that he gives?
- 10) What is the author's critic's sixth objection and how does the author respond to this? Who are the two biblical characters that he uses as example? What are the two points the author makes in his two references to the businessmen? Including the two types of people he discusses in the businessmen examples, what are the three types of people that are exceptions/considerations in/to the golden rule?
- 11) What is the author's critic's seventh objection and how does the author respond to this?
- 12) What is the author's critic's eighth objection and how does the author respond to this?
- 13) The author writes “for the Golden Rule soldier, annihilation of the enemy is not the aim. His interest lies, rather, in preventing the enemy from doing terrible things.” What are the five things that can be done short of killing to prevent the enemy from doing terrible things? List and summarize each.