

Kindness

I. Introduction-

- The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Gal 5:22
- You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

A. The desire is for us grow and mature producing this fruit in our lives-

- I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. Gal 5:16

B. The purpose of kindness-

- Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Rom 2:4
- God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

Kindness= Chrestos, a demonstration of love and service that invites a change in another person

Goodness= Agathosune is a demonstration of love and service that blesses another person

Repentance: to turn around, to change one's mind for better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past and present sins

II. The kindness of God-

A. The kindness of God to all people-

- Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Ps 136:1
- The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, ¹⁸to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. Ps 103:17

Hesed=The steadfast love, the lovingkindness, and everlasting love of God that is shown to His people

- He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

B. God's kindness is shown to save His people-

1. Patient loving kindness over time-

- I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that was not called by my name. ²I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually. Isa 65:1

2. The kindness of God shown through Jesus Christ-

- God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. Rom 5:8

3. The power of God's kindness shown in His grace-

- For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph 2:8
- Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Rom 2:4

Grace= charis, loving-kindness, favor, kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls that turns them to Christ

4. The steadfast, everlasting love of God shown in Jesus-

- For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Rom 3:22

Propitiation= an expiatory sacrifice to pay for sins

Grace=God's Riches At Christ's Expense

5. The invitation to a personal relationship-

- Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne. Rev 3:20
- 2. The steadfast, everlasting love of God for those in Christ Jesus-
For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 8:38

C. The kindness of God demonstrated in Jesus-

1. Kindness to save-

- For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. Tit 3:3

2. Kindness that brings rest to our souls-

- Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy (kind, chrestos) and my burden is light." Mat 11:28

III. The fruit of kindness in and through us-

A. Our mission is inviting others to know Jesus-

- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Mat 28:19
- Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. Col 4:5
- I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. Act 20:24

B. Kindness in action-

- Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Eph 4:30

C. The evidence of Kindness

- Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind (attitude) among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus. Phil 2:3
- A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. Jn 13:34

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