

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - KINDNESS

LESSON 5

I. KINDNESS DEFINED:

- A. Greek word "kreestotees" translated "gentleness" in Gal.5:22 (KJV).**
- B. "Good" or "useful" as in God's treatment of all men (Rom.2:4, Lk.6:35)**
- C. "Sweetness" and "benignity" are seen in the word**
 - 1. Harshness absent as seen in the example of wine (Lk.5:29).
 - 2. Plummer: " the sympathetic kindness or sweetness of temper which puts others at their ease, and shrinks from giving pain."
 - 3. One makes "benevolent" use of his superior position (Jer.52:32).
- D. "Well-fitted" as in the "easy" yoke of Christ (Matt.11:30)**

II. KINDNESS IS A CHARACTERISTIC OF GOD

- A. God's goodness or kindness is reason for our thankfulness (Psm. 106.1, 107:1, 136:1).**
- B. Seen in God's ordinances and instructions (Psm.25:8; 119:39, 65-68).**
- C. God is Kind to those who:**
 - 1. Are afflicted (Nah.1:7).
 - 2. Hope and trust in God (Psm.34:8).
 - 4. Wait on God (Psm.145:9).
- D. In God , sobering strength and gentleness are combined (Rom.11:22).**

III. KINDNESS IS SEEN IN OUR SALVATION

- A. Kindness of God leads us to repentance (Rom.2:4)
- B. Kindness expresses God's saving grace in Christ (Eph.2:7, Titus 3:4, I Pet. 2:3).

IV. KINDNESS MUST BE MANIFESTED IN OUR LIVES TOWARD OTHERS.

- A. Often absent in men (Psm.36:3, Rom.3:12).
- B. Accompanies a humble and meek heart (Col.3:12).
- C. Accompanies other strong virtues (2 Cor. 6:6).

D. Accompanies forgiveness (Eph.4:32).

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QUESTIONS:

1. What **TWO** words are seen in kindness that help form a proper concept of the word?
2. Why are **God's ordinances** and **Christ's yoke** described with the word translated "kind" ?
3. What must the alien sinner also know about God than his kindness or goodness?
4. What has God done that is kind that "leads us to repentance"?
5. What three terms help us grasp the concept of God's grace ?
6. What passage reminds us that God's kindness is to be experienced not just admired?
7. What characteristic of heart will help us show kindness to others?
8. Since Paul showed kindness (2 Cor. 6:6), does it follow that he was not really a tough or rugged man?
9. What is one way we must share God's kindness towards us with others?
10. This week how did you show kindness towards:
 - a. your husband or wife:
 - b. your children:
 - c. your parents:
 - d. your fellow-worker or fellow-man :

e. your brethren: