

Fruit of Kindness  
2-28-2010  
Gal.5:22-23; Eph.4:29-32

Continuing our journey in exploration and investigation into the nature of God we now enter into a study of the attribute or quality of God's Spirit called Kindness. From previous studies it is recalled from Gal.5:22-23 that the Fruit of the Spirit that God causes to dwell within His children, the redeemed, is multifaceted.

It is encouraged that each of us looks deeper into each of these qualities of God's nature because they are in fact the desired expressed nature of His Children. Since it is incredibly important that God's Children abide in His pleasure it behooves us to better learn how to walk in accord with His Spirit that does dwell in His Children. (Eph.5:8-17)

Paul writes to the Church in Ephesus and to us as well concerning the importance of these Godly attributes in comparison to the destructive attributes of our physical nature. (Eph.4:29- 5:2) Paul warns the children of God to not grieve the Holy Spirit within ourselves. The things that cause grief and conflict are partially listed in verses 29 & 31; unwholesome talk, bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, slander along with every form of malice.

These qualities of heart and actions produced by them war against the purity of God's Spirit and hinder its maturing and damage an individual's relationship not only with his or her fellow man but with their Lord and Master Jesus Christ and ultimately His Father and ours. (*See also Paul's list of attributes that war against our souls and God's dominion and rule. – Gal.5:19-21*)

How can anyone demonstrate true kindness when their very hearts are consumed and dominated by such

fleshly attributes? (How can they live in demonstration of any of the Spirit Fruit when hearts are so overpowered by the flesh?) A person may put up a good front but God is not fooled; He sees the heart and mind and motives of all humanity. (Jer.17:9-10, Rev.2:23; Heb.4:12-13; 1Chro.28:9; Act.1:24)

Since there is no escaping the Almighty's scrutiny, how do you think we should live our lives? How can we hope to escape our own nature except God help us? How wonderful and marvelous His grace is when even our best intentions are clouded by flawed fleshly intentions. Praise God for His wonderful Kindness towards us! We are called to take sides, God's side, the side that is lead by His Spirit against the warring, rebellious nature of our flesh. (Gal.5:17)

As His dear children it is good to understand that kindness is pleasing to God. (Jer.9:24) God is not a liar and neither is His Word found false. Kindness is doing what is good and proper and needful to anyone regardless of their deserving it or not. God demonstrates this quality for our imitation. (Rom.2:1-11 (4); Luke.6:27-36 (35);

Kindness is the motivation of the heart and the action that flows out of its fullness towards the people around us. (Luke.6:43-49 (45)) It is the platform from which we do good things for the deserving and the undeserving just like our Father does. (After all who is ever truly worthy?) God's example is modeled in His Grace towards us. (Eph.2:1-10 (7) and Titus 3:4-7)

Since His kindness towards us is what drives his grace we too have an obligation as good stewards of what He has given us. To build our future through the tools He has given us for building such a bright future is wisdom in application. (1Cor.3:9-17 (13)) Be Kind because your Father who is in Heaven Is.