

1. Kindness [KJV gentleness] Chrest^{tes}

=benignity, kindness. Opposite of harshness and severity. It is the grace of character (in contrast to specific action) that is contrary to meanness and austerity. A mellowing of character^{used of mellowed wine.}

Rom. 2:4 riches of God^s goodness, combined with forbearance & longsuff.

Rom. 11:22 Consider the goodness and the severity of God...toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness, otherwise you will be cut off.

2 Cor. 6:6 kindness, combined with purity, longsuffering and love

Gal. 5:22 the fruit of the Spirit is...kindness

Eph. 2:7 God shows the riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Jesus

Col. 3:12 put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering

Titus 3:4 the kindness and love of God

2. goodness Agathos^{ne}

=Active goodness. More than chrest^{tes}. Is consistent even with zeal for the truth or for righteousness and sharpness and indignation in rebuking

Rom. 15:14 the saints are full of goodness & knowledge, able to admonish

Gal. 5:22 the fruit of the Spirit is...goodness

Eph. 5:9 the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness & truth

2 Thes. 1:11 God^s goodness

3. Gentleness [KJV meekness] Pra^{tes}

=gentleness; by implication, humility

1 Cor. 4:21 shall I come with a rod? or in love and a spirit of gentleness?

2 Cor. 10:1 Paul pleads by the meekness and gentleness (1932) of Christ

Gal. 5:23 The fruit of the Spirit is...gentleness

Gal. 6:1 restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness

Eph. 4:2 gentleness, combined with lowliness, longsuffering

Col. 3:12 put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering

1 Tim. 6:11 pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness

2 Tim. 2:25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition

Tit. 3:2 peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men

A fruit of the Spirit in corporate humanity as well as individual sanctification:

The cruelty of pagan culture:

Rom. 3:12 there is none that does good [lit. doing kindness]

Examples from Barclay:

Sir Henry Holand, medical missionary from Quetta^{specialist in eye surgery} encountered cases too far advanced to help. When this was announced, it was met with roars of laughter by bystanders, and contemptuous orders to begone and not bother the doctor further.

Mary Slessor grieved to find that, in Calabar, the Africans viewed twins as a bad omen and would crush them and toss them to the leopards to devour.

Romans exposed unwanted infants and treated slaves as subhuman.

Vedius Pollio cast his slave to savage lampreys in the fishpool because he had stumbled and broken a goblet (Pliny, Natural History 9:23).

Juvenal reports how a vain mistress would flog the slave girl who was helping her get dressed because of an unruly curl in the mistress^s hair (Satires 6. 486-492), and writes that there are masters who ^{delight}

in the sound of a cruel flogging, thinking it sweeter than the sirens' song, who are not happy until they have summoned a torturer and can brand someone with a red hot iron for stealing a couple of towels.

Aristotle wrote: "Let there be a law that no deformed child shall be reared" (Politics 7.14.10)

Seneca wrote: "Mad dogs we knock on the head; the fierce and savage ox we slay; sickly sheep we put to the knife to keep them from infecting the flock; unnatural progeny we destroy; we drown even children who at birth are weakly and abnormal." (On Anger 1.15.2)

Hilarion (in 1 BC) wrote to his wife from Alexandria, "If good luck to you! you bear a child, if it is a boy, let it live; if it is a girl, throw it out."

Stobaeus wrote: "The poor man raises his sons, but the daughters, if one is poor, we expose." (Eclogues 75)

Gladiatorial games.

Jewish rabbis taught that it was unlawful to help a gentile mother in crisis childbirth, or to call for medical aid for an apostate in medical crisis.

The Inquisitions

Hitler, Stalin, Mao

Partial birth abortion

Child abuse, cannibalism, satanic ritual abuse

goodness, kindness, generosity (Arndt/Bauer/Gingrich)

opposite of harshness and severity (Romans 11:22). trary to meanness and austerity (Zodhiates)

;character the related word chrestos is used of mellowed wine (Luke 5:39) and of Christ's yoke (Matt. 11:30).

As a character trait of God:

ed with forbearance & longsuffering

As a Christian trait