

Sunday, March 10, 2024—Galatians 5:22 The Fruit of the Spirit, Part 6 (Gentleness)

Galatians 5:22

- **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**
- **Gentleness**—the word translated “goodness” occurs 10 times in 8 verses in the New Testament. deals with kindness. It is interesting that all 10 occurrences are found in Paul’s epistles. The word is various rendered as gentleness (1x), good or goodness (5x), & kindness (4x) by the King James translators.
 - Romans 2:4—according to Paul goodness/gentleness is one of God’s attributes.
 - Romans 3:12—notice how man in his natural state is incapable of being good.
 - Romans 11:22—uses the word in a dispensational context.
 - Ephesians 2:7—God’s “kindness toward us” is going to be put full display in the “ages to come.”
 - Colossians 3:12—notice once again the connection between putting on the new man and fruit of the Spirit.
 - Titus 3:4
- Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* defines “gentleness” as follows:
 - Genteel behavior.
 - Softness of manners; mildness of temper; sweetness of disposition; meekness.
 - The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness goodness, faith. Galatians 5:22.
 - Kindness; benevolence.
 - Tenderness; mild treatment.
- By definition, “meekness” is another word we see connected with “gentleness.”
- Consider the following verses on “gentleness” in scripture.
 - Gentleness is an attribute of God.
 - Romans 2:4
 - Psalm 18:21-35

- Gentleness is the quality by which Paul conducted his ministry.
 - I Thessalonians 2:7
 - II Timothy 2:24—note the connection to “meekness” in the next verse.
- Gentleness is to be component of the believers walk.
 - Titus 3:2
 - Colossians 2:13—“kindness”
- Gentleness of Christ is the basis upon which Paul beseeches the Corinthians.
 - II Corinthians 10:1
- Kindness is one of the key issues in navigating the period of longsuffering, that is the dispensation of grace.
 - II Corinthians 6:6
- Galatians 5:22—hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, & seditions are the works of the flesh. Believers are called to operate and function in a manner that is in line with the attributes of God and the Holy Spirit.