

## THE KINDNESS OF GOD

1. As believers in Jesus, we know God and we understand that God is kind.
  - Those who don't know Him see Him as hard.
  - Sadly, even believers, when they are fed a "diet" of conflicting information about God's kindness, can begin to form a hard image of God.
    - Mixture causes us to fear Him and to doubt God's kindness toward us.

*Matthew 25:24-25*  
*"And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. <sup>25</sup>And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'"*
2. "Kind" is the opposite of "hard".  
*"Kind" is chrēstos*  
*Good, virtuous, mild, pleasant (in contrast to what is hard, harsh, sharp, bitter).*-  
*Vine's Expository Dictionary*
3. God loves us and He demonstrates his love by showing us kindness.
  - a. There is no fear in love.  
*1 John 4:18*  
*There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.*
  - b. Our message is GOOD news of GOOD things from our very GOOD God.  
*Romans 10:15*  
*How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"*
    - *GLAD tidings of GOOD (KIND) things from a BENEVOLENT God.*
4. God has ALWAYS been kind and giving toward His people. He delights in showing His kindness.  
**Hebrew: chesed means GOODNESS, KINDNESS**  
*Jeremiah 9:23-24*  
*Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; <sup>24</sup> but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises loving-kindness (chsd), justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.*
  - a. This scripture (Jeremiah 9:23-24) is fulfilled in us!  
*1 Corinthians 1:30-31*  
*But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."*
  - b. God's kindness is shown to us through the many benefits His lavishes upon us.  
*Psalms 103:2-4*  
*Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits;*  
*<sup>3</sup>Who pardons all your iniquities,*  
*Who heals all your diseases;*  
*<sup>4</sup>Who redeems your life from the pit,*  
*Who crowns you with lovingkindness (chsd) and compassion.*

*He made known His ways to Moses,  
His acts to the sons of Israel.*

- **He made his ways known to Moses, but He has made Himself known to you.**

**Jeremiah 31:34**

*For they all shall know (yada) Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD.*

*yāda` (to know) is a common verb occurring nearly one thousand times, with the dominant sense of "know." In many of these contexts, "knowing" is equated with "understanding."*

*Expository Dictionary of Bible Words: Word Studies for Key English Bible Words Based on the Hebrew and Greek Texts.*

*yāda` is also used for the most intimate acquaintance. God knows Moses by name and face to face (Exodus 33:17; Deut. 34:10). He knows the Psalmist's sitting and arising (Psalm 139:2).-Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament.*

- c. **God's kindness is shown to us by the forgiveness of sins.**

**Psalm 103:8-12**

*The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness (chsd).*

*<sup>9</sup> He will not always strive with us,  
Nor will He keep His anger forever.*

*<sup>10</sup> He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.*

*<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him.*

*<sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west,  
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.*

- 5. **It's the kindness of God that leads us to change our minds.**

**Romans 2:4**

*Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?*

- 6. **Kindness, love, salvation, and grace are closely linked together.**

**Ephesians 2:5-10**

*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

**1 Peter 2:1-3**

*Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, <sup>2</sup> like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, <sup>3</sup> if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.*

**Matthew 11:25-30**

*At that time Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. <sup>26</sup>"Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight. <sup>27</sup>"All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.*

<sup>28</sup>“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

<sup>30</sup>“**For My yoke is easy (chrēstos—kind) and My burden is light.**”

**7. Jesus is the kindness and love of God toward us. He is our source of salvation.**

*Titus 3:4-7*

*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, <sup>5</sup> not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*