

## **Attributes of the Christian Life**

### **Patience, Kindness, and Goodness**

Galatians 5:22-23; Selected Scriptures

1. **Patience:** The ability to endure all things without being easily offended or seeking vengeance when it is within one's power (Ex. 34:6-7; Ps. 103:8).
  - A. Experiencing the Patience of God: Christians experience God's patience...
    - I. ...in our salvation (Rom. 2:4; 3:21-26; 2 Pet. 3:9)
    - II. ...in our sanctification (Rom. 7:14-25)
    - III. ...in our evangelism (2 Pet. 3:15)
  - B. Being Patient: Christians can express the patience from God...
    - I. ...as we wait for the coming of the Lord (James 5:7-8)
    - II. ...when we forgive as we have been forgiven (Matt. 18:21-35)
    - III. ...when we suffer for righteousness (1 Pet. 2:20)
2. **Kindness:** A disposition that is often expressed in patience and goodness. The kindness of God is chiefly expressed to man in our salvation (cf. 1 Pet 2:3).
  - A. Experiencing the Kindness of God: Christians experience God's kindness...
    - I. ...in His intention in our election (Eph. 1:5, 9)
    - II. ...when He saves us (Rom. 2:4; 11:22; Titus 3:4-5)
    - III. ...in His continual keeping of us (Eph. 2:7)
  - B. Being Kind
    - I. ...when we forgive one another (Eph. 4:32)
    - II. ...when we forgive and bear with one another (Col. 3:12-13)
    - III. ...when we are diligent in our Christian walk (2 Pet. 3:5-8)
3. **Goodness:** The expression of what is truly good (Ps. 119:68; 136:1). This is the idea of 'active good' and is seen in the person's character that is energized and expressing itself in goodness. God's goodness is displayed in many ways, including in His righteous indignation (Matt. 21:12-13; John 2:13-17).
  - A. Experiencing the Goodness of God: Christians experience God's goodness...
    - I. ...When He Provides us with a Spouse (Gen. 2:18-25)
    - II. ...When He Saves Us (John 10:11)
    - III. ...When He Sovereignly Directs Our Lives (Rom. 8:28)
    - IV. ...When He Disciplines His Children (Heb. 12:7-11)
  - B. Doing Good: Christians act in accordance with goodness...
    - I. ...when we love our enemies (Luke 6:35)
    - II. ...when our minds are conformed to God (Rom. 12:2)
    - III. ...when we do good works (Eph. 2:10; 5:9; cf. Phil. 2:13)
    - IV. ...when we pray (1 Tim 2:1-4)