‘BE YE KIND’

“and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, even as God also in Christ forgave you.” (Eph. 4:32)

In this passage the apostle Paul indicates that “kindness” involves other things as well.

It is easy to be kind to those who are kind to us and those we like. Jesus said, “For if ye love them that love you, what reward have ye? (Matt. 5:46) Anybody and everybody can do that. When it comes to benevolent actions, it’s in “the ditches” that matters. Being kind to those who are not necessarily kind is the proof.

It appears that Paul is saying that those who are kind will also be tenderhearted and forgiving. Why shouldn’t we be all of those things? Kind, tenderhearted, forgiving? We have been forgiven of some of the most dreadful things. Remember what the Hebrew writer says, quoting a passage from Jeremiah, “For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And their sins will I remember no more. (Heb 8:12)

If our Lord can forgive all the irksome things we have done and no more remember them, who are we to hold on the hurtful things others have done to us.

I knew a member of the church one time that kept a ledger, and in that ledger she recorded every slight and injury anyone had ever done to her. Her intention, according to her sister, was to make sure she repaid those people. What a shame! No Christianity there!

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