

As a sequel to the study 'Grace - definition'¹, in this study a number of Bible texts are interpreted, proceeding from the translation of '**charis/grace**' by '**kindness**',

- **Luke 4:22** (*Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth.*)
*All spoke well of him and were amazed at the **gracious (charis/kindness)** words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.*

Interpretation: ... and were amazed at the **kind** words that came from His lips ...

- **John 1:14**
*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of **grace (charis/kindness)** and truth.*

Literally: ... the only-begotten of the Father, completely **kind** and true (real).

- **John 1:16**
*Out of his fullness we have all received **grace (charis/kindness)** in place of **grace (charis/kindness)** already given.*

Literally: Moreover, we have all even received **kindness** out of Jesus' abundance because of the **kindness**.

(Put otherwise: We have received kindness, **because He is kind.**)

- **John 1:17**
*For the law was given through Moses; **grace (charis/kindness)** and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

Interpretation: With Jesus' coming to this world God's **kindness** has been revealed. **For God so loved the world** that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

- **Acts 15:40**
*... but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the **grace (charis/kindness)** of the Lord.*

Literally: ... commended to the **kindness** of the Lord by the brothers.

- **Acts 20:24**
*However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me - the task of testifying to the good news of God's **grace (charis/kindness)**.*

- **Romans 3:23-24**
... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely (Greek

¹ Study: Grace - definition.

*‘doorean’: as a present) by his **grace (charis/kindness)** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*

Interpretation: Man is deprived of the glory of God by nature. However, through Gods **kindness** every person is given a present, i.e.: redemption, the forgiveness of sins, through faith in Christ Jesus.

In order to experience the freedom through the forgiveness of sins in life one has **to accept** this present, by confessing sins and accepting Jesus’ having forgiven them.

- **Romans 5:15**

*... how much more did God’s **grace (charis/kindness)** and the gift that came by the **grace (charis/kindness)** of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!*

Interpretation: It is the **kindness** of God, that He gave His Son Jesus Christ to the world. It is out of **kindness** that Jesus took the task of dying for the sins of the world upon Himself. This present because of His **kindness**: to be saved through faith in His blood, has become abundant in many people.

- **Romans 5:20**

*The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, **grace (charis/kindness)** increased all the more, ...*

- **Romans 11:5-6**

*So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by **grace (charis/kindness)**. And if by **grace (charis/kindness)**, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, **grace (charis/kindness)** would no longer be **grace (charis/kindness)**.*

- **1 Corinthians 15:10**

*But by the **grace (charis/kindness)** of God I am what I am, and his **grace (charis/kindness)** to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the **grace (charis/kindness)** of God that was with me.*

- **2 Corinthians 12:8-9**

*Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, “My **grace (charis/kindness)** is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

Interpretation: Paul is plagued by what he calls ‘a thorn in the flesh’. He has asked God three times to deliver him from it. And He said to him: *My **kindness** is enough for you, ...*

What God means is: Paul, know that I love you and that what I do or allow in your life emanates from My love for you.

And Paul acknowledges ... *because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, **in order to keep me from becoming conceited**, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. (2 Corinthians 12:7)*

- **Galatians 5:4**

*You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from **grace (charis/kindness)**.*

Interpretation: Man cannot be saved by good works. Anyone who thinks he can achieve his salvation alone is living apart from Jesus Christ and is missing the fact of **being able** to be saved, simply by faith in Jesus Christ and out of God's pure **kindness**.

- **Ephesians 1:7**

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's **grace (charis/kindness)**.*

- **Ephesians 2:8-9**

*For it is by **grace (charis/kindness)** you have been saved, through Faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.*

*For by **grace/kindness** you are saved (literally: For **grace/kindness is redemptive/is saving**), by faith, and that, not of yourself: it (remark: being saved through faith) is a gift of God; not of works, so that no-one boast (boast of himself).*

- **Ephesians 4:7**

*But to each one of us **grace (charis/kindness)** has been given as Christ apportioned it.*

(Remark about 'given': the Greek does not have a verb here, but a noun, 'doorea': a present).

Literally: But to each of us **kindness** is given/offered, according to the goal (also: measure, extent, objective) of Christ's present.

God makes no distinction. His **kindness** applies to everyone. He longs for everyone to be saved.

As His present to the world He let Jesus be crucified, so that sins could be forgiven, through faith in His blood.

- **Titus 2:11**

*For **the grace (charis/kindness)** of God has appeared (also: brought to light, made known) that offers salvation to all people.*

- **Colossians 1:2**

*To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ: **Grace (charis/kindness)** and peace to you from God our Father.*

Remark: Paul opens many of his letters in this manner.

- **Hebrews 4:16**

*Let us then approach God's throne **of grace (charis/kindness)** with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find (also: encounter, meet) **grace (charis/kindness)** to help us in our time of need.*

Remark: Whoever lives close to God (in a relationship with God), close to the throne of **kindness**, will receive something of His kindness again and again, whenever necessary, at the right moment.

- **Hebrews 10:29**

*How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of **grace (charis/kindness)**?*

- **Hebrews 12:15**

*See to it that no one falls short of the **grace (charis/kindness)** of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many*

- **James 4:6**

*But he gives us more **grace (charis/kindness)**. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows **favour (charis/kindness)** to the humble."*

- **1 Peter 1:13**

*Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the **grace (charis/kindness)** to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.*

- **1 Peter 2:19-20**

*For it is **commendable (charis/kindness)** if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is **commendable (charis/kindness)** before God.*

Interpretation: However, if you do good and then have to endure suffering, God **calls** that **grace/kindness**.

This is about someone suffering wrong, but, because He takes account of God, he does not denounce this wrong or resist it, but bears it patiently.

God calls this **kindness** on the part of the person who endures suffering wrongly.

- **2 Petrus 3:18**

*But grow in the **grace (charis/kindness)** and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*