

The Softer Side Of Saints

I. Introduction:

A. The term “saint” is simply another term for any faithful Christian, disciple of the Lord, etc. (**I Corinthians 1:2**).

B. Since we are discussing the soft side of Christians, I am inferring there is another side, likened unto God (**Romans 11:22**; cf. **Numbers 14:18**).

1. God wants to show His giving, friendly side (**Luke 12:32**).
2. What side you get depends on you (**I Chronicles 28:9**).
3. With proper understanding, we are to pattern our lives after God (**Ephesians 5:1-2**).
4. Thus, what side people see in us will often depend on them (**Psalms 101:3**).

II. Body: The Softer Side Of Saints (**I Peter 3:8**).

A. Compassion [sympathy] one of another (**Romans 12:15** and **I Corinthians 12:25-26**).

1. For example, consider Jesus (**Matthew 9:36-38**, **Matthew 15:32**, and **John 11:32-33**).
2. This requires KNOWING and CARING about each other enough to do something when we can (**I John 3:14-18**).

B. Love as brethren (**Romans 12:10** and **Hebrews 13:1**).

1. Jesus gave the pattern (**John 13:34-35**; **15:12-13**).
2. This love has to be sincere (**I Peter 1:22**).
3. Our love for brethren, while being second only to our love for God, is not limited to just brethren (**Matthew 5:44-48**, **Luke 10:25-37**, and **Romans 13:8-10**).

C. Pity (**Matthew 18:21-35**).

1. The Lord gives the pattern (**Psalms 103:13** and **James 5:11**).
2. The word “pity” is also translated “tenderhearted”, as such we have our lesson laid out for us (**Ephesians 4:31-32**).

D. Courteous [friendly; kind] (**Proverbs 18:24**).

1. As the elect of God, we are to be kind amongst other things (**Colossians 3:12**; cf. **II Peter 1:7**).

2. Even the world has some understanding of what THEY often call the “Golden Rule” (**Matthew 7:12**).

III. Conclusion: Saints are NOT just about love and friendliness (**Romans 12:9**).

**This will be discussed more in our next lesson. There is another side to the points we have discussed above.*