

# GOODNESS

## *Charity, Kindness and Mercy*

### 1. ESSENCE

- 1951 Every good act is charity. A man's true wealth hereafter  
is the good that he does in this world to his fellows.  
Mohammed (570-632 A.D.)
- 1952 Goodness is beauty in its best estate.  
Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)
- 1953 Kindness is the golden chain by which society is bound  
together.  
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 1954 An act of goodness is of itself an act of happiness.  
No reward coming after the event can compare with the  
sweet reward that went with it.  
Maurice Maeterlinck (1862-1949)
- 1955 Goodness is love in action. It is noble to be good.  
Goodness is the greatest virtue. Every good deed is a grain  
of seed for immortality or eternal life.  
Sivananda (born 1887)

### 2. OPPOSITES

- 1956 The higher the sun ariseth, the less shadow doth he cast;  
even so the greater is the goodness, the less doth it  
covet praise; yet cannot avoid its rewards in honours.  
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 1957 If you wish to be good, first believe that you are bad.  
Epictetus (50-138 A.D.)
- 1958 He who receives a good turn should never forget it;  
he who does one should never remember it.  
Pierre Charron (1541-1603)
- 1959 Good and evil, we know, in the field of this world grow up  
together almost inseparably.  
Milton (1608-1674)
- 1960 Whatever mitigates the woes or increases the happiness of  
others - this is my criterion of goodness.  
And whatever injures society at large, or any individual,  
in it - this is my measure of iniquity.  
Robert Burns (1759-1796)

- 1961 A good person can put himself in the place of a bad person more easily than a bad person can put himself in the place of a good person.  
Richter (1763-1825)
- 1962 He that is good will infallibly become better, and he that is bad will as certainly become worse; for vice, virtue, and time are three things that never stand still.  
Colton (1780-1832)
- 1963 We are rich only through what we give, and poor only through what we refuse.  
Anne Swetchine (1782-1857)
- 1964 As the purse is emptied the heart is filled.  
Victor Hugo (1802-1885)
- 1965 Giving is true having.  
Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)
- 1966 Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read.  
Mark Twain (1835-1910)
- 1967 Should not the giver be thankful that the receiver received? Is not giving a need? Is not receiving, mercy?  
Nietzsche (1844-1900)
- 1968 If you always give  
You will always have.  
Chinese Proverb

### 3. INSIGHT

- 1969 As the branches of a tree return their sap to the root, from whence it arose; as a river poureth its streams to the sea, whence its spring was supplied; so the heart of a grateful man delighteth in returning a benefit received.  
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 1970 Heaven endows man with innate goodness. Instinctive devotion to this spirit leads to success, though conscious purpose jeopardizes nature's innocence. But even with instinctive sincerity, action must be in accord with the will of heaven.  
I Ching (B.C. 1150?)
- 1971 The highest goodness is like water. Water benefits all things and does not compete. It stays in the lowly places which others despise. Therefore it is near The Eternal.  
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)

- 1972 That gift which is given out of duty, at the proper time and place, to a worthy person, and without expectation of return, is considered to be charity in the mode of goodness.  
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 1973 A real man is he whose goodness is a part of himself.  
Mencius (B.C. 371-288)
- 1974 Wherever there is a human being there is an opportunity for a kindness.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 1975 Confidence in the goodness of another is good proof of one's own goodness.  
Montaigne (1533-1592)
- 1976 I have found men more kind than I expected, and less just.  
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 1977 As freely as the firmament embraces the world,  
or the sun pours forth impartially his beams,  
so mercy must encircle both friend and foe.  
Schiller (1759-1805)
- 1978 No good book, or good thing of any sort,  
shows its best face at first.  
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 1979 There is many a good man to be found under a shabby hat.  
Chinese Proverb

#### 4. POSITIVE

- 1980 As the rose breatheth sweetness from its own nature,  
so the heart of a benevolent man produceth good works.  
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 1981 Kindness in words creates confidence.  
Kindness in thinking creates profoundness.  
Kindness in giving creates love.  
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)
- 1982 Loving kindness is greater than laws;  
and the charities of life are more than all ceremonies.  
The Talmud (B.C. 500?-400? A.D.)
- 1983 Kindness gives birth to kindness.  
Sophocles (B.C. 495-406)

- 1984 Just as a man who has long been far away is welcomed with joy on his safe return by his relatives, well-wishers and friends; in the same way the good works of a man in his life welcome him in another life, with the joy of a friend meeting a friend on his return.  
The Dhammapada (c. B.C. 300)
- 1985 A good disposition I far prefer to gold;  
for gold is the gift of fortune;  
goodness of disposition is the gift of nature.  
I prefer much rather to be called good than fortunate.  
Plautus (B.C. 254-184)
- 1986 Men in no way approach so nearly to the gods  
as in doing good to men.  
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 1987 Charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not;  
charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.  
I Corinthians (50?-100? A.D.)
- 1988 If you disclose your alms, even then it is well done,  
but if you keep them secret, and give them to the poor,  
then that is better still for you;  
and this wipes off from you some of your evil deeds.  
Koran (c. 651 A.D.)
- 1989 If you lend money, it is uncertain  
Whether you shall be repaid;  
But if you bestow alms, though they be small,  
Your return will be a hundred-fold.  
Saskya Pandita (1182-1251)
- 1990 Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal,  
mercy shines with even more brilliancy than justice.  
Cervantes (1547-1616)
- 1991 Of all virtues and dignities of the mind,  
goodness is the greatest, being the character of the Deity;  
and without it, man is a busy, mischievous, wretched thing.  
Bacon (1561-1626)
- 1992 It is heaven upon earth to have a man's mind move in  
charity, rest in providence and turn upon the poles  
of truth.  
Bacon (1561-1626)
- 1993 Good, the more communicated, more abundant grows.  
Milton (1608-1674)

- 1994 Kindness in ourselves is the honey that blunts the sting  
of unkindness in another.  
Landor (1775-1864) 5 of 9
- 1995 A kind heart is a fountain of gladness,  
making everything in its vicinity fresher into smiles.  
Washington Irving (1783-1859)
- 1996 He who loves goodness harbors angels, reveres reverence,  
and lives with God.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 1997 Wise sayings often fall on barren ground;  
but a kind word is never thrown away.  
Arthur Helps (1813-1875)
- 1998 Goodness is the only investment which never fails.  
Thoreau (1817-1862)
- 1999 No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong,  
gentle and good, without the world being better for it,  
without somebody being helped and comforted by the very  
existence of that goodness.  
Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

## 5. NEGATIVE

- 2000 Charity performed at an improper place and time and given to  
unworthy persons without respect and with contempt is  
charity in the mode of ignorance.  
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 2001 It is not goodness to be better than the very worst.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 2002 With gifts, you may gather your enemies about you.  
When giving nothing, even your own family will leave.  
Saskya Pandita (1182-1251)
- 2003 I know and love the good, yet ah! the worst pursue.  
Francesco Petrarch (1304-1374)
- 2004 There is no man so good who, were he to submit all his  
thoughts and actions to the law, would not deserve  
hanging ten times in his life.  
Montaigne (1533-1592)
- 2005 No man deserves to be praised for his goodness unless he has  
the strength of character to be wicked. All other goodness  
is generally nothing but indolence or impotence of will.  
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)

- 2006 The spirit of the world has four kinds of spirits  
diametrically opposed to charity: resentment, aversion,  
jealousy, and indifference.  
Jacques Benigue Bossuet (1627-1704)
- 2007 Look around the habitable world, how few  
Know their own good, or knowing it, pursue.  
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 2008 Better is the enemy of good.  
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 2009 He who waits to do a great deal of good at once,  
will never do anything.  
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 2010 Posthumous charities are the very essence of selfishness  
when bequeathed by those who, even alive, would part with  
nothing.  
Colton (1780-1832)
- 2011 I hate the giving of the hand unless the whole man  
accompanies it.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 2012 If you're naturally kind, you attract a lot of people you  
don't like.  
William Feather (born 1888)

## 6. ADVICE

- 2013 Let the stronger man give to the man whose need is greater;  
let him gaze upon the lengthening path of life. For riches  
roll like the wheels of a chariot, turning from one to  
another.  
Rig Veda (B.C. 1200-900?)
- 2014 All strangers and beggars are from God,  
and a gift, though small, is precious.  
Homer (c. B.C. 700)
- 2015 Be good, be kind, be humane, and charitable; love your  
fellows; console the afflicted; pardon those who have  
done you wrong.  
Zoroaster (B.C. 628?-551?)
- 2016 Treat those who are good with goodness,  
And also treat those who are not good with goodness.  
Thus goodness is attained.  
Be honest to those who are honest,  
And be also honest to those who are not honest.  
Thus honesty is attained...  
Lao-Tzu (fl. B.C. 600)

- 2017 Love thy neighbor as thyself: Do not to others what thou wouldst not wish be done to thyself: Forgive injuries. Forgive thy enemy, be reconciled to him, give him assistance, invoke God in his behalf.  
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 2018 Make haste and do what is good; keep your mind away from evil. If a man is slow in doing good, his mind finds pleasure in evil.  
The Dhammapada (c. B.C. 300)
- 2019 It is kindness to immediately refuse what you intend to deny.  
Publilius Syrus (fl. B.C. 42)
- 2020 We should give as we would receive, cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation; for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 2021 Ask thyself, daily, to how many ill-minded persons thou hast shown a kind disposition.  
Marcus Aurelius (121-180 A.D.)
- 2022 Do all the good you can, By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can, In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can, To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can.  
John Wesley (1703-1791)
- 2023 Do good to thy Friend to keep him,  
to thy enemy to gain him.  
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 2024 To cultivate kindness is a valuable part of the business of life.  
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 2025 Be charitable and indulgent to every one but thyself.  
Joubert (1754-1824)
- 2026 To be good, we must do good; and by doing good we take a sure means of being good, as the use and exercise of the muscles increase their power.  
Tryon Edwards (1809-1894)

- 2027 There is so much good in the worst of us,  
And so much bad in the best of us,  
That it hardly becomes any of us  
To talk about the rest of us.

Edward Hoch (1849-1925)

## 7. POTPOURRI

- 2028 Goodness is the race which God hath set him to run, and  
happiness the goal; which none can arrive at till he hath  
finished his course, and received his crown in the mansions  
of eternity.

Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)

- 2029 Of all that is good, sublimity is supreme.  
Succeeding is the coming together of all that is beautiful.  
Furtherance is the agreement of all that is just.  
Perseverance is the foundation of all actions.

I Ching (B.C. 1150?)

- 2030 Never are noble spirits  
Poor while their like survive;  
Pure love has gems to render,  
And virtue wealth to give.  
Never is lost or wasted  
The goodness of the good...

Mahabharata (c. B.C. 400)

- 2031 Prayer carries us half-way to God, fasting brings us to the  
door of his palace, and alms-giving procures us admission.

Koran (c. 651 A.D.)

- 2032 The desire of power in excess caused the angels to fall;  
the desire of knowledge in excess caused man to fall;  
but in charity there is no excess,  
neither can angel or man come in danger by it.

Bacon (1561-1626)

- 2033 That best portion of a good man's life,  
His little nameless, unremembered acts  
Of kindness and of love.

Wordsworth (1770-1850)

- 2034 He was so good he would pour rose-water on a toad.

Douglas Jerrold (1803-1857)

- 2035 There is dew in one flower and not in another, because one opens its cup and takes it in, while the other closes itself, and the drops run off. God rains His goodness and mercy as widespread as the dew, and if we lack them, it is because we will not open our hearts to receive them.  
Beecher (1813-1878)
- 2036 If I knew...that a man was coming to my house with the conscious design of doing me good, I should run for my life.  
Thoreau (1817-1862)
- 2037 For the cause that lacks  
The wrong that needs resistance,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that I can do.  
George Banks (1821-1881)
- 2038 There's no dearth of kindness  
In this world of ours;  
Only in our blindness  
We gather thorns for flowers.  
Gerald Massey (1828-1907)
- 2039 Let not the fierce sun dry one tear of pain before thyself  
hast wiped it from the sufferer's eye.  
H. P. Blavatsky (1831-1891)
- 2040 Life is mostly froth and bubble;  
two things stand like stone:  
kindness in another's trouble,  
courage in our own.  
Adam Gordon (1833-1870)
- 2041 The word good has many meanings. For example, if a man were to shoot his grandmother at a range of five hundred yards, I should call him a good shot, but not necessarily a good man.  
G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)
- 2042 One may not doubt that, somehow Good  
Shall come of Water and of Mud;  
And sure, the reverent eye must see  
A purpose in Liquidity.  
Rupert Brooke (1887-1915)