



Clanking Chains: Severity of God: Application to the Jews & Israel; Benevolence of God: Application to Gentile Client Nations; Historical Trends, Rom 11:22

- 5) This expression of the love of God should be a source of serious contemplation. The Jewish race was God's original choice to populate His enclave in *cosmos diabolicus*. They were given a national code that included a variety of standards.
- 6) These standards were presented in three categories. The first was the Decalogue which was designed to establish spiritual and establishment order in the nation. Next was the establishment code which provided guidance for civic, legal, social, hygienic, and dietary functions. Finally, there was the spiritual code which was designed to teach doctrine to the population through a specialized priesthood.
- 7) Compliance with these standards brought great prosperity to Israel and its people. Noncompliance brought great suffering in the form of national discipline.
- 8) Principle: If the Israelites as God's chosen people and Israel as God's first client nation are not exempt from His severity then, *a fortiori*, neither are Gentile client nations.
- 9) Further, we learn that individuals are held accountable before God in their own personal relationship with Him. Compliance brings great blessing while noncompliance brings great suffering in the form of personal discipline.
- 10) This becomes guidance for parents in the rearing of children. They represent God's love to the child. This love is expressed by righteousness standards that are enforced by justice and executed in two ways: (1) blessing for compliance and (2) discipline for noncompliance.
- 11) Parents must teach their children these concepts by a consistent, nonemotional enforcement of rules, policies, standards, and doctrines within the home.
- 12) The parents' mission is to lead their children to willingly comply with these standards based on trust rather than to grudgingly comply based on fear of reprisals.
- 13) Consistency is the key. We learn that God is consistent with client nations and individual believers. He blesses compliance and disciplines noncompliance. Parents must take on this same responsibility as they represent God before their children.
- 14) It is human nature to desire blessing over discipline. This is especially true of children. Thus severity is extremely important under the Latin principle, *crescit sub pondere virtus*: virtue increases beneath oppression.
- 15) Desiring blessing over discipline, the child will begin to make choices for compliance rather than noncompliance. But his compliance should be motivated by a desire to do what is right, not by force and fear.
- 16) Thus parents must emphasize benevolence over severity. Their authority is granted for the purpose of teaching, guiding, and training. Severity is a part of this authority but it is not its primary aspect.
- 17) The mission is to lead the child in the paths of righteousness through love that builds trust.
- 18) Severity is inevitably necessary but when called for it too must be executed through love that builds trust.



- 19) The objective of parental severity is to correct behavior that prevents or interrupts the process of teaching, guiding, and training.
- 20) Benevolence is the primary function of parental authority. It emphasizes the desire to care for the child in every way: food, clothing, and shelter; training, guiding, and teaching. All these are done gratis from loving parents who in return only hope to see their child develop into a stable, well-rounded, clear-thinking individual who becomes a good soldier for Christ and an invisible hero in his client nation's Pivot.
- 21) This benevolence is introduced next by the adversative particle:
δέ, de - "but on the other hand"
- 22) This presents the other side of the coin with regard to the love of God. Benevolence is the divine attitude now being considered and it is directed to the Gentile believers of the Church Age by means of the personal pronoun:
σύ, su - "to you"
- 23) That which is directed to the Gentiles is stated next, the nominative singular of:
χρηστότης, chrēstotēs - "benevolence" plus the genitive of description from:
Θεός, Theos - "of God"

Romans 11:22a - Therefore, behold the benevolence of God and the severity of God. On the one hand, severity to those who fell, but, on the other hand, to you the benevolence of God ...

- 1) Again, we must emphasize context. The severity of God is directed to the apostasy of Israel as a client nation whose citizens rejected Jesus as their Messiah. The benevolence of God is directed to the faithful Gentiles who believed in Jesus as the Christ and are growing in grace under client nation status.
- 2) Severity and benevolence are both expressions of divine love. Under severity Israel has been rejected as a client nation in the Church Age. However this rejection is neither total nor is it final. Divine benevolence will bless the Tribulation's remnant of Jewish believers by establishing them as the inhabitants of the Millennium's client nation of Israel.
- 3) Under benevolence, Gentiles have been awarded the authority to set up client nations in the Church Age and are placed under the supervision of Jesus Christ Who controls history.
- 4) As the ebb and flow of historical trends unfold, our Lord either blesses or disciplines Gentile client nations in accordance with their participation in these trends.
- 5) The core factor that influences the blessing or discipline of Gentile client nations is the degree of loyalty and integrity found in those who possess the gift of pastor-teacher. When they fail to teach doctrine then their flocks deviate from truth and go astray.
- 6) Over time the culture drifts away from biblical principles to those of human viewpoint and this is reflected in historical trends that are based on human good and evil.



- 7) This leads to the inability of parents to properly teach, lead, and direct their children into the paths of righteousness. Consequently a series of generations emerges that is divorced from the reality of truth.
- 8) Attendant downtrends bring on national discipline, ergo, “Behold the severity of God!”