

THE GOODNESS OF GOD

In A study of the attributes of God, we see God's non-communicable attributes – omnipresence, omniscience, omnipotence, immutability. We also see some of His communicable attributes – holiness and love. Today, I want to look at another communicable attribute of God: His goodness. This is close to God's love, but yet it is different.

1. God's Goodness Explained

The goodness of God is that which disposes Him to be kind, cordial, benevolent, and full of goodwill toward mankind.

Psalm 52:1 The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, and their ways are vile; there is no one who does good.

Psalm 119:68 You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.

2. God's Goodness Expanded

A. It Is Seen in the Creation.

Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31

Psalm 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

B. It Is Shown Toward All His Creatures.

Psalm 136:25 - and who gives food to every creature.

Psalm 145:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Matthew 5:45 - He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Luke 6:35 - But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

C. It Is Seen in the Variety of Common Pleasures.

Psalm 145:9 - The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

1. Sight, 2. Hearing, 3. Taste, 4. Touch, 5. Smell

D. It Is Seen When Man Is Corrupt.

II Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

1. Patience 2. Punishment

E. It Was Seen When He Sent Forth Christ.

Galatians 4:4-5 - But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, v5 to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Luke 2:14 - "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests."

3. God's Goodness Extended

– What does it mean to me?

– What are some practical applications?

A. We Need an Attitude of Goodness.

Gal 5:22-3 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

B. We Need an Attitude of Gratitude.

Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men,

"When others behave badly to us, it should only stir us up the more heartily to give thanks unto the Lord, because He is good; and when we ourselves are conscious that we are far from being good, we should only the more reverently bless Him that He is good. We must never tolerate an instant's unbelief as to the goodness of the Lord; whatever else may be questioned, this is absolutely certain, that [God] is good." – C.H. Spurgeon