



Lesson 6 – God Is Good

Just as the word “love” is used in many ways, the word “good” gets used all the time, for all kinds of things. So when we talk about the goodness of God, what exactly does that mean?

The Description of God’s Goodness

When Moses asked to see the glory of God, God said He would cause all His goodness to pass before Moses as He declared His name (Exo. 33:18-19). In this account we see five aspects of God’s goodness.

God’s Goodness Means God Is Merciful

The first way God describes Himself is “a God merciful.” This carries the idea of compassion or tenderness that often leads to showing kindness to those who are miserable because of their sin or because of their suffering.

God’s Goodness Means God Is Gracious

God’s graciousness refers to His divine favor. When kings ruled, you cared quite a lot what the king thought about you! Those the king treated well were said to have been in the king’s favor, or grace (1 Kings 11:19; Esther 5:2). Coming before God, we recognize our sinfulness and rebellion, yet it is astonishing and a great comfort to know that as we stand before this king, we have His grace, His favor (Romans 8:31-32).

God’s Goodness Means God Is Patient

Tied closely to God’s mercy and grace is His patience. The English word longsuffering is a good description of a patient person: someone who



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Tied closely to God’s mercy and grace is His patience. The English word longsuffering is a good description of a patient person: someone who

suffers long over the wrong done to them before getting angry. God would be justified in harshly condemning all those who break His law with immediate punishment, but instead He is patient.

God's Goodness Means God Is Kind

The word "goodness," here has the idea of doing acts of kindness for others, usually for those that one loves and for those who are unable to help themselves. God's goodness towards us is seen in concrete acts of kindness.

God's Goodness Means God Is Faithful

Finally, God's goodness is seen in his faithfulness. The KJV "truth" can also be translated "faithfulness" or "faithful." When God declares that He is "truth" He means He will be true to what He has said.

The Demonstration of God's Goodness

God is good, but He also does good. God's goodness leads Him to perform acts of kindness, compassion, and mercy towards His creatures.

God's Goodness Leads Him to Provide

James 1:17 states unequivocally that God gives good gifts, and that all good gifts ultimately come from God. God's goodness flows, not just to believers, but to all those on earth (Matthew 5:43-44).

God's Goodness Leads Him to Protect

God protects His people from danger. This is true both physically (Psalm 121:5-7; Ezra 9:9) as well as spiritually (Luke 22:31; 1 John 5:8).

God's Goodness Leads Him to Pardon

Psalm 86:5 connects God's goodness and His desire to forgive sins. The greatest demonstration of the goodness of God was His willing sacrifice of His own Son on the cross to purchase our redemption from sin (Romans 5:8; 8:31-34).

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