

PURSUED BY HIS MERCY
The Goodness of God
(Psalm 23:6)

“God's goodness is the root of all goodness;
and our goodness, if we have any, springs out of His goodness.” (William Tyndale)

I. God's Goodness PERCEIVED

- A. Means "ALL that He does is devoid of any EVIL or WRONG"
- B. Often DENIED by the UNSAVED
 - 1. Starts from the belief that MAN is GOOD and SUFFERING is BAD
 - 2. Conclude that if God EXISTS, He must be either IMPOTENT, UNCARING, or EVIL
- C. Often DIMINISHED in the CHURCH
 - 1. Giving MAN some CREDIT for being GOOD (cf. Rom. 3:12)
 - 2. Denying that EVERYTHING good in our lives comes from GOD (cf. Luke 18:19)
- D. Constantly AFFIRMED by the SCRIPTURE (Gen. 1:25; Pss. 25:8; 31:19; 33:5; 52:1; 65:4; Jer. 31:12; Nah. 1:7; Rom. 2:4)

II. God's Goodness DESCRIBED

- A. His PLANS are good (Jer. 29:11; Rom. 12:1; Eph. 2:10)

1. His PURPOSE for our DESTINY
 2. His INTENTION for our BEHAVIOR
- B. His PROVIDENCE is good (Rom. 8:28-29; cf. Gen. 50:20)
1. His GOVERNING of CIRCUMSTANCES to accomplish His PLANS
 2. His turning EVIL and PAIN to our BENEFIT
- C. His PROVISION is good (Ps. 34:10; 68:10; 84:11; Matt. 5:45; 7:9-11; Rom. 8:32)
1. His giving GOOD GIFTS to His CHILDREN
 2. His AID for the FORGOTTEN and the DESPISED
 3. His GENEROSITY toward those who are His ENEMIES
- D. His PROTECTION is good (Ps. 18:1-2; Nah. 1:7; 1 Cor. 10:13)
1. PRESERVING us in the midst of TRIALS
 2. PROTECTING us from anything contrary to our ultimate GOOD
 3. PROMISING we will never be TEMPTED beyond our ability to ENDURE
- E. His PATIENCE is good (Ex. 34:6; Ps. 103:8; 2 Pet. 3:9)
1. Giving the LOST time to be CONVERTED before He CONDEMNS
 2. Giving BELIEVERS time to REPENT before He CHASTENS
- F. His PARDON is good (Ps. 32:1-2; 86:5; John 21:15-17; 1 John 1:9)
1. PAYING the PENALTY for our sin when we HATED Him
 2. CONVICTING of sin so we will CONFESS
 3. FORGIVING the REPENTANT sinner who BELIEVES