

Understanding The Goodness of God!

KJV Psalm 145:9 The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

1. The Person of God is good—it's His number one attribute!
2. The Inclusiveness of God—He is good to All!
3. The relationship of good to God—inseparable!

If we seriously study the Bible we will learn that God is GOOD!

God's Goodness is one of the first of His attributes man discovers:

*ESV Genesis 1:4 And God saw that the **light was good**. And God separated the light from the darkness.*

*Genesis 1:10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that **it was good**.*

*Genesis 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that **it was good**.*

*Genesis 1:25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that **it was good**.*

Everything God created was good!

Adam and Eve had **no** bad experiences with God because everything God gave them including one another was good!

Even the fruit from The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil **was good; it wasn't bad it was just forbidden!**

*Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that **the tree was good for food**, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

All Eve knew was the goodness of God, so when she saw the fruit was good to look at and good for food—she ate it!

So when God said if they ate the fruit they would surely die did they know dying was bad?

Of course they did!

How could they make a rational decision to obey or disobey God without the ability to **critically think** about the consequences!

Critical thinking is one of the most sought after qualities that employers look for in job candidates in almost any industry.

Critical thinking refers to the ability to analyze information objectively and make a reasoned judgment.

Good critical thinkers can draw reasonable conclusions from a set of information and discriminate between useful and less useful details for solving a problem or making a decision.

And it would be unrighteous for God to give a command along with freedom of choice without also giving us the ability to understand the consequences of our choices!

I believe Adam and Eve had pure minds that could analyze, interpret and comprehend great mysteries when they were created in the image and likeness of God.

Hence Adam naming and remembering the names of all creatures!

NIV Psalm 103:8-10 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

When we study the scriptures we find out God never gave anyone what they truly deserved—God always showed mercy because God is good!

❖ I believe they also **understood the goodness of God** in relation to His other **divine attributes**.

Here's what I mean:

In order to begin understanding The Goodness of God we must keep in mind how the other **attributes of God** interact with each other.

For example, since God is infinite. He is also infinitely good.

We must understand God's goodness has no end no matter how good life is now God can make it even better!

Psalm 90:1 A prayer of Moses the man of God. Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

*2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, **from everlasting to everlasting you are God.***

God has always been God and He has always been good—His goodness can't stop!

Since He is immutable (He never changes), He is always good.

KJV Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Even when bad things happen God will make them work for our good!

Since God is love, He is lovingly good!

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Acts 10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

God's love is so good He sent Jesus down to earth to do us good so we could experience His goodness!

Since God is immeasurable, His goodness is beyond measure!

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Since God is independent (needs no one else) His goodness doesn't need anyone else's assistance or approval!

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

Shema of Israel or their "great confession" that God alone is God!

KJV Isaiah 44:6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

Since God is omniscient (all knowing), He knows when and how to be good to us!

NIV 2 Corinthians 6:2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."

Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son...!

In other words when the time was just right God sent Jesus into the world!

Tell your neighbor your breakthrough is coming at just the right time!

Since God is ALL Powerful, His goodness can overpower the bad!

NIV Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

20 I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it.

A prophet (Balaam) was hired by Balak (king of Moab) to curse God's people; God got a hold of him and told him to bless Israel.

Balak got mad but the prophet could not change God's mind—even though a strong enemy wants you cursed it will not work.

Because God's **goodness** is connected to His **power** and nobody is more powerful than God and His goodness towards His children!

KJV Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

NIV James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.