

3/8/20

**Goodness**  
**Attributes Of God, Pt. 7**

We continue our series on “The God of the Bible And the Attributes of God”, as we have noted that the natural attributes of God are incommunicable and have certainly opened our understanding regarding the vastness of God’s potentials unto perfection.

Also the moral attributes of God that are communicable to the believer to manifest the life of the Spirit to be Christ-like.

So we want to continue our study of God’s moral attributes by looking at the attribute of God’s goodness, which is also communicable.

**I. The attribute of God’s goodness relates to the perfection of his nature.**

- A.** The creation record bears testimony of it’s Creator by His attribute of goodness.
1. From the third day to the fifth of creation God said, “It is good”. Gen. 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25
  2. The sixth day He said, “I is very good”. Gen. 1:31

3. The marring of creation and man was not introduced by God nor was it part of the original creation, rather it was introduced by sin through Adam! Rom. 5:12

- B.** The rich young ruler called Jesus, “good teacher”. Lk. 18:18
1. Jesus responded, ““Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is God.” vs. 19
  2. God is the only One who is absolutely good and able to do good in every decision for He is holy, righteous, all-knowing and wisdom unto perfection, therefore the only thing He can do is good.
- C.** Goodness describes God’s actions to his creation in a positive and beneficial way.
1. The Lord is good to all. Ps. 145:9
  2. The goodness of God endures continually. Ps. 52:1  
\* The goodness of God is immutable, the attribute that describes God as unable to change, He cannot increase or decrease in goodness, for better or worse, “The goodness of God endures continually.
  3. Though He in His sovereignty decides the imparting of goodness in the various degrees, the manner and time according to His perfect wisdom.

4. Much like a child that is denied some request by the parent who sees the danger and potential for destruction, only to have the child look back on the denial years later and see the protection and benefit to their lives and appreciate their parents.

D. God owes His goodness to not one of His creatures nor any of His other attributes as Paul says, “Who has first given to Him, and it shall be recompenses to Him again?” Rom. 11:35

1. God’s attribute of goodness is responsible for man’s potential for goodness but it is not perfect nor consistent.
2. God’s goodness is imparted giving man a potential for goodness but his bent since the fall is evil, “The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”. Gen. 6:5
3. Jeremiah said, “Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the **leopard** its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.” Jer. 13:23  
\* Man drinks up iniquity like water. Job 15:16c
4. Often people will not believe in God because of the many injustices and sufferings in the world and are so upset or angry at God saying, “How can God do this, or how can He allow these things”, not

realizing that they are exalting themselves above God by implying that they have a better sense of goodness than God.

5. And the LORD passed before him “Moses” and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and **abounding in goodness** and truth.” Ex. 34:6

*The moral attribute of God’s goodness relates to the perfection of his nature!*

## II. The attribute of God’s goodness is declared throughout Scripture.

- A. God turns evil situations into good ones.
  1. God turned Joseph’s situation meant for evil for good. Gen. 50:20
  2. God turned Haman’s plot to destroy the Jews into deliverance through Esther. Est.
- B. God is declared to be the source of man’s goodness.
  1. “See, I have set before you today life and **good**, death and evil.” Deut. 30:15
  2. David says, “O my soul, you have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, My **goodness** is nothing apart from You.” Ps. 16:2
  3. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Ps. 33:5

- C. God is good to the most depraved.
1. Good and upright is the Lord; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.” Ps. 25:8
  2. The saint is invited to taste and see that the Lord is good. Ps. 34:8
  3. The Psalmist says the name of the Lord is good. Ps. 54:6
  4. We are not to despise the goodness of God that leads to repentance. Rom. 2:4
- D. God is to be acknowledged for His goodness.
1. Ezra and Nehemiah both often repeat the phrase, “The good hand of God upon me or us”. Ezra 7:9, 8:18; Neh. 2:8, 18
  2. We are to praise and give thanks because He is good. Ps. 106:1
  3. One particular Psalm repeats after every section, “Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness. Ps. 107, 8, 15, 21, 31
- E. God is the provider of all His creatures.
1. Who gives food to all flesh, For His mercy endures forever. Ps. 136:25
  2. The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing. Ps. 145:15-16
  3. He provides rain and sun to both good and evil. Matt. 5:45

- F. God’s goodness to Israel in the past and future.
1. “I will mention the loving-kindness of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great **goodness** toward the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His loving-kindness.” Is. 63:7
  2. “The LORD *is* **good** to those who wait for Him, To the soul *who* seeks Him.” Lam. 3:25
  3. “Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His **goodness** in the latter days.” Hos. 3:5

***The moral attribute of God’s goodness is declared throughout Scripture!***

### **III. The attribute of God’s goodness is seen in His creation and man.**

- A. God’s goodness is evident in the creation.
1. David says, “The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through

all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, And rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, And its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.” Ps. 19:1-5

2. God created the earth not in vain, but that it be inhabited by man. Jer. 45:18
3. God made the sun, moon and the stars to benefit man on the earth. Gen. 1
4. God created the varieties of grass, fruit trees and animals for the benefit of man. Gen. 1
5. God gave man dominion over all the creation. Gen. 1:26
6. God made a garden placing man in it to tend it and be in fellowship with God. Gen. 2:8
7. God created the garden with the tree of life that they might live eternally with God. Gen. 3:24

**B. God’s goodness is evident in His creation of man.**

1. David says, “I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.” Ps. 139:14
2. God created a women for man, a companion for life, Eve and God brought her to Adam. Gen. 2:21-22

3. God gave man the ability to reproduce live after his kind and commanded to be fruitful and multiply. Gen. 2:28
4. God made man in the image and likeness of God. Gen. 1:27
  - a. Giving man the ability of intellect, able to think in order to distinguish him from the animal kingdom.
  - b. Giving him the ability to be holy to fellowship with God.
  - c. Giving him the ability to be righteous to be right with his fellow man.
5. God gave man the ability to see colors.
6. God gave man the ability to taste, smell, hear and touch?
7. God gave man in the make up of his body the ability to fight infections through the circulatory system as the white blood corpusals attack any intruders.
8. God gave man’s body the ability to begin a healing process immediately to repair itself.
  - \* Doctors if they are honest know that though they may operate and cut out some cancer of put something back together, it is God who is in charge of the amount of healing or not, sometimes by the natural processes and at other times by Divine intervention!
9. God gave man the ability to grow, development and mature at every stage in

life, “In Him we live, move and have our being.” Acts 17:28

C. God’s goodness is described as:

1. Abundant when God passed before Moses. Ex. 34:6
  - a. His goodness is sufficient is magnified by His patience towards man.
  - b. His goodness of God is exercised upon objects that have not merited anything contrary to the acts of his bounty..
2. Great. Ps. 31:19
  - a. For those who fear Him.
  - b. For those who put their trust in Him.
3. Enduring. Ps. 52:1
  - a. For those who fear God.
  - b. For those who trust in the mercy of God.
    - \* Mercy is a branch of God’s goodness, less than a person deserves.
4. Satisfying. Ps. 65:4
  - a. For the man God has chosen.
  - b. For the man who dwells in God’s courts.
5. Universal. Ps. 145:9
  - a. To all of mankind..
  - b. To all his work.

D. God’s goodness is to be celebrated in rejoicing.

1. Then Jethro rejoiced for all the good which the LORD had done for Israel, whom He had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians. Ex. 18:9

2. Moses told Israel, “So you shall **rejoice** in every good thing which the LORD your God has given to you and your house, you and the Levite and the stranger who is among you.” Deut. 26:11
3. Solomon prayed at the dedication of the temple, “Now therefore, Arise, O LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength. Let Your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, And let Your saints **rejoice** in goodness”. 2Chron. 6:41
4. Isaiah praises God for His Messiah and the future restoration of Jerusalem, “I will greatly **rejoice** in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.” Is. 61:10
5. John rejoices over the union of Christ and His bride declaring, “Let us be glad and **rejoice** and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” Rev. 19:7

*The moral attribute of God’s goodness is seen in His creation and man!*

#### IV. The attribute of God's goodness comprehends all of His attributes.

- A. God told Moses as he requested to see His glory, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." Ex. 33:19
1. Goodness is the perfection of His loveliness.
  2. Due to His goodness God is gracious.
  3. Due to His goodness God is compassion.
- B. God's attributes are exercised with the attribute of goodness.
1. The Omnipotence of God is used for good, be it to bless or to judge the evil or sin.
  2. The Omnipresence of God is manifested to care and be involved for the good of His creation.
  3. The Omniscience of God is use to make perfect judgments and predict future things that will bring about the good of God.
  4. The foreknowledge of God is used for the accuracy of decrees to affirm the good word of God so as not to mistaken or contradict information in the past, present or future.
  5. The wisdom of God is the product of the assimilation and accommodation of knowledge and information for the best results for the good of a person or situation.

6. The immutability of God is good for He never changes but is consistent to His good nature.
  7. The sovereignty of God is the exercise of His perfect will to do as He wants, to who He wants, as He wants, whenever He wants and as often as He wants resulting only in good, for He can do no evil
  8. The holiness of God is the epitome of goodness.
  9. The righteousness of God is justice to its ultimate goodness.
  10. The faithfulness of God is the trustworthiness of His goodness.
  11. The grace of God is His unmerited goodness.
  12. The love of God is the abundance of His goodness.
- C. The attribute of God's goodness is seen in His many titles and names.
1. God "Elohim", He is the good Creator. Gen. 1:1
  2. God Most High "El Elyon", He is the possessor of heaven and earth, who created it for man. Gen. 14:18
  3. Lord God "Adonai Elohim". He is Lord and master for man's good. Gen. 15:2
  4. God Almighty, "El Shaddai", He is able to carry out the will of His divine nature.

- \* Shad literally means breast, so one to sustain and provide for. Gen. 17:1
5. “LORD” YHWH “yahweh” called the tetragrammaton having no vowels, the covenant God, He is, He exists, He is present, the becoming One working for their good, depending on their need. Ex. 3:14, 6:6:3
  6. God of Eternity or Ancient of Days “El Olam”, He is the only eternal God of the ages, dispensing goodness to man. Gen. 21:33
  7. “El Elohe Israel”, He is the ruler and governor of Israel for their good. Gen. 33:20
  8. The Lord of Host “elohim tsaba” , He is the captain of the armies of heaven to defend all good. Amos 5:3

1. We are to remember God’s goodness. Ps. 145:7
2. We are to be satisfied with God’s goodness. Jer. 31:14
3. We are to know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Rom. 8:28
4. Let us see the goodness of God lest we charge him foolishly.

### **Illustration**

Stephen Charnock in his book, The Existence And The Attributes Of God, said the following regarding God’s attribute of goodness, “To love God only for his benefits, is to love ourselves first, and Him secondly: To love God for His own goodness and excellency, is a true love of God.” (Stephen Charnock:333: Vol. 2)

***The moral attribute of God’s goodness comprehends all of His attributes!***

### **Conclusion**

10/25/01

**Text-** Selected Scriptures.

**Subject-** Doctrine of God.

**Theme -** Moral Attributes of God.

### **Introduction**

- I. **The attribute of God's goodness relates to the perfection of his nature.**
- II. **The attribute of God's goodness is declared throughout Scripture.**
- III. **The attribute of God's goodness is seen in His creation and man.**
- IV. **The attribute of God's goodness comprehends all of His attributes.**

### **Conclusion**