

02 04 23

Goodness –Pt 2 God's goodness is in Christ Jesus

This is our second & final study on the word "goodness". In our previous teaching we established three points– (i) The Lord is abundant in goodness and truth, ii) The Lord showed His goodness to Israel, and iii) God's children have goodness.

In this teaching we establish an additional three points–i) God's goodness today is in His Son's sacrifice on the cross, and the Holy Spirit– given in goodness, ii) It is the goodness of God that leads a man to repentance, and iii) in response to God's goodness Christians are to be full of goodness.

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our three points–

1, God's goodness is evidenced today in–

His Son's sacrifice on the cross– proclaimed in the gospel (good news)

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Rom.10:15)– CF– 1 Cor.15: 3, 4– "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [4] And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day..."

2) It is the goodness of God (in Christ) that leads a man to repentance

"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" (Rom.2: 4).

3. In response to God's goodness we are to be full of goodness

"And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness..." (Rom 15:14).

Illustration

I had an opportunity on Thursday at work to share with an unsaved man a new gospel that the Lord had laid on my heart earlier in the week. The tract, isn't yet written, but the outline was explained to the man. The title will be the goodness God, and the wrath of God. Goodness to those that receive and believe the good news of glad tidings, and the wrath of God for those that reject God's sacrifice for their sins. With questions at the conclusion– Why would man anyone reject God's goodness? After presenting the new tract– he asked for a copy once it was written.

Questions of the scriptures

- i) The scriptures do not specifically say that Jesus showed Israel goodness during his time on earth, but how do we know that He did?
- ii) How can God's children be full of all goodness?

Answers from the scriptures

i) Christ is our example of goodness, He healed the sick, had compassion on those that could not see because the devil had blinded their minds, and he was obedient to the Father, He fulfilled all the good pleasure of the Father's goodness, unto death – even the death of the cross.

ii) God's children are full of goodness (God's goodness) because we receive the Spirit, He dwells in us and the Spirit of God bears fruit of goodness–"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith" (Gal.5: 22). If we struggle to show God's goodness, then remember that it is not man that bears the fruit of goodness (Prov.20: 6) but the Spirit of God that dwells in a Christian. So let us go to the Lord, repent of our sin. Knowing that the goodness of God leads us to repentance, and by doing so, we will not quench the Spirit of God, and He will bear the fruit of goodness in us. To the glory of God! Amen