ULaity Missionary Baptist Church Bible Study July 9, 2022 Subject: The Goodness of God

The Goodness of God can be defined as a supreme characteristic of God in terms of His love, kindness, generosity, compassion, and mercy shown to His creation.

I. What Are Some Scriptures That Talk About the Goodness of God?

A. God declares His goodness and truth to Moses.

Exodus 34:5 - 6.

⁵Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the name of the LORD.
⁶And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

B. Jesus declares the goodness of God.

Luke 18:18-19.

¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.

C. God's goodness is ours for the asking.

Matthew 7:7 – 11.

⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

⁹Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent?

¹¹If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

D. God's goodness is enduring and satisfying.

Psalm 52:1 and Psalm 65:4.

¹Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God *endures* continually.

⁴Blessed *is the man* You choose, And cause to approach *You, That* he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple.

Psalm 100:3-5

- ³ Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.
- ⁴ Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name.
- ⁵ For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations.

E. God's goodness covers all His creation.

Psalm 31:19 and Psalm 145:9.

¹⁹Oh, how great *is* Your goodness, Which You have laid up for those who fear You,

Which You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men!

⁹The Lord *is* good to all, And His tender mercies *are* over all His works.

II. How Do We Experience the Goodness of God?

A. We experience the goodness of God through His material blessings.

Matthew 6:25 - 32.

²⁵"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

²⁶Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? ²⁸"So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;

²⁹and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

31"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

³²For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

B. We experience the goodness of God through His Spiritual blessings.

Ephesians 1:3-6

- ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,
- ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,
- ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.

C. We experience the goodness of God through His forgiveness of our sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

- ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 10:14 – 17.

- ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.
- ¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,
- ¹⁶"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,"

¹⁷then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

III. What Is Our Attitude As Christians Toward God's Goodness?

A. We are content with the Goodness of God.

Philippians 4:11 – 13

- ¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:
- ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
- ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

B. We accept whatever God's Will is for our lives.

Matthew 6:7-10

- ⁷ And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.
- ⁸ Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.
- ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.
- ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.

C. We strive to imitate the goodness of God. Hebrews 6:11-12.

¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

3 John 1:11

¹¹ Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.

D. We must keep in mind that God is Lord of all.

Matthew 5:43 – 45.

⁴³"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor[™] and hate your enemy.'

^{44⊠}But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

E. We must keep in mind that God is in control of all.

Proverbs 19:21

²¹ There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD'S counsel--that will stand.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

Romans 8:31

What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?