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Goodness- is the selfless desire to be open hearted and generous to others above what they deserve.

The Greek word translated “goodness,” ***agathosune***, is defined as "**uprightness of heart and life**."

Agathosune(pronounced ah-gah-thow-soo-ney)- goodness for the benefit of others, not goodness simply for the sake of being virtuous.

In **Galatians 5:22-23**, Paul lists the "**fruit of the Spirit**". “**Fruit**,” here, means "**beneficial results**," the good things that come from the Spirit’s indwelling. As the Holy Spirit works in our lives, our character changes.

(Galatians 5:22–23) [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is ***love***, ***joy***, ***peace***, ***forbearance***, ***kindness***, ***goodness***, ***faithfulness***, [23] ***gentleness and self-control***. Against such things there is no law.

- Everything in the list reflects the character of God, and goodness is one that relates directly to morality.

1. **What is goodness?**

- *Goodness is virtue and holiness in action*.
- *It results in a life characterized by deeds motivated by righteousness and a desire to be a blessing*.
- *It's a moral characteristic of a Spirit-filled person*.

2. **How is goodness displayed in the life of a believer?**

- *Someone with Goodness will selflessly act on behalf of others.*

3. **How many different ways can we express goodness?**

- *Expressions of goodness are as varied as the Spirit is creative.*
- *So do giving to the poor, providing for one's children, visiting the sick, volunteering to clean up after a storm, and praying for an enemy.*

4. **Have you ever confronted someone about sin?**

- *Confronting someone about a sin demonstrates goodness***.**

5. Can we create goodness in our life?

- *Goodness is not a quality we can manufacture on our own***.**

(James 1:17)[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**.**

6. What role do we play in this fruit developing in our lives?

- In letting the Holy Spirit control us, we are blessed with the fruit of goodness**.**

7. How can your goodness impact others?

- *As others see our good works, they will praise our Father in heaven.*

(Matthew 5:16) [16] In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Conclusion:

The evil in the world did not come from God. Adam and Eve were tempted by the devil and sinned. Immediately after that, Adam and Eve were just not on the same page with God anymore. God cannot tolerate sin and has no sin within Himself, so mankind hid from God in guilt and fear. One could perhaps blame Adam and Eve for the evil in the world, as they blamed each other and the serpent; however, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" **(Romans 3:23)**. It is safe to say that, had we been in the garden instead of Adam and Eve, we would have sinned in the same way.

God is good in that He has a plan to redeem fallen mankind. The salvation Jesus provides attests to His goodness and love **(Romans 5:8)**. The effect of the Fall is universal, but so also is the offer of divine grace **(John 3:16)**. The Bible clearly indicates the devastating effects of sin upon man and the hopelessness of man in solving his own sin problem.

God is good in that He has sent His Son "to destroy the works of the devil" **(1 John 3:8)**. Jesus called Satan "the ruler of this world" **(John 12:31)**, which means Satan has been allowed a certain amount of **authority over this earth**. The blame for the evil in this world should be placed squarely upon Satan. Much is written about the devil—he comes only to kill, steal, and destroy **(John 10:10)**. He is a fierce enemy **(1 Peter 5:8)**. He is a liar and a murderer **(John 8:44)**. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep **(John 10:11)**. He is the Lamb of God, sacrificed for us **(Revelation 5:6)**. He is the truth and the life **(John 14:6)**. Jesus is the "seed of the woman" to crush the serpent's head **(Genesis 3:15)**. Jesus is Goodness incarnate.

Just picture Jesus, the sinless One who created everything, willfully hanging on a cross and spilling His blood for the sin of those who put their faith in Him. Who can charge Him with injustice **(Romans 9:14)**? Jesus proves God's love. "Love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love" **(1 John 4:7-8)**.

Goodness Scriptures:

(Titus 3:4-7) But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us *generously* through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

(Psalm 23:6) Surely ***goodness*** and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

(Ephesians 5:8-10) For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all ***goodness****,* righteousness, and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord.

(Galatians 6:9-10) Let us not become weary in doing *good,* for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do *good* to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.