

## Colossians 3:16

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another  
in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



Who is God? What is He like? Can He be known? These are the most important questions in the universe. The good news is God has answered these questions by revealing Himself through His attributes. The most important thing we can do in the universe is grow in our knowledge of God. We have been created by God to know God. For the season of Lent our devotions will be on knowing God through His attributes.

### **Good, goodness**

We should never start a sentence, “If God is good ...” God is inherently good. Wherever we encounter goodness, it points to the essence of God. His goodness is the source of all goodness; and our goodness, if we have any, flows out of His goodness. The greater our knowledge of the goodness and grace of God on our life, the more likely we will praise Him in times of trouble. God’s goodness includes His infinitely generous attitude toward us. By nature, He longs to bring joy and blessing to all His creatures. Because God is personal, His goodness is personal. Without God’s standard of Goodness, morality, decency, and civility will soon be lost. It can only be restored by turning to Him who is Good, Jesus Christ.

### **Scripture on God’s Goodness**

*Exodus 33:18-19* Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”<sup>19</sup> And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

*Psalm 25:8-10* Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

*Psalm 27:13* I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

*Psalm 34:8* Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

*Psalm 100:5* For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

*Psalm 106:1-2* Praise the Lord!

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup> Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord, or declare all his praise?

*Psalm 107:1-2* Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.

*Psalm 119:68* You are good and do good; teach me your statutes.

*Nahum 1:7* The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

**Zechariah 9:17** For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!

**Luke 18:18-19** And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

**Romans 8:28-29** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.

**Galatians 6:9-10** And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**1 Timothy 4:4** For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving

**Titus 3:4-5** When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

**James 1:16-17** Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

## **Song**

**Psalm 59:16** But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

***The Lord is Strong to Help The Weak***  
(also known as ***The Lord is Good in All His Ways***)

The Lord is strong to help the weak,  
Upholding those that fall,  
Restoring those bowed down with grief,  
And doing good to all.

*Refrain:* The Lord is good in all his ways,  
His creatures know his constant care;  
To all his works his love extends,  
All men his tender mercies share.

Thy creatures look to Thee for food,  
From day to day supplied,  
And Thou dost for their sustenance  
With open hand provide. *Refrain*

The Lord is right in all His ways,  
His works His love declare,  
And He is right to every one  
That breathes the trustful prayer. *Refrain*

The hope of those that fear His Name  
The Lord will satisfy;  
Their mighty Savior He will be  
When unto Him they cry. *Refrain*

## **Prayer**

*II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Lord, our Good Shepherd, as we wake to each day, another new day of the reality of COVID-19, another day we're home with our families or alone, another day we follow the news and hear the numbers and go about our business, how good it is to know that You are with us, calming our fears and providing what we need.

Surely Your goodness and mercy follows us. You are good, and incredibly good to us! Help us to see ways You are good to us, and help us to counter the bad we see in our lives and around us with that awareness of and rejoicing for your goodness. You are full of mercy for us; You do not treat us as our sins deserve, but as we trust in Jesus' death in our place, we are treated as He deserves: we have life, we are welcome and made at home in Your presence.

Lord, we look forward to being home in Your house forever, spending all our days fully satisfied, fully at rest, fully safe in Your presence. Lord Jesus, You are preparing that place for us, and You will come back soon to bring us home with You (John 14:1-3). Come, Lord Jesus, come! Come, bring us home. In the meantime, as we spend these days in our earthly homes, we thank You for the peace You give, even in these times of unrest.

Keep our eyes fixed on You as we go through each day;  
Remind us of your goodness and mercy.  
By your goodness and mercy,  
Your amazing grace,  
Lead us home, home to You,  
And give us rest along the way.

We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

(prayer by Alexander Scott)