

The Goodness of God
A Biblical Studies Class

God is Good

Deut 1:25	It is a good land which the Lord our God doth give us
Deut 6:20-25	The Lord commanded us to do all these statutes...for our good
Deut 10:12-13	To keep the commandments of the Lord...for thy good
Deut 26:1-11	Rejoice in every good thing the Lord thy God hath given thee (vs. 11)
Josh 21:45	There failed not ought of any good thing
I Kings 8:54-56	There failed not one word of all his good promise
Ezra 3:10-11	Giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good
Ezra 7:9	The good hand of his God upon him
Neh 2:18	The hand of my God which was good upon me
Psa 4:6-8	There be many that say, Who shall shew us any good?
Psa 25:8	Good and upright is the Lord
Psa 34:8-10	O taste and see that the Lord is good; they that seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing --
Psa 69:16	Hear me O Lord, for thy lovingkindness [<i>chesed</i> - steadfast love, lovingkindness] is good
Psa 73:1	Truly God is good to Israel, to such as are of a clean heart
Psa 84:11	No good will he withhold from them that walk uprightly
Psa 107:8-9	Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness
Psa 109:21	Thy mercy is good
Psa 143:10	Thy spirit is good
Mat 19:16-17	Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, God

Acts 10:38 God anointed Jesus Christ, who went about doing good
Rom 2:4 The goodness of God leadeth men to repentance
Rom 8:28 All things work together for good to them that love God
I John 1:5 God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all

God Loves Us

Deut 7:7-8 The Lord loved you and wanted to keep His commandments
Deut. 23:3-5 God turned the curse (of Balaam) into a blessing, because He loved you
(vs. 5)
Psalm 36:7 How excellent is thy lovingkindness [*chesed* - steadfast love,
lovingkindness], O God!
Psalm 63:1-6 Thy lovingkindness [*chesed*] is better than life (vs. 3)
Psalm 103 Crowneth thee with lovingkindness [*chesed*] and tender mercies (vs. 4b)
Psalm 138 I will praise thy name for thy lovingkindness [*chesed*] and truth (vs. 2b)
Jer. 9:23, 24 Let him glory in that he knoweth the Lord which exercises lovingkindness
[*chesed*] (vs 24)
Jer. 31:3 With lovingkindness [*chesed*] have I drawn thee

God Allows People to Choose

Gen 2:15-17; 3:1ff Adam was given a command, and chose to disobey it
Deut 28 The blessings and the curse of the law
Josh 24:1-15 Choose ye this day whom ye will serve (vs. 15)
II Chron 13 The children of Judah prevailed, because they relied [Heb. Sha-an:
to rest, rely, lean upon, support oneself] upon the LORD God (vs. 18)
Jer 42ff God provided them a way of safety, which they rejected
Ezek 18:23-30 God does not want death [equal: fair] (vs. 23)

Ezek 33:10-20 God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked
Jonah 3-4 God gave Nineveh a chance to repent, which they did

Idiom of Permission

Gen 31:1-7 God suffered him not to hurt me [literally, “God did not give him to do me evil,” meaning, “God did not permit him to hurt me.”] (vs. 7)
Ex 4:21 I will harden [permit to be hardened] Pharaoh’s heart
Ex 5:1-23 Wherefore hast thou evil entreated [permitted evil to be done]? (vs. 22)
I Chron 10:1-6 Saul fell on his own sword (also I Sam 31:1-6)
I Chron 10:13-14 Therefore he slew him [permitted him to be slain]
Isa 6:9-10 Shut their eyes [permit them to shut their eyes. See Acts 28:27]
Ezek 12:13 God took Zedekiah to Babylon (but did He actually do so? Compare Jer. 52:1-11; II Kings 25:1-7; II Chron 36:17-20)
Mat 27:57-60 Joseph begged the body of Jesus and laid it in his own new tomb (also Mark 15:42-46; Luke 23:50-53)
Acts 13:27-29 They laid him in a sepulchre [permitted him to be lain]
II Thes 2:1-11 Send them strong delusion [permit them to be deceived]
vs 3 - falling away: departure
vs 6 - withholdeth: restrains
vs 7 - he who letteth will let: there is one who restrains now
vss 9-10: Satan deceives; they received not the love of the truth

God Protects His People

Exodus 6:1; 7:14-25 The plagues of Egypt
Deut 13:12-18 That the Lord may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy (vs. 17)

Judges 2:1-5 Ye shall throw down their altars...their gods shall be a snare to you

I Sam 15 Saul and Amalek

I Kings 18:16ff Elijah and the prophets of Baal

II Kings 6:8-7:20 God protected his people from attack twice (blinding the Syrian army, the four leprous men)

Temptation

Gen 22:1ff God did tempt [*nacah* – test] Abraham (cf. Heb. 11:17-19)

 Hebrews 11:19 (RSV):
He considered that God was able to raise men from the dead; hence, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Acts 20:17-21 Temptations [*peirasmos* – trial, proving] befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews (vs. 19)

I Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation [*peirasmos*] taken you but such as is common to man...God will not suffer you to be tempted [*peirazo*] above that ye are able

I Thes 3:1-8 Lest by some means the tempter [*peirazo*] have tempted [*peirazo*] you (vs. 5) [vs. 3 - afflictions: mental pressure; vs. 4 - tribulation: mental pressure]

I Tim 6:1-12 They that will be [want to be] rich fall into temptation [*peirasmos*] and a snare (vs. 9)

Heb 2:14-18 He himself suffered being tempted [*peirazo*] (vs. 18)

Heb 3:8-10 The day of temptation [*peirasmos*] in the wilderness...your fathers tempted [*peirazo*] me

Heb 4:15-16 In all points tempted [*peirazo*] like as we are, yet without sin

James 1:2-5, 12-15 Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations [*peirasmos*] (vs. 2)
Let no man say when he is tempted [*peirazo*], he is tempted [*peirazo*] of God, for God cannot be tempted [*apeirastos*] with evil, neither tempteth [*peirazo*]

I Pet 1:3-9 Ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations [*peirasmos*] (vs. 6)

II Pet 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations [*peirasmōs*]

Proving

Deut 8 To prove [*nacah* - test] thee (vs. 2); he might prove [*nacah*] thee (vs. 16)

Deut 13:1-5 The Lord your God proveth [*nacah* - tests] you (vs. 3)

Judges 2:8-23 That through them I may prove [*nacah* - test] Israel (vs 22)

I Sam 17:38-40 I have not proved [*nacah* - tested] them (vs. 39)

I Kings 10:1-2 She came to prove [*nacah* - test] him with hard questions

Dan 1:12 Prove [*nacah* - test] thy servants ten days

Mal 3:10 Prove [*bachan* – test, examine, investigate] me now herewith, if I will not open you the windows of heaven

Rom 12:1-2 That ye may prove [*dokimazo* – test, approve, examine] what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God (vs. 2)

Gal 6:1-6 Let every man prove [*dokimazo*] his own work (vs. 4)

I Thes 5:16-22 Prove [*dokimazo*] all things; hold fast that which is good (vs. 21)

I Tim 3:8-13 Let these also first be proved [*dokimazo*] (vs. 10)

God is Faithful

Deut. 7:9 The LORD God is the faithful God

Ps. 36:5-9 Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds

Ps. 40 I waited [*qawah* – wait with expectation] patiently [intently - waiting I waited] for the Lord, and he heard (vs. 1)

He brought me up also out of an horrible pit (vs. 2).

You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted. (vs. 5 - NRSV)

Psalms 91 A thousand shall fall at thy side - shall not come nigh (vs. 7)

Ps. 92:1-5	To show forth thy faithfulness every night
Ps. 108:1-6, 12-13	Your mercy [steadfast love, lovingkindness] is great above [higher than] the heavens and thy truth [faithfulness] reaches to the clouds [skies] (vs. 4)
Ps. 119:86	All thy commandments are faithful
Ps. 119:90	Thy faithfulness is unto all generations
Ps. 119:138	Thy testimonies are very faithful
Ps. 121:4	He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep
Lam. 3:22-23	Great is thy faithfulness
Dan. 6:26	He is the living God, and steadfast forever
Rom. 12:10-14	Patient in mental pressure, continuing instant [steadfastly, faithful, persevering, be constant] in prayer (vs. 12)
I Thes. 5:23-24	Faithful is he that calleth you
II Thes. 3:1-3	The Lord is faithful, who will stablish you and keep you from evil
II Tim. 2:10-13	If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful
II Tim 4:16-18	The Lord stood with me, and strengthened me
Titus 1:9	Holding fast the faithful word
Heb. 11:11	New Revised Standard Version (1989): By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old - and Sarah herself was barren - because he considered him faithful who had promised.
I John 1:9	He is faithful and just to forgive

Mercy

Gen 39:19-23	The Lord was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy [<i>chesed</i> - steadfast love, lovingkindness] (vs. 21)
Neh 9:16-20	Thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness [<i>racham</i> – mercy, compassion] (vs. 19)

Neh 9:24-31 According to thy manifold mercies [*racham*] thou gavest them saviors (vs 27) Many times thou didst deliver them according to thy mercies (vs. 28) For thy great mercies [*racham*] sake thou didst not utterly consume them (vs. 31)

Ps 25:6 Thy tender mercies [*racham*] and thy lovingkindness [*chesed*]

Ps 59:16-17 I will sing aloud of thy mercy [*chesed*] in the morning

Lam 3:21-26 It is of the Lord's mercies [*chesed*] that we are not consumed, because his compassions [*racham*] fail not (vs 22)

II Cor 4:1-9 Seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy [*eleeo* – have mercy or pity], we faint not (vs. 1)

Heb 4:14-16 Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy [*eleos* – compassion, mercy, pity, clemency]

God Still Loves Us!

Rom 5:8 God loved us while we were yet sinners

Rom 8:38-39 Nothing can separate us from the love of God

Eph 2:4-5 God, is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us

I John 3:1-3 We are the sons of God

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