

# Goodness of God

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Hebrews 12:4ff.

B. When circumstances turn good, we call God good. But what do we call Him when circumstances don't feel good? (Acts 12)

1. God is always good, no matter what the outworking of our circumstances are. (Psalm 145:9)
2. When the circumstances are not good is when we know the most that God is good.

## II. God has already proved His goodness on Calvary.

A. We deserve God's wrath, but instead He demonstrated love to us through Jesus' death.

B. If He was willing to do this for us, He will also give us many other good things. (Romans 8:32; Luke 10:40)

## III. In order to understand God's goodness in the context of adversity, we need to understand God's purpose for us. (Romans 8:28-29)

A. God's primary purpose for us to conform us to the likeness of Jesus Christ.

1. God disciplines us for our good so that we can be holy. (Hebrews 12:10)
2. God always knows the best discipline to use and always uses it for our good. (Psalm 119:71)

B. God's secondary purpose for disciplining us is to prepare us for effective service. (Genesis 50:20; Acts 7:22-25; Exodus 4:1, 10; 2 Corinthians 8, 9; Acts 24:25-27)

## IV. To believe in God's goodness, we must believe in His sovereignty. (Lamentations 3:37-38; Daniel 4:35)

## V. To believe in God's goodness, we must believe in God's infinite wisdom.

A. God always knows exactly what He is doing. He does not ponder or agonize over decisions about our lives. (Romans 11:33)

B. God doesn't usually explain His decisions to us. He wants us to trust without an explanation.

## VI. God is worthy to receive our honor. (Revelation 4:11)

- A. God is worthy of our worship. It is the only suitable response to His majesty.
- B. God is worthy of my obedience. It is the only suitable response to His holiness.
- C. God is worthy is my trust. This is the only suitable response to His goodness.

**Application questions:**

1. Which of the three attributes of God spoken of in this message do you find the most difficult to believe in- His wisdom, His sovereignty, or His goodness? Which is the easiest for you to accept?

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2. How is God's primary purpose of making you like Jesus good? How is this in your best interests?

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3. How is Jesus' sacrifice on the cross a demonstration of His goodness?

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