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## Introduction

### The Goodness of God

#### What do we mean when we speak of the Goodness of God?

- *Good in all he IS*
- *Good in all he DOES, and...*
- *The great good that our souls need and long for.*

#### Where does the bible teach us about the Goodness of God?

##### 1. God is Good in all he IS

- ❖ Psalms 107:1—*Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!*
- ❖ Psalm 119:68—**You are good** and do good; teach me your statutes.
- ❖ 1 John 1:5—*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*
- ❖ Psalms 18:30a—*This God—his way is perfect;*
- ❖ Mark 10:18—*And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.*

#### *Behold our Perfectly Good and Righteous God*

##### 2. God is Good in all he DOES

- ❖ Genesis 1:31—*And God saw **everything that he had made**, and behold, **it was very good**. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*
- ❖ Genesis 50:20—*As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.*
- ❖ Acts 2:23-24—*this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.*
- ❖ Romans 8:28—*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*
- ❖ Psalms 145:9—*The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.*



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### 3. God is the great good that our souls need and long for

- ❖ Exodus 33:18-19—Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’”
- ❖ John 1:16-18—For from his [that is Christ’s] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, **he has made him known.**
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 3:18—And we all, with **unveiled face**, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

## The Love of God

*“The love of God is greater far,  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care  
God gave His Son to win  
His erring child He reconciled  
And pardoned from his sin*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment made  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky”*

## What do we mean when we speak of the Love of God?

“that perfection of God by which He is eternally moved to self-communication.<sup>1</sup>”

“What is the love of God? It is that divine attribute that moves Him to freely and selflessly give Himself to others for their benefit or good. The Scriptures teach us that divine love (i.e. God’s love) is much more than an attitude, an emotion, or a work. It is an attribute of God—a part of His very being or nature. God indeed loves, but He also is love. He is the very essence of what true love is, and all true love flows from Him as its ultimate source.<sup>2</sup>”

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<sup>1</sup> Louis Berkhof. *The Doctrine of God* (Kindle Locations 1146-1147). Monergism Books. Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Washer, Paul. *Knowing the Living God* (Biblical Foundations for the Christian Faith Book 1) (Page 151). Media Gratiae. Kindle Edition.



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## Where does the bible teach us about the Love of God?

### 1. God IS Love

- ❖ Exodus 34:6—*The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and **abounding in steadfast love** and faithfulness,*
- ❖ 1 John 4:7-8—*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 13:11—*Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the **God of love** and peace will be with you.*
- ❖ Psalm 5:4-6—*For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.*

### 2. God’s Love for ALL

- ❖ Matthew 5:44—*For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.*
- ❖ Romans 1:19-20—*For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.*
- ❖ John 15:13—*Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.*

### 3. God’s Particular Love

- ❖ Romans 5:8—*but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- ❖ Galatians 2:20—*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, **who loved me and gave himself for me.***
- ❖ 1 John 3:1—*See what kind of love the Father has given to **us**, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*
- ❖ John 17:9—*I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me,*

RCF Academy  
Behold Your God  
Class 9: *The Goodness and Love of God*



**REFORMATION**  
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- ❖ 1 John 4:10—*In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*
  - ❖ Romans 5:6—*For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.*
  - ❖ Ephesians 1:14—*who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

**What do these truths mean to us?**

**1. Be moved by the goodness and love of God!**

**2. Pursue understanding the love of God!**

- ❖ Ephesians 3:18-19—*may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

**3. Express the love of God with your fellow believers**

- ❖ John 13:34—*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*
- ❖ Galatians 6:10—*So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*

**4. Proclaim the love of God to the world of unbelievers**