

Our Good God!

Psalm 145:1-21; Matthew 6:25-34

East Berlin Community Church

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December 8, 2024

Introduction

- *"BIG John is a good man!"*
- The various meanings of "good" when applied to people.
 - Morally "good", the opposite of being evil, sinful, corrupt
 - Responsibly "good", the opposite of being a rebel, disobedient to those in authority, one who takes life's responsibilities seriously.
 - Caringly "good", the opposite of being harsh or uncaring. One who is kind, gentle, generous, and compassionate.
- While we can be relatively "good", none of us are absolutely good or perfect. Only one absolutely good, perfect person in this universe is GOD. Our GOOD God!

Our GOOD GOD!

A. The Goodness of God Revealed.

1. By Jesus

- Mark 10:17-18-- *"Good Teacher, what shall I do that I might inherit eternal life? Why do you call me GOOD? No one is GOOD but One, that is God!"*

2. Recurring theme throughout the Old Testament Scriptures.

- 2 Chronicles 5:13-14-- *"indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they had lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised God, saying: 'For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.'" that the house, the house of the LORD was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God."*
- 2 Chronicles 7:3-- *"When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: 'For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.'"*
- Ezra 3:11-- *"And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD: 'For He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel' Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid."*
- Psalm 100:5-- *"For the Lord is GOOD; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations."*

B. The Goodness of God Explored.

1. "Morally Good"-- Holiness and righteousness of God.

2. "Responsibly Good"-- God's truth and faithfulness

3. "Caringly Good"

a. God's mighty acts and wondrous works demonstrate God's goodness.

- Psalm 145:1-9-- *"I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, and I will declare Your greatness."*

They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works!"

b. God's goodness extends to "all" men.

- Psalm 145:8-9-- *"The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works."*

c. God generously cares for all of his creation.

- Psalm 145:10-21-- *"All Your works shall praise You, O LORD, and Your saints shall bless You. They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, and talk of Your power, to make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD upholds all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look expectantly to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works. The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desires of those who fear Him; He will also hear their cries and save them. The LORD preserves all who love Him, but the wicked He will destroy. My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD, and all flesh shall bless His holy name forever and ever."*

C. The Goodness of God Applied!

- Matthew 6:25-34-- *"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing. Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?"*

So, why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"

Therefore, do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

1. **Our struggle with anxiety and worry.**
2. **At the core of worry is "little faith" in the goodness of God.**
3. **To see God's goodness, consider how God takes care of the birds and the lilies of the field.**
4. **Worry is not some trivial sin for it strikes a blow at God's love and integrity. He has promised to take care of us. We need to trust Him.**

D. The Goodness of God Experienced!

1. Trust God's Goodness

- Matthew 6:31-- *"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or "What shall we drink?" or 'What shall we wear?'"*
- Matthew 6:25-- *"Therefore I say unto you, do not worry about your life."*

a. Starts with a conscious decision not to worry.

- b. **Change the focus of our thinking** by considering how God cares for His creatures. Then come to a firm conviction that the God who cares for the animal realm cares deeply for you.
- c. **Satan seeks to tempt us to doubt God's goodness.**
 - Genesis 3:4b-5-- *"You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

2. **Taste God's Goodness**

- Psalm 34:8-- *"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him."*
- Nahum 1:7-- *"The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him."*
- Matthew 7:11-- *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"*
- Philippians 4:6-7-- *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*
- 1 Peter 5:7-- *"cast all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."*

3. **Thank God for His goodness**

- Psalm 135:3-- *"Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is pleasant."*
- Psalm 118:1-- *"Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."*