

The Goodness Of God

Psalms 31:19

1

Witnesses Of God's Goodness

We Are Witnesses to His Nature

- God's continued miraculous and providential involvement proved His existence, and fundamental goodness.
 - Acts 14:8-18 - "he sprang up and began walking"
 - Acts 17:22-29 - "he himself gives to all"
- Creation and all its goodness points to God and His goodness.
 - Romans 1:20-25 - "have been clearly perceived"

2

Witnesses Of God's Goodness

We Are Witnesses to His Relation to Man

- *philanthrōpia* - "affectionate concern for and interest in humanity, (loving) kindness" (BDAG)
 - Titus 3:4 - "the goodness and loving kindness of God"
 - cf. Psalms 8:3-9 - "what is man that you are mindful of him"

3

Witnesses Of God's Goodness

We Are Witnesses to His Relation to Man

- Paul showed that God's creation was designed to encourage the seeking of Him by man
 - Acts 17:25-28 - "that they should seek God"
- He is the God of all men
 - Psalms 117:1-2 - "Praise the Lord!"
 - Matthew 5:43-48 - "so that you may be sons of your Father"

4

Witnesses Of God's Goodness

We Are Witnesses to His Faithfulness

- His goodness should convince us that He is worthy of our trust and commitment
 - I Timothy 6:17-19 - "God, who richly provides us"
- Israel should have observed his history with God and trusted Him with his life
 - Isaiah 1:2-4 - "they are utterly estranged"
 - Isaiah 30:1-3 - "Ah, stubborn children"
 - Isaiah 31:1 - "Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help"

5

The Purpose Of God's Goodness

Leads Us Away from Sin to Him

- Paul's conclusion at Athens was the demand for repentance
 - Acts 17:30-31 - "now he commands all people everywhere to repent"
- God's goodness to the Jews was to lead them to repentance
 - Romans 2:1-4 - "lead you to repentance"
 - cf. Ezekiel 18:31 - "a new heart"
- This change of will is meant to change action from doing evil to doing good
 - Romans 1:8-10 - "your faith is proclaimed"

6

The Purpose Of God's Goodness

Leads Us to Faithfulness

- God's goodness continues to those who continue in it
 - Romans 11:19-23 - "provided you continue in his kindness"
- His grace teaches us to remain faithful to Him with anticipation of further goodness from Him
 - Titus 2:11-14 - "waiting for our blessed hope"
 - Titus 3:4-8 - "heirs according to the hope"
- He nourishes His people because He wants them to trust Him and remain faithful
 - Isaiah 1:2-3, 16-20 - "If you are willing"

7

Taking The Right Path

Hear the Word of God

- James 1:21 - "Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

Believe the Gospel message

- Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

8

Taking The Right Path

Repent of your sins

- Acts 3:19 - "Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out"

Confess that Jesus is the Son of God

- Romans 10:9-10 - "... because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

9

Taking The Right Path

Be immersed in water

- Acts 2:38 - "And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Remain faithful

- Hebrews 3:12-14 - "... if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end"

10