

The Goodness of God

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Exodus 33:18-19 *18And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. 19And he said, I will make all my **goodness** pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.*

The heart, soul and spirit of Moses has such an encounter with God that a burning bush does not satisfy. Instead, he desires and cries out to God for a deeper revelation of who God is. Many of us often come to a place in our walk with Christ that even after we have served for many years, we have seen many moves and things of God, yet we are satisfied with the revelations of the past. We fail to understand that in your entire lifetime, if you sought God every moment of everyday, you would never see the end of the revelation of all He is. We must live our life in Christ as a constant pursuit of all God is. We must desire to seek Him daily, seeking a deeper revelation that feeds our relationship with Him.

In a marriage there has to be a continual seeking and discovering of new things about each others heart, thoughts, and desires. There has to be a continual pursuit of a deeper intimacy and passion with one another. There has too be a continual discovery of a more mature and satisfying love, not of the flesh but of the soul. So it is with our relationship with God. His mercies are new every morning as you seek them.

Here in Exodus Moses says, "God I want more, I want to see Your glory." As a result God hides Him in His glory, covers Him and passes by showing Moses a portion of His glory. But look what God says in response to Moses' request to see His glory. God says, "I will make all My **goodness** pass before you."

The Hebrew word for "goodness" here is *tubw*. It means "the best and most beautiful part of a person. It is demonstrative of ones character and nature."

God showed Moses His glory and the after effect or result of God's glory was a revelation of His goodness; the very best and most beautiful parts of God's character and nature. This is what we seek of God. This is God's response to Moses' request. Why, because this was the heart of Moses' request. He was not seeking to see some magnificent spectacle from God. He was seeking to encounter the most beautiful and best parts of God's character and nature that it may change him forever. Moses sought God's glory and goodness, not for a spark of enthusiasm, but that he may become more than he was as Moses and more like His creator in his heart. He desired to please God more than he already had or had not.

Exodus 34:5-8 *5And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. 6And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation. 8And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped.*

God then reveals to Moses a portion of His character and nature resulting in the law of God. The Lord then descends and stood with Moses and together they proclaimed the name of the Lord – His name is merciful, gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth. His name is covenant of mercy and forgiveness. He is worthy to be worshipped and praised. So Moses falls to His face and worships. This is the revelation of God that we can know. Just as Moses, we can know this goodness of God when our hearts seek Him as did Moses.

Psalms 107:8-9 *8Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! 9For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.*

He reveals His goodness to those who diligently seek Him. Only His goodness can satisfy a soul that longs to know Him more. Only His goodness can fill the soul that hungers for more of Him.

Romans 11:22 *22Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.* **Proverbs 11:27** *27He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.* **Proverbs 7:15** *15Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee.*

The goodness of God is revealed to those who diligently seek Him. And the goodness and favor of God follows those whom He hath revealed His goodness. Therefore, it is imperative that we seek God not just for good things but for His goodness. It is critical that we do not allow our souls to fail us in remembering the goodness of our God in all circumstance and situations. Regardless of anything in or around us; regardless of fear, doubt, or uncertainty of many things in this life we must never forget and always remember that the one thing that is certain is the goodness of our God.

Second, we must seek to secure this goodness in our own hearts, minds, attitudes, and entire life. We must seek God's goodness that it may change us forever.

Galatians 5:22-23 *22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.* **Ephesians 5:9** *9(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)*

The fruit of the Spirit of God is not just a fruit, being an ends to a means, it is a portion of who God is, His nature, His character, His likeness, His ways becoming a part of who you are. It is His glory and goodness in you. It is His goodness for His glory molding and shaping you into His image of righteousness.

Psalms 25:7 *7Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.*

God makes Himself known to the believer through the manifestation of His goodness to you. He makes Himself known to the unbeliever through the manifestation of His goodness through you.

Colossians 1:15-18 *15Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*

All creation testifies of His goodness, this we know. However, the unbeliever cannot see the goodness of God in creation because it does not speak life to his soul. But the goodness of God made manifest in you can open the blinded eyes of the human soul and reveal the glory of God to the broken and wounded, the hopeless and hurting, the lost and lonely, and the heart that is seeking truth.

Revelations 4:11 *11Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

All things are for His glory to show you and all the children of men His goodness.

Prayer:

Father, show us Your goodness. Reveal to us the very best and most beautiful parts of Your heart that we might know a deeper, more intimate part of You and be changed forever. God we desire for Your goodness to be made manifest in us and through us that those whom only Your goodness can bring life, hope, peace and healing to their souls might see Your goodness and a desire to know You be stirred in their hearts. God help us to never forget, even in the midst of adversity, Your goodness toward us. Do not pass us by and us fail to see Your goodness all around us, everyday, throughout our lives. Even in hardship, even in tribulation You remain good to us and Your goodness remains. Everything in heaven and in earth shall pass but Your goodness remains forever. Lord, let Your goodness in remain in me. Let Your goodness me in me regardless of what I face each and every day. Let it be Your goodness that people see in me. Let it be Your goodness that I seek. Father, reveal to us Your glory.