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Introduction

- 1. We have seen that God is our Maker (<u>Job 36:3</u>), He is the Almighty (<u>Job 37:23</u>), He is the All-Knowing One (<u>Job 37:16</u>), and the Ever-Present One (<u>Job 34:21-22</u>)
- 2. God saw that His creation was good (cf. Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25)
 - a. After God created man, He saw everything that He made was <u>very</u> good (Gen. 1:31)
- 3. Good is who God is (<u>Ps. 25:8</u>, <u>119:68</u>)
 - a. Every good gift comes from Him (Jm. 1:17)
 - b. God made all of His goodness to pass before Moses (Ex. 33:19, 34:6-7)

The Completeness of God's Goodness

- 1. The completeness of God's goodness is seen in His material blessings (Mt. 5:45, 6:26-30; Lk. 1:53; Acts 14:17; cf. Lk. 6:35)
- 2. The completeness of God's goodness is seen in His Law (Rm. 7:12; cf. Rm. 8:1-2)
 - a. God's commandments are for our benefit (Dt. 6:24; 1 Jn. 5:3)
 - b. God's will is good (Rm. 12:1-2)
 - c. The gospel is good news (<u>Rm. 10:15</u>; cf. <u>Isa. 52:7</u>)
- 3. The completeness of God's goodness is seen in giving His only begotten Son (Jn. 3:13-17)
 - a. The gospel [good news] is centered on Christ and His kingdom (<u>1 Cor.</u> <u>15:1-8</u>; Acts 8:5, 12)
 - b. God placed all the goodness of every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph. 1:3)
 - c. Jesus acknowledged the completeness of God's goodness (Mt. 19:16-17)

The Consequences of God's Goodness

- 1. Since God is good, consequently He expects us to be good
 - a. We are created in Christ Jesus unto good works (Eph. 2:10)
 - b. We are to do good to others and the family of faith (Gal. 6:10)
 - c. We are not to return evil, but rather good (Rm. 12:17-21; 1 Th. 5:15)
 - d. We are to abhor [detest; have a horror of] evil and cleave [glued] to good (Rm. 12:9)

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- e. We are to follow the good (3 Jn. 11; 1 Pt. 3:11-13; cf. Eph. 5:1-2)
- f. Christ exemplified this behavior (Acts 10:38)
- 2. Since God is good, consequently He must hate and punish wickedness (<u>Ex.</u> 34:7; cf. <u>Ex.</u> 20:5-6; <u>Dt.</u> 5:9-10)
 - a. Good is opposed to evil
 - i. "Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: It may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph." (Am. 5:15)
 - b. We must hate what God hates (<u>Pr. 6:16-19</u>; <u>Ps. 119:104</u>, <u>128</u>, <u>163</u>, <u>139:19-24</u>)
 - c. We are in spiritual warfare (2 Cor. 10:3-6; Eph. 6:10-18)
 - i. Satan wants to devour us (1 Pt. 5:8) and must be resisted (1 Pt. 5:9)
 - d. Christ exemplified this behavior (Rev. 2:6, 15; cf. Jn. 2:13-17; Mt. 21:12-13; Mk. 3:1-5)

Conclusion

- 1. God is all-benevolent
 - a. He is perfect in His goodness as seen in His material and spiritual blessings
 - b. He is perfect in His goodness in giving us a perfect Law to follow (cf. <u>Jm.</u> <u>1:25</u>)
 - c. He is perfect in His goodness in giving us His Son so that we can go to Heaven
- 2. God's goodness demands that we be good
 - a. Listen to and love God and all things will work together for good ultimately (Rm. 8:28)
- 3. God's goodness demands that we hate evil
 - a. Evil is no laughing matter and must be purged from our lives
 - b. If you have not obeyed the gospel, obey the good news today!