

What is like? Really!

Mike Taylor

www.TaylorNotes.info

PART 1: GOD IS GOOD



God is good. I know you've heard it said a thousand times, maybe even followed by the familiar refrain "all the time."

Yet, one good look at the pain and suffering in this world – like child abuse, human trafficking, terrorism, racial injustice, and crime that appears to go unpunished – can make anyone question God's goodness. And on those days when you and I personally struggle with pain, disease or loss, we can't help but ask – or at least think

– Is God really good if He's allowing me to go through this?

A. God is good because he is a good Father.

"As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust." (Ps. 103:13-14 NIV)

B. God is good because He created us with a choice to obey.

"And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.'" (Gen. 2:16-17 NIV)

C. God is good because he made a way to rescue us.

"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:6-8 NIV)

D. God is good because He knows what's best for you.

"For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless." (Ps. 84:11 NIV)

E. God is good because He is patient and compassionate.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Pet. 3:9 NIV)

"The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love." (Ps. 103:8 NIV)

"The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made." (Ps. 145:9 NIV)

"Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lam. 3:22-23 NIV)

F. God is good because He makes good out of the things in our lives that are bad.

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good..." (Gen. 50:20 NIV)

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who¹ have been called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28 NIV)

G. God is good because he declares us to be not guilty!

"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Cor. 5:21 NIV)

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," (Rom. 8:1 NIV)

H. God is good because He is making us like Jesus.

"For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters." (Rom. 8:29 NIV)

APPLICATION

In addition to the above, how has God been good to you personally?
