

God is Good (Psalm 119:65-80)



Teth



Yod

Psalm 100:5 *"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."*

I. God is Good

- A. Definition of "Good:" It literally means to be delightful, delicious, sweet, savory, beautiful, precious and acceptable.
- It carries the inference of "good" over time. This "goodness" requires an eternal perspective.
 - It carries the inference that regardless of the challenge, it is ultimately for our best. This "goodness" does not preclude pain or suffering.
 - It does not imply that for something to be good it has to be pleasurable or fun.
- David rests in the character of our God - He is good. (See Mark 10:18)
- B. The Psalmist's declaration: *"You are good and what you do is good,"* so teach me through the experience. (vs. 68)
- Consider Job 1:21 *"...The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away, may the name of the Lord be praised."*
 - Consider Eli and Samuel in I Sam. 3:18 *"...He is the Lord, let Him do what is good in his eyes."*
 - Consider Christ in Mark 14:36 *"Father all things are possible for you, take away this cup from me, nevertheless. Yet not what I will but what you will."*
- David is resting on God's Sovereignty – He only does good things.
- Psalm 103:19 *"The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all."*
- Rom. 8:28 *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."*

Rev. 19:6 "...Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns!"

C. The Psalmist's request: "Do good to your servant, according to your word."
(vs. 65)

- Consider Mary's response in Luke 1:38 "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to your word."

David is resting on the sufficiency of God's Word. (See II Tim. 3:15-17)

D. The Psalmist's conclusion: "It was good for me to be afflicted, so that I might learn your decrees." (vs. 71)

- The affliction demonstrated God's faithfulness to him (vs. 75)
- The affliction helped discipline him (vs. 67)

David is resting on the truth that ultimately being afflicted is a good thing for him, even when it does not feel good.

Ps. 34:19 "The righteous person may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all,"

So, why do we experience pain and sorrow?

1. It helps focus our attention on God (Deut. 8:5, 16)
2. It enables us to sympathize with and encourage others (Phil. 3:10)
3. It draws out our true heart and draws us closer to the Lord (II Cor. 12:7-9, Ps. 94:12-13)
4. It purifies us, produces Godly character in us (James 1:2-4, I Peter 1:6-7)
5. Because we live in a fallen world. (Gen. 3:14-19)

...where we make bad decisions (Prov. 19:3, I Cor. 11:30)

...where we are hurt by others (Good Samaritan in Luke 10)

Affliction helps me to learn things I didn't know I needed to know.

Paul echoes David in II Corinthians 4:8-10 "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

II. God is Good, according to His Word (vs. 65)

- I trust your commands (vs. 66)
- Please teach me your decrees (vs. 68)
- Help me to keep your precepts with all my heart (vs. 69)
- I delight in your law (vs. 70, 77)
- Your law is precious (vs. 72)
- Give me understanding to learn your commands (vs. 73)
- May I be comforted in your promises (vs. 76)
- I will meditate on your precepts (vs. 78)
- May I wholeheartedly follow your decrees (vs. 80)

III. Because God is good, prayerfully others will follow me as I follow Him (I Cor. 4:16, 11:1)

Phil 4:9 " Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

And the net result will be peace (John 14:27).