

Sunday, March 17, 2024—Galatians 5:22 The Fruit of the Spirit, Part 7 (Goodness)

Galatians 5:22

- **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**
- **Goodness**—the word rendered “goodness” occurs 4 times in the New Testament text. All four times it is rendered “goodness” by the King James translators.
- Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* defines “goodness” as follows:
 - The state of being good; the physical qualities which constitute value, excellence or perfection; as the goodness of timber; the goodness of a soil.
 1. The moral qualities which constitute Christian excellence; moral virtue; religion.
 - The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness faith. Galatians 5:22.
 2. Kindness; benevolence; benignity of heart; but more generally, acts of kindness; charity; humanity exercised. I shall remember his goodness to me with gratitude.
 3. Kindness; benevolence of nature; mercy.
 - The Lord God--abundant in goodness and truth. Exodus 34:6.
 4. Kindness; favor shown; acts of benevolence, compassion or mercy.
 - Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which Jehovah had done to Israel. Exodus 18:9.
- “Goodness” is one of the attributes of God.
 - Exodus 33:19; 34:6—the Lord is “abundant in goodness and truth.”
 - Psalm 23:6; 25:7; 31:19; 33:5; 52:1; 65:4,11; 107: 8, 9, 15, 21, 31; 144:2, 7
 - Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31; 2:9, 17, 18
 - Genesis 3:5-6, 22—Satan’s strategy in his exchange with Eve was to attack the goodness of God. His goal was to introduce the notion into her thinking that God is not fundamentally good but rather that God was selfish and holding out on her.
 - Romans 2:4—repentance is a function of God’s goodness.

- Jonah 4
 - Romans 11:22
- God actively demonstrated his “goodness” to Israel in “time past.”
 - II Samuel 7:28
 - I Kings 8:66
 - I Chronicles 17:26
- Galatians 5:22—“goodness” is an attribute or quality of God that believers are to walk in and manifest.
 - Romans 15:14
 - Ephesians 5:9
 - II Thessalonians 1:11