

A decorative black and white floral border runs vertically along the left side of the image, featuring intricate scrollwork, leaves, and small flowers.

The **GOODNESS** *of* **GOD**

Elements Class: Sunday, Nov 22nd
Choir Room 10:45am

BEAUTIFUL

Best

Better

Bountiful

Loving

Favor

Kindness

Gracious

def·i·ni·tion

When we speak of the goodness of God, we do not mean:

Moral goodness:

God is holy, righteous and morally good, flawless in fact. However that specific attribute would be;

‘The Righteousness of God.’

def·i·ni·tion

When we speak of the goodness of God, we mean:

The benevolence of God towards man:

The goodness of God is what inclines Him to be kind, loving, gracious, benevolent and full of goodwill towards mankind.

He is tenderhearted and of quick sympathy, and
His unfailing attitude toward all moral beings is
open, frank, and friendly. By His nature He is
inclined to bestow blessedness and
He takes holy pleasure in the happiness of
His people.

(A.W Tozer)

That God is good is taught or implied on every page of the Bible and must be received as an article of faith as impregnable as the throne of God. It is a foundation stone for all sound thought about God and is necessary to moral sanity. To allow that God could be other than good is to deny the validity of all thought and end all the negation of every moral judgment.

If God is not good, then there can be no distinction between kindness and cruelty, and heaven can be hell and hell, heaven.

(A.W Tozer)

def·i·ni·tion

When we speak of the goodness of God, we mean:

Something that God is:

Divine goodness, as one of God's attributes, is not something God wants to be, tries to be, decides to be, is more often than not...Being good & loving is something that God is and always will be, by very nature.

def·i·ni·tion

When we speak of the goodness of God, we mean:

Something that is immutable:

Since God is immutable (unchanging), He never varies in the intensity of His loving-kindness. He has never been kinder than He now is, nor will He ever be less kind.

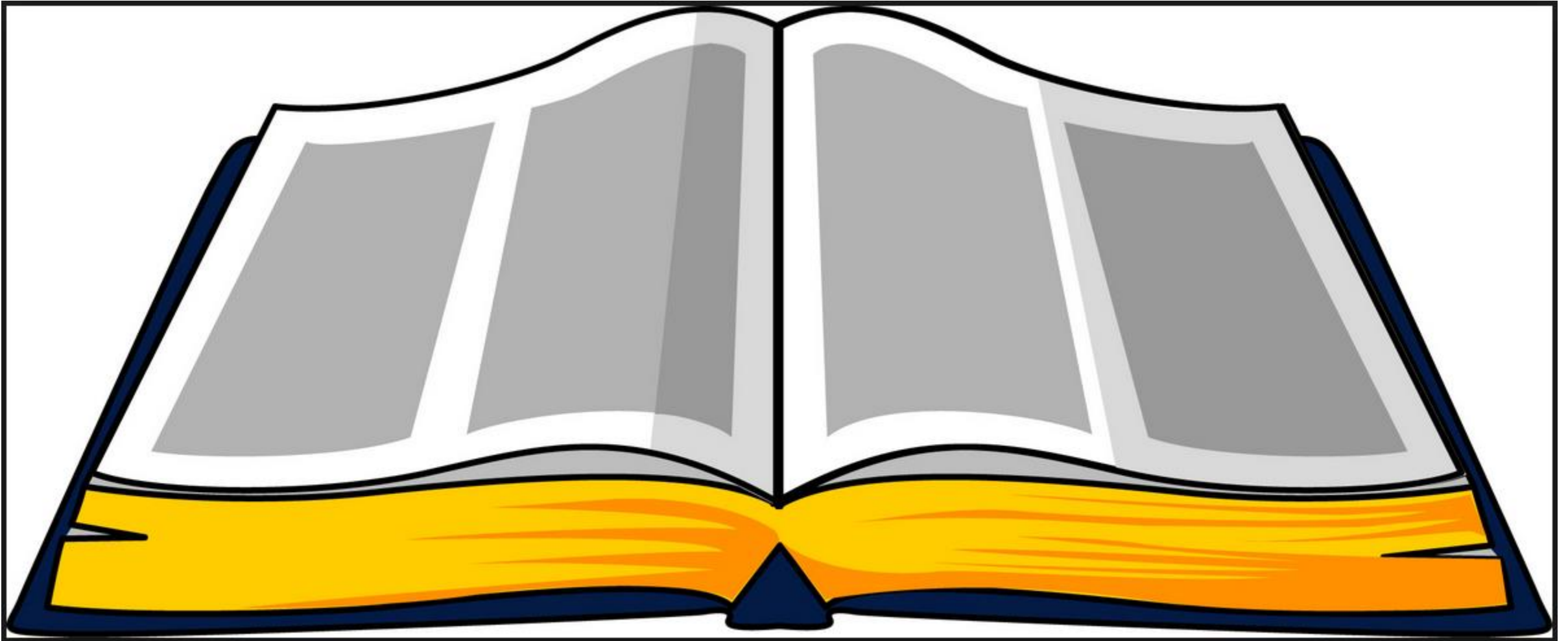
He is no respecter of persons but makes His sun to shine on the evil as well as on the good, and sends His rain on the just and on the unjust. The cause of His goodness is in Himself, the recipients of His goodness are all His beneficiaries without merit and without recompense.

(A.W Tozer)

The whole outlook of mankind might be changed if we could all believe that we dwell under a friendly sky and that the God of heaven, though exalted in power and majesty is eager to be friends with us.

(A.W Tozer)

What does the Bible say about
God's goodness?



Give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good.

His love endures forever.

Psalm 136:1

The LORD is good to all, and His
mercies are over all His works.

Psalm 145:9

For You, Lord, are good,
and ready to forgive,
and abundant in lovingkindness
to all who call upon You.

Psalm 86:5

Do not remember the sins of my youth
or my transgressions; According to Your
lovingkindness remember me, for Your
goodness' sake, O LORD. Good and
upright is the LORD; therefore He
instructs sinners in the way.

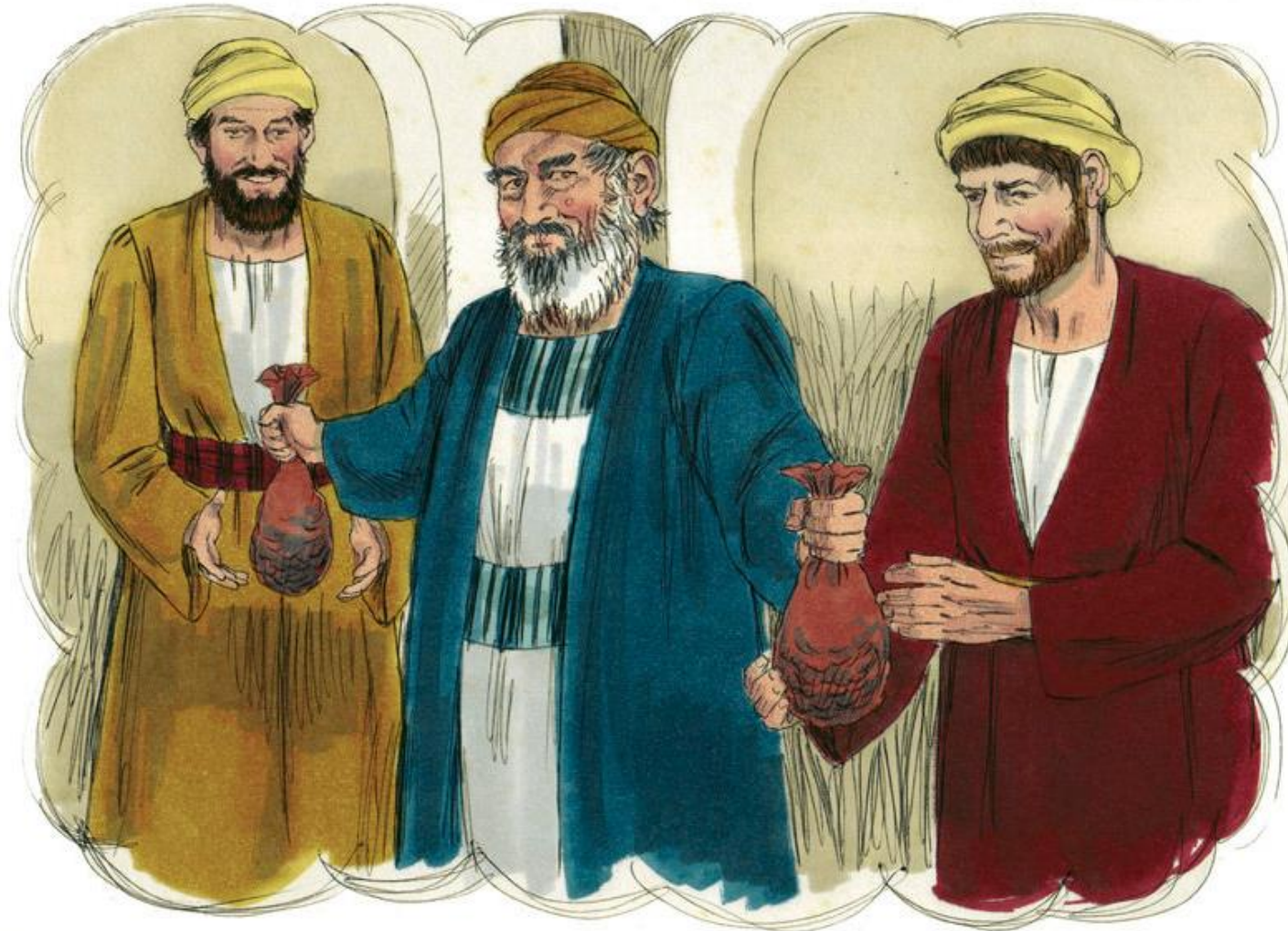
Psalm 25:7-8

How great is Your goodness, which You
have stored up for those who fear You,
which You have wrought for those who
take refuge in You.

Psalm 31:19

The goodness of God is not
simply a theology to be treasured
...but a reality
to be felt and experienced.

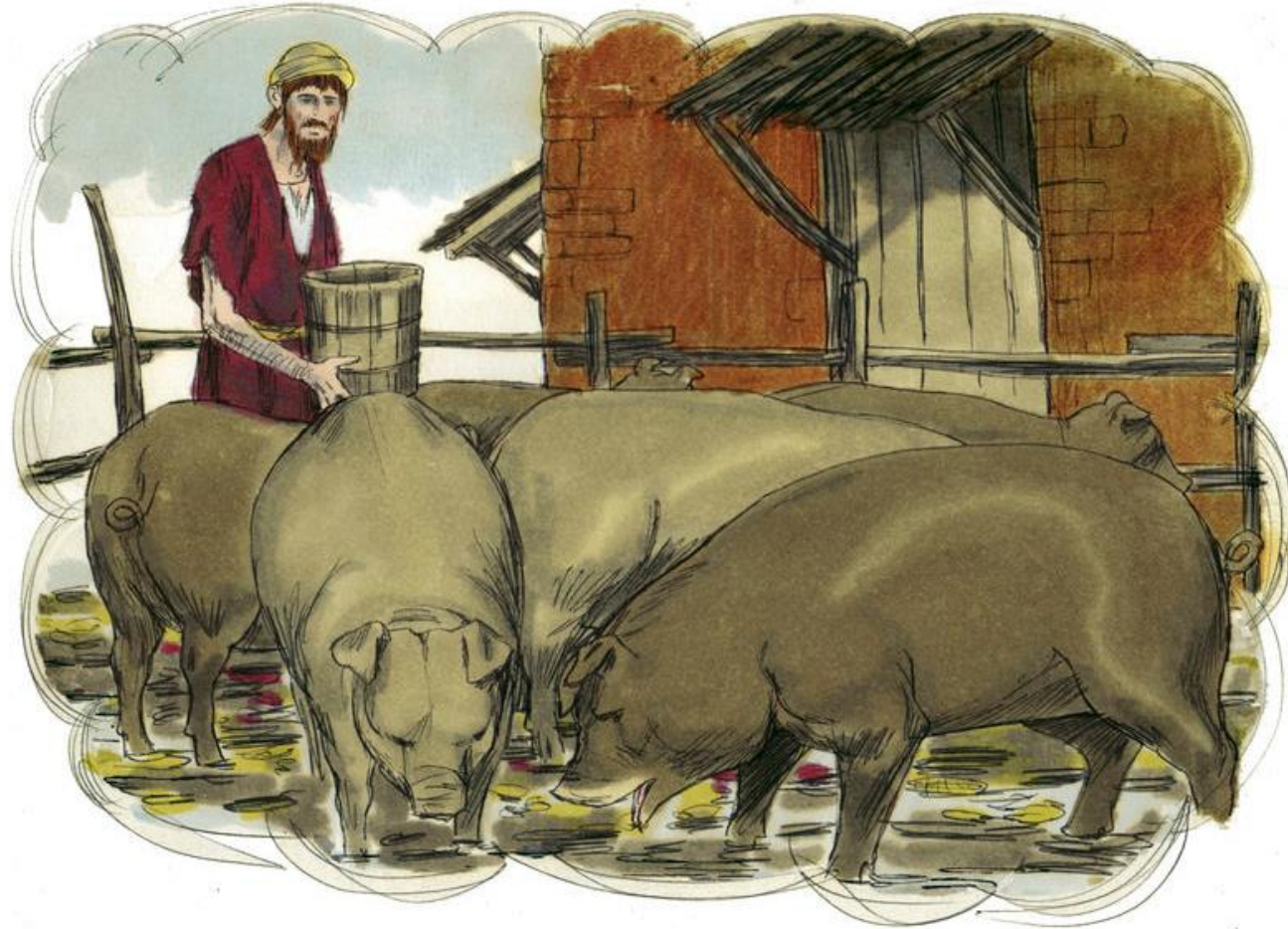
There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, *'Father, give me my share of the estate.'* So he divided his property between them.



Not long after, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in need.



So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

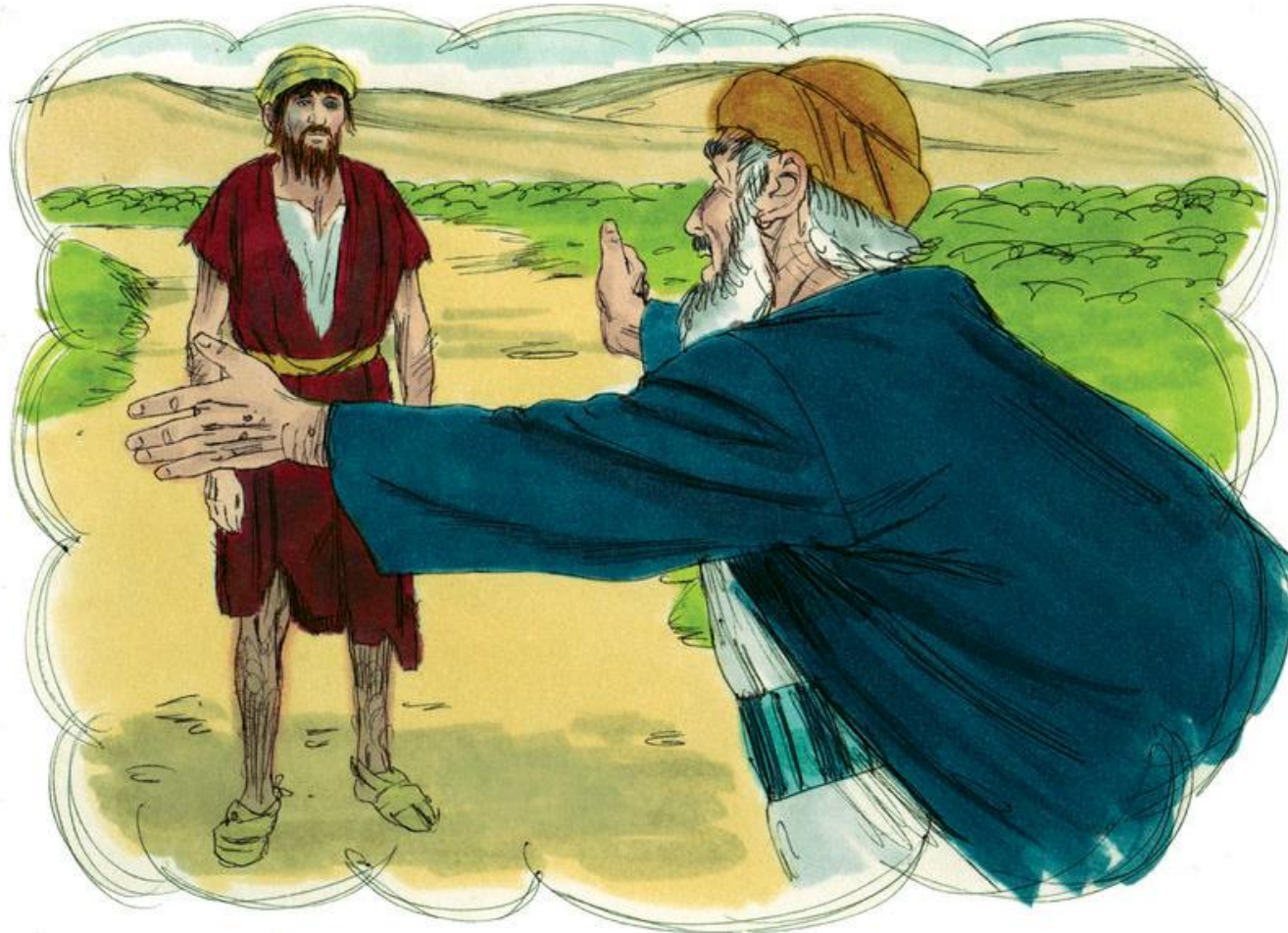


When he came to his senses, he said;

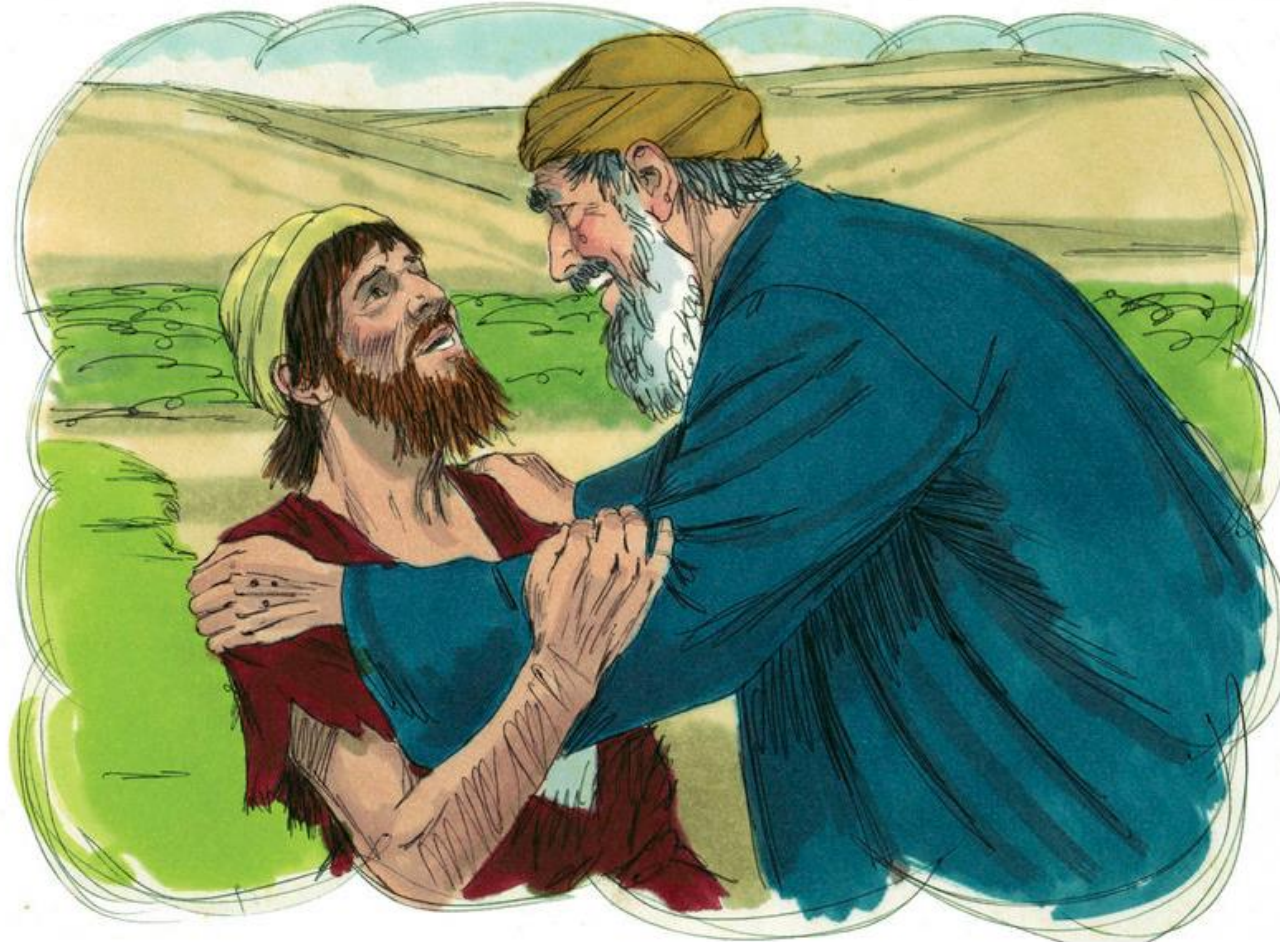


‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’

So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.



The son said to him, *‘Father, I have sinned
against heaven and against you. I am no longer
worthy to be called your son.’*



But the father said to his servants, *‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’* So they began to celebrate.

That is the
goodness of God.

...the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him.



In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars.



He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.



But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.'



Then his master was
filled with pity for him,
and he released him and
forgave his debt.

That is the
goodness of God.

How

Should



AFFECT

me



...since the creation of the world

God's invisible qualities—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made...although they knew God,

(1)they neither glorified him as God

(2)nor gave thanks to him.

Romans 1:20-21

#1

The goodness of God *should*
put me on my knees in **worship**
...because only a good God is
praise **worthy**.

#2

The goodness of God *should*
lift my hands in **thanksgiving**
...because without a good God
I wouldn't have a single **thing**.

...without faith it is impossible to please God, because **(3) anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists** and **(4) that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6**

#3

The goodness of God *should*
lead me to **believe** that
God is truly good & gracious,
eager & ready to **bless**.

#4

The goodness of God *should* lead me to turn to him with everything ...because I know that in him, I will find more goodness, joy & satisfaction than anywhere or anything else.

Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! **(5) I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me.**



#5

The goodness of God *should* give us confidence that God will **forgive** ...any debt, from any debtor who humbly turns to him as their **father**.

(6) Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, **just as I had mercy** on you?'



#6

The goodness of God *should*
empower us to be good to **others**
...the goodness shown to us should be
readily imitated and **overflowing**.

Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **(8) how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to (7) those who ask him!** Matthew 7:9-11

#7

The goodness of God *should* lead us to take our needs to God in **prayer** ...knowing that no matter what the response may be, we can trust his good **provision**.

...we know that **(8) in all things God works for the good of those who love him**, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

#8

The goodness of God *should*
lead us to understand that as his children
he is always seeking our **good**
...his infinite wisdom plans what his
infinite power makes possible for our
greatest spiritual **gain**.

Matthew 7:9-11 doesn't say that a good
God will 'never give us a snake'.
(See Acts 28:3)

If the snake bite reveals to the doctor a
hidden tumor...praise God for the snake.

If the snake bites you on the road
to town...trust that there must have been
greater danger in the town.

The deer on
your hood...
was sent
here for your
good.

