

Preface to this study of “Goodness”

Goodness is slightly different than some of the other words that we have studied up to this point. As with most Greek words there are different forms of the word which is translated “goodness.” One refers to a person having a good and benevolent character, another refers to the act of doing good to others, and the root form which denotes something that is morally good in general. On top of this, there is another Greek word that is translated “good.” This word does not denote something that is morally good, but rather something that is beautiful or useful in general.

Because of these distinctions, our study guide will be split into three main parts, each focused on one of the different forms of the Greek word mentioned above. The exception to this is the section in which we study how this word (in all its forms) is used in a particular book or section of scripture.

Define “Goodness”

For this section you will need to use a Strong’s Concordance, or an internet resource such that serves the same purpose as “Strong’s.” If you need help with this, please talk to David or one of the elders.

- I. What definition does the English dictionary give for Goodness? _____

- II. In Galatians 5:22 what Greek word is translated as Goodness? _____
 - a. What is the Strong’s number for this word? _____
 - b. What is the definition of this word? _____

- III. In Ephesians 5:9 this word is mentioned alongside what other attributes?
 - a. _____ b. _____
 - b. These are the fruit of what? _____
 - c. What is being contrasted in this passage? _____

- IV. What is the root word from which this is derived (in Strong’s find the “From” followed by a number)? _____
- V. What is the definition of this root word? _____
- VI. Having studied these passages, is the English definition of Goodness adequate? _____

Occurrences of Goodness:

Interestingly enough, there are only four occurrences of the same form of this word as it is found in the Fruit of the Spirit. This is as good of a place as any to start our study.

- I. Study Romans 15:8-21 and answer these questions:
 - a. In which verse is goodness mentioned? _____
 - b. What is the Strong's number for this word? _____
 - c. Which Fruit of the Spirit are mentioned in this section? _____

 - d. How many times is the Holy Spirit mentioned in this section? _____
 - e. How many times is the word Gentiles used in this section? _____
 - f. Why are Gentiles so important to what Paul is saying here? _____

 - g. In verses 8-9 what two reasons are given for why Jesus became a servant to the circumcised?
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - h. In verse 13, who fills Christians with all Joy and Hope? _____
 - i. Why does this happen? _____
 - j. In verse 14, what was Paul satisfied about concerning his readers?
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - k. What is the importance of the connection between these three attributes? _____

1. The key point of what Paul says in verses 15-21 is found in verse 20.
 - i. In doing what he describes here, did he have the same attributes for which he commended his readers? _____
 - ii. Please describe how this statement shows the importance of the statement that he made in verse 14: _____

II. Study Ephesians 5:1-14 and answer the following questions:

- a. What contrast is being drawn in this section? _____

- b. To illustrate this contrast, what word picture does Paul use in 8-14 (one which Jesus used first)? _____ Vs. _____
- c. Find at least three places where Jesus uses this same word picture:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
- d. What does Paul say must not even be named among Christians? _____

- e. Along with this, what else must there not be any of? _____

- f. What should we replace those with? _____
- g. What verse tells us why we should not involve ourselves in these sinful activities? _____
- h. Why is it such a big deal that we not involve ourselves in these sinful activities? _____
- i. We must walk as the children of _____
- j. Along with this, we must also try to discern what is _____ to the _____!
- k. What is the Fruit of Light?
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
- l. Please list the Strong's numbers for each of the Fruit of the Light:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
- m. In this context what specifically are the "unfruitful works of darkness"? _____

- n. If you would be ashamed of an action, then into which category does it probably fit? _____
- o. Should practicing goodness ever make us feel ashamed? _____

III. Study 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12 and answer these questions:

- a. In which verse is “good” or “goodness” found? _____
- b. How many time does Paul mention that he prays for the Thessalonians in this section (Please list the verses)? _____
- c. Why does Paul give thanks for them? _____

- d. In what way does Paul speak about this congregation to others? _____

- e. Did the Christians in Thessalonica have an easy life (Please explain your answer)? _____

- f. How many time does Paul mention the concept of being worthy in this section? _____
- g. Of what things does he say they could be worthy? _____

- h. Why is it just for God to repay with affliction those who afflicted the Christians? (Please give references to support your answer) _____

- i. What two groups of people will Jesus deal out retribution to when He comes? i. _____ ii. _____
- j. What will the penalty for these two groups be? _____

- k. What reason does Paul give for people being there to give glory to Jesus and to marvel at Him? _____
- l. According to this section, if we are worthy of the calling, then we will have a desire for what? _____
- m. According to verse 12, what is the intended result of things which Paul was praying? _____
- n. Considering the things that are described in this section, is there a benefit to us showing the fruit of the Spirit through persecution? (Please explain): _____

- IV. Once again take a look at Galatians 5:16-26 and answer the following questions:
- a. Which of the deeds of the flesh are opposed to this moral goodness we are studying? _____

 - b. Having studied the passages that we have so far, what actions could be included within the heading of “goodness”? (Please include scripture references): _____

Study of Goodness in 1 Peter

As you might have noticed, none of the occurrences of the exact form of the Greek word translated “goodness” in Galatians 5:22 are found in 1 Peter. But other forms of that word appear in abundance in 1 Peter. This section will take a look at those occurrences.

- I. Read through 1 Peter and mark (or make note of) all occurrences of “good” or “goodness”. How many occurrences are there? _____
- II. Using your Strong’s look up what Greek word is translated “good” (you might have to look under “preached”) in 1 Peter 1:12. Give the Strong’s number for this word: _____
 - a. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - b. Where else can this word be found in 1 Peter? _____

 - c. Give an example of where this word is used elsewhere in the Bible: _____

- III. Using your Strong’s look up what Greek word is translated “good” in 1 Peter 2:12. Give the Strong’s number for this word: _____
 - a. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - b. Where else can this word be found in 1 Peter? _____

 - c. Give an example of where this word is used elsewhere in the Bible: _____

- IV. Using your Strong's look up what Greek word is translated "good" (you might have to look under "right" or "well") in 1 Peter 2:14. Give the Strong's number for this word: _____
- a. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - b. This is the only place that this word appears in the Bible.
- V. Where are the two locations where Peter refers to a good conscience?
- i. _____
 - ii. _____
- a. In the first of these, what reason is given for having a good conscience? _____

 - b. In the second of these, in what way do we gain a clean conscience? _____

- VI. Read through the book of 1 Peter again, this time mark (or make note of) all the occurrences of "suffer" or "suffering". How many occurrences are there? _____
- a. How many of these occurrences are in the immediate context (within the same verse or same thought) of one of the occurrences of "good" or "goodness"? _____
 - b. Is there any noticeable connection between "suffering" and "goodness" in 1 Peter? If so, please explain: _____

- VII. What is the result of doing good according to the following verses?
- a. 1 Peter 2:14, _____
 - b. 1 Peter 2:15, _____
 - c. 1 Peter 2:20, _____
 - d. 1 Peter 3:6, _____
 - e. 1 Peter 3:10-11, _____
 - f. 1 Peter 4:19, _____
- VIII. Who is being described as "good" in 1 Peter 2:18? _____
- a. In what way should a Christian respond to them? _____
 - b. Should the Christian respond differently if this person is not good? _____

“Do Good”

As we have mentioned already, there are different forms of the basic word that is translated “good” in the Bible. In this section we will study the word that is often translated “do good.”

For this section you will need to use a Strong’s Concordance, or an internet resource such that serves the same purpose as “Strong’s.” If you need help with this, please talk to David or one of the elders.

- I. What is the Strong’s number for Greek word translated as “do good” in Luke 6:33? _____
 - a. What is the definition of this word? _____
 - b. What word is this is derived from (in Strong’s find the “From” followed by a number)? _____
 - c. What is the definition of this word? _____
 - d. In turn, what is the root of this word? _____

- II. Study both Mark 3:1-6 and Luke 6:6-11 (which both record the same event) and answer the following questions:
 - a. What problem did the man healed by Jesus have? _____
 - b. Why were the Pharisees watching Jesus so closely in this instance? _____
 - c. Jesus asks if it is lawful to _____ on the _____?
 - d. What does Jesus do after asking this question? _____
 - e. From this we can infer what answer to Jesus’ question? _____

- III. Study Luke 6:27-36 and answer these questions:
 - a. Using your Strong’s look up what Greek word is translated “good” in verse 27. Give the Strong’s number for this word: _____
 - i. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - ii. Chose which option this word refers to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Moral goodness	<input type="checkbox"/> General goodness
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 - b. In verse 27 Jesus asked a question and gives a statement. Based on that statement, what is the implied answer to Jesus’ question?

<input type="checkbox"/> Lots of benefit!	<input type="checkbox"/> No benefit at all!
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 - c. In verse 35, who is the implied recipient of the doing of good? _____
 - d. What does Jesus say the result of doing good to them will be? _____

IV. Study Acts 14:8-18 for the answers to these questions:

- a. In short, describe what is happening in this account: _____

- b. Which verse uses the phrase “did good”? _____
- c. Who did good in this verse? _____
- d. In what way did He do good? _____
- e. What is the stated result of this? _____

V. Study 1 Timothy 6:17-19 and answer the following questions:

- a. Who is to do good in this section? _____
- b. Which Greek word is translated “Do good” in this section? _____
- c. Which Greek word is translated “good works” in this section? _____
- d. Is Paul repeating himself by saying “do good” and “be rich in good works” (please explain)? _____

- e. What is the result of doing good and being rich in good works? _____

VI. Study 3 John 11-12 and answer these questions:

- a. What are we supposed to imitate in this section? _____
- b. What is the result of doing this? _____
- c. In the surrounding context is there a person named who should be imitated according to this verse? _____
- d. In the surrounding context is there a person named who should not be imitated according to this verse? _____

“Good”

In this final section, we will be studying the root word of the other words that we have studied in this packet. There are so many occurrences of this word that we are not going to examine each one. Instead we will take a sampling of the oceans so that we can get a good feel for how this word is used.

Contrast between good and evil

- I. Study Romans 7:7-25 and answer the following questions:
 - a. How many occurrences of “good” are in this section? _____
 - b. Are these occurrences all translated from the same Greek word? _____
 - c. Does this fact change our understanding of the statements being made? _____
 - d. What specific things are called good in this section? _____

 - e. Good is being contrasted with what evil in this section? _____

- II. For each of the following verses, record what is being spoken of as good or evil, and give the purpose of the contrast:
 - a. Matthew 5:43-48
 - i. What is described as good? _____
 - ii. What is described as evil? _____
 - iii. What is the purpose of the contrast in this section? _____

 - b. Matthew 12:33-37
 - i. What is described as good? _____
 - ii. What is described as evil? _____
 - iii. What is the purpose of the contrast in this section? _____

 - c. 1 Corinthians 5:10
 - i. What is described as good? _____
 - ii. What is described as evil? _____
 - iii. What is the purpose of the contrast in this section? _____

d. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

- i. What is described as good? _____
- ii. What is described as evil? _____
- iii. What is the purpose of the contrast in this section? _____

e. 1 Peter 3:8-13

- i. What is described as good? _____
- ii. What is described as evil? _____
- iii. What is the purpose of the contrast in this section? _____

Good fruit

Fruit is often used as an analogy for our actions. These verses all have something to say about producing good fruit.

I. Study Matthew 7:15-20 and answer the following questions:

- a. Who does the bad tree that produces bad fruit represent? _____
- b. Who does the good tree that produces good fruit represent? _____
- c. What will happen to the bad tree? _____

II. Study Colossians 1:9-14 and answer these questions:

- a. What should go along side of bearing fruit in every good work? _____

- b. What do we accomplish when we bear fruit in every good work? _____

III. Study James 3:13-18 to get the answers to these questions:

- a. What is full of good fruits? _____
- b. These fruits are part of a harvest of _____ which is sown by those who _____.

There are many more occurrences of “good” in the New Testament. So many, that if we were to study each occurrence in this packet, then there would be over twenty pages of questions. But what we have studied so far should give you a good glimpse into how this word is used.