



GOODNESS: CHRIST'S MORAL EXCELLENCE

Goodness: A reflection of Jesus | Galatians 5:22–23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

God is Good | Exodus 33:19

And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

His goodness pursues us | Psalm 23:6

Surely your goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Disarming darkness with goodness | Romans 12:21

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

We are not ignorant of the goodness He requires of us | Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Confidence in His goodness | Psalm 27:13

I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Goodness transforms people & land | Acts 11:24

He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

Goodness in daily living | Ephesians 5:8-9

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth).

Goodness multiplied through discipleship | Romans 15:14

I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

LET'S OBSERVE THE TEXT...

Observe Exodus 33:19

- God Himself defines His nature by His goodness, linking it with mercy & compassion.
- His goodness is not abstract or distant, but something that can be revealed and experienced.
- Goodness originates from God, not from human effort.

Observe Psalm 23:6

- God's goodness doesn't come & go but remains with us every day. It pursues after us, not the other way around.
- Being surrounded by His goodness is tied to living close to Him.

Observe Romans 12:21

- Godly goodness is powerful enough to defeat evil.
- "Overcome" is an authoritative word. When we walk in the character of Christ, we walk in His authority and evil must flee (James 4:7).
- We always face a choice: let evil win or fight back with good.
- Doing & *being* good (in God's eyes) is spiritual warfare in action.

Observe Micah 6:8

- God makes His standard clear = live out goodness.
- Real goodness shows up as justice, mercy, and humility.
- It's not just about words, it's about how we treat people every day.

Observe Psalm 27:13

- David had confidence that God's goodness would show up in his lifetime. Goodness isn't just for heaven, it's for here and now, and is revealed & demonstrated through God's people. We're catalysts & vessels for change.
- Seeing God's goodness gives us strength to keep going when life is heavy.

Observe Acts 11:24

- Barnabas stood out as a man full of goodness, Spirit, and faith. His goodness impacted others and helped many come to Christ.
- A life of integrity has influence way beyond ourselves.

Observe Ephesians 5:8-9

- We used to live in darkness, but now we're called to walk as light. Goodness, righteousness, and truth are what light produces.
- Living with goodness proves we really belong to God.



CONCORDANCE DEFINITIONS

- ☐ **Goodness:** (agathōsynē)
Strong's G19
Found in Galatians 5:22
- ☐ **Good:** (agathos)
Strong's G18
Found in Romans 12:21
- ☐ **Goodness:** (tôb)
Strong's H2896
Found in Psalm 23:6
- ☐ **Goodness:** (tûb)
Strong's H2898
Found in Exodus 33:19



ONLINE RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

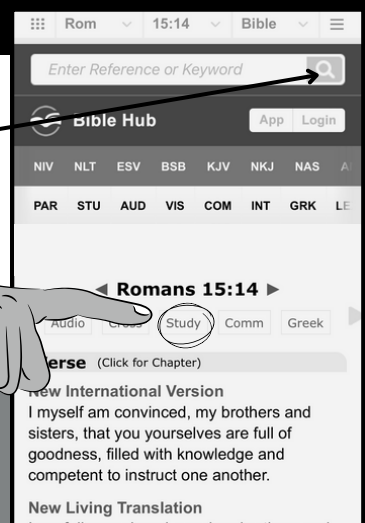
Observe Romans 15:14

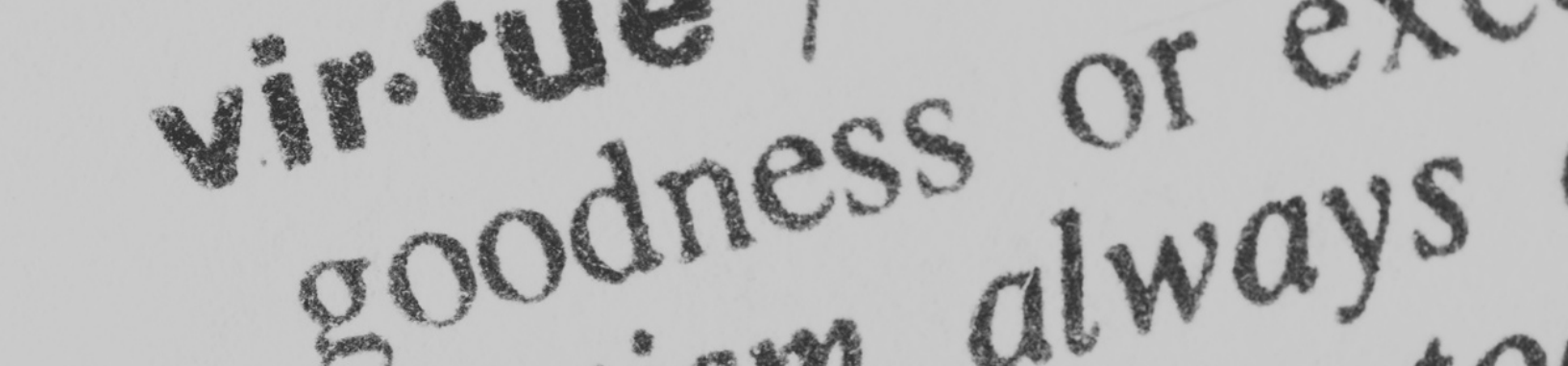
- Go to BibleHub.com and do a search for **Romans 15:14** in the "Enter Reference or Keyword" box and then click on the magnifying glass.
- Once it loads, click on the button titled "Study"
 - Read the **Study Bible** section.



LET'S INTERPRET...

- What do you believe all of these verses mean?
- What is God speaking to you personally through this study?
- Read a trusted commentary and compare to your interpretation.





LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

Goodness as a fruit of the Spirit is uprightness of heart and life, virtue, moral excellence, integrity, and usefulness. Galatians 5:22–23 shows us that goodness comes directly from the Spirit, not from human effort. When God's goodness is alive in us, it becomes a visible expression of Christ's character and a weapon that pushes back the kingdom of darkness.

God is the source of all goodness. In Exodus 33:19 He revealed His goodness to Moses, showing that it is tied to His mercy and compassion. Goodness is not distant or abstract but something that can be revealed and experienced. Psalm 23:6 reminds us that this goodness does not come and go, it stays with us every day and even chases after us. Living close to Him keeps us surrounded by His goodness and gives us confidence that He is always present.

Goodness also confronts evil directly. Romans 12:21 makes it clear that we always have a choice, either let evil overcome or defeat it by doing good. Micah 6:8 explains that real godly-goodness in action is practical and for the building up of others. Our God-given authority is meant to bring about justice and mercy, demonstrated in humility before God (who sees our every word and act). When we live this way, goodness becomes spiritual warfare in action, breaking cycles of corruption and compromise that the enemy tries to build.

Goodness also creates life where the enemy has caused decay. David said in Psalm 27:13 that he was confident he would see the goodness of the Lord in his lifetime. That same confidence is for us now because God's goodness is meant to be revealed in our day through His people. When believers choose integrity and uprightness, we become catalysts for change in our communities. Experiencing His goodness strengthens us to endure and hold the line even when life feels heavy.

Goodness carries influence far beyond ourselves. Acts 11:24 describes Barnabas as a man full of goodness, Spirit, and faith, and through his life many were brought to Christ. His life shows us that integrity and goodness are not just personal traits but testimonies that can impact generations. Ephesians 5:8–9 reminds us that we are no longer in darkness but are called to live as children of light, producing goodness, righteousness, and truth. Living this way proves that we truly belong to God.

Paul's words in Romans 15:14 show us that goodness is also a community virtue. He expressed confidence that the Roman believers were full of goodness, filled with knowledge, and able to instruct one another. This shows that goodness equips us to encourage, teach, and build each other up. It is not only personal but also communal, shaping the life of the church so that together we reflect Christ to the world.

Walking in Christ's goodness, along with all the fruit of the Spirit, is what walking in His authority and integrity looks like. It produces credibility. This is how believers carry His presence into a broken world. Goodness is not just a nice trait. It is a Spirit-empowered weapon. It reflects the character of God, defeats evil, and transforms both hearts and lands. When we live in uprightness, virtue, moral excellence, integrity, and usefulness, we become living proof of Christ's power. In doing so, we silence darkness and open the way for souls to be saved.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- **Applying Galatians 5:22–23** - Do you think of goodness as just being nice, or do you see it as a Spirit-powered weapon that pushes back darkness because it reflects who Jesus is and it's walking in His authority?
- **Applying Exodus 33:19** - If God's goodness is part of His identity and something we can actually experience, how could you show that same kind of goodness to people in your life this week?
- **Applying Psalm 23:6** - Do you live like God's goodness is chasing you down every day, or do you sometimes doubt that His goodness will really show up for you?
- **Applying Romans 12:21** - Where do you feel pressure from evil or negativity right now, and how could you choose to respond with goodness instead of giving in?
- **Applying Micah 6:8** - Justice, mercy, and humility are what God calls "good." Which of these do you need to lean into more so that people see His goodness in your life?
- **Applying Psalm 27:13** - David expected to see God's goodness in his lifetime. Where do you need to believe that God's goodness will show up in your world here and now?
- **Applying Acts 11:24** - Barnabas' goodness influenced people to turn to Christ. How could your integrity and lifestyle of goodness point someone else toward God?
- **Applying Ephesians 5:8–9** - Since you're called to live as light, what's one way you can let goodness shine in a place where it feels like darkness is winning?
- **Applying Romans 15:14** - Paul said believers are already full of goodness. How can you use the goodness God has put in you to encourage or strengthen someone this week?

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we thank You that Your goodness is not distant but something we can experience every day. Thank You that Your goodness follows us, surrounds us, and flows through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Teach us to walk in uprightness, virtue, moral excellence, integrity, and usefulness so that our lives reflect the character of Christ. Let us be people who overcome evil with good and bring light into places where darkness has tried to take hold.



Lord, we ask that You help us walk in the fullness of Christ's goodness and in all the fruit of the Spirit. Show us that this is what it means to walk in Your authority. Strengthen us to live out justice and mercy, and walk in humility before You in our daily lives. Use our goodness as a testimony that draws others to salvation and transforms our communities. May our lives be living proof of Your power, silencing darkness and opening the way for many to know You. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

WHAT'S AHEAD...

Next Week

Fruit of the Spirit: "Faithfulness"

Homework

Read Matthew 17:14-21