

Psalm 100: What is “Good”?

The Bible gives basic truths that help us understand “good.”

- 1) God is good because of who He is, not just what he does.
 - a) In Exodus 33, Moses asked to see God’s glory (33:18). God showed Moses His glory (33:22) but called it His goodness (33:19).

¹⁸ And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy **glory**. . . .

¹⁹ And he said, I will make all my **goodness** pass before thee. . . .

²² And it shall come to pass, while my **glory** passeth. . . .
 - b) In Exodus 34:5–6, God describes His goodness through other qualities: merciful, gracious, longsuffering, steadfast in love (KJV: “goodness”), truthful, forgiving just.
- 2) Good is the opposite of moral evil.
 - a) Genesis 2–3 mentions “good and evil” four times (2:9, 17; 3:5, 22).
 - b) As the opposite of moral evil, a Good God always does what is just and right.
- 3) Good cannot be improved.
 - a) When God declared each day of creation “good” (1:4, 10ff), He declared it to be exactly what He wanted it to be. There was no room for improvement upon His design.
 - b) In contrast, God called man’s singleness “not good” because mankind’s design is incomplete without the woman.

God is good. When we allow God through His word to define goodness, we come up with something like the following:

God is complete in His character (glory), true in all His actions (morally right), and does not lack in any way (cannot be improved).

God is good!