

life he had worked at a low-paying job, and he owned only a car and a small house. He had remained single until he was 47 so he could care for his parents. When he did marry, he had no children, but he was greatly loved by his wife and the wider family circle. He was a favourite uncle to his nephews and nieces, and was so well-liked by the children in his neighbourhood that after he died many came to the funeral home and cried by his casket.

The good life is a gift from God to those who trust Him, and who make obeying Him their primary aim. God watches over them and hears their prayers (v.15). They may know heartbreak and affliction, but God guards and keeps them through it all (v.18-20). Best of all, however, is that He gives them His grace and redeems their soul through faith in Christ (v.22). That is truly the good life! —HVL

*Life is good when lived in love,
When faith is strong in God above;
For only God can set us free
Through Christ who gives us liberty. —D. De Haan*

No one can know the good life without God.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

APRIL 26, 2015

The Good Life

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him! —Psalm 34:8

Many people associate "the good life" with success, fame, and money. Yet a dying man who had it all told me that his life hadn't been worth the effort to attain his success.

How different was my uncle Herb's attitude when he was dying! He was thankful and spoke of his many blessings. In his rich Dutch brogue, he quoted Psalm 34:11-14 as God's prescription for a good life. Most of his





People

God is Too Good to Be Unkind

We need to be convinced of the goodness of God. Let's see if we can get there in 3 steps:

1. _____ that the Scriptures _____ that God is _____, Genesis 1:31

(Psalms 52:1) "... The goodness of God endures continually."

(Psalms 119:68) "You are good, and do good; ..."

(Psalms 145:15-16) "The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season. {16} You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing."

(Psalms 86:5) "For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You."

(James 1:17) "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

(Joshua 23:14) "... you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed."

(1 Timothy 1:8) "But we know that the law is good ...,"

(Luke 2:14) ""Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!""

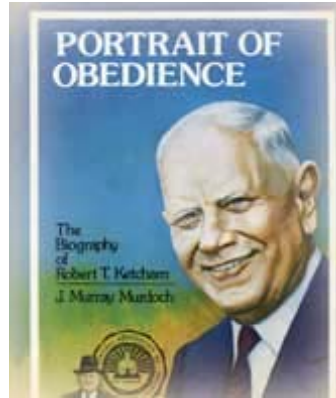
(Romans 11:22) "Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, ..."

(Titus 2:11) "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,"

(Romans 10:9) "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

(Romans 8:28) "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

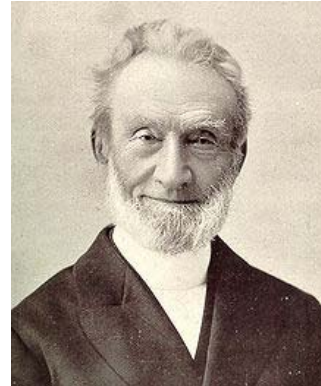
(Romans 2:4-6) "Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? {5} But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, {6} who "will render to each one according to his deeds":"



2. _____ - we doubt His _____,

Genesis 3:1-6, 2:16-17

(Nahum 1:7) "The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him."



3. Exercise _____, Genesis 3:7—12

(Philippians 4:11-13) "Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: {12} I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

(1 Timothy 2:14) "And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression."

(Psalms 34:8) "Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!"

(Psalms 135:3) "Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is pleasant."

(2 Chronicles 5:13) "... when the trumpeters and singers were as one, ... in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice ... and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud,"

(2 Chronicles 7:3) "When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever.""

(Isaiah 26:3) "You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You."

