# God
## is a good God

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Personally, I am more than convinced that God is a good God. However in the course of talking to people about God, I've had comments like "I don't believe in God", "If God is good and He exists, why do bad things happen to good people?", "I used to believe in God but not anymore because I see a lot of bad things happening to people, why can't God stop bad things from happening?" and the list of questions and comments goes on.

Alas! One thing for sure is that in the midst of evil, turmoil, suffering, danger, inequity, inequality, recession, diseases, plagues, abundance, prosperity, poverty and so on, God is still God and He is good. Examples in the Bible show us His goodness from generation to generation, and King David in the book of Psalms said with great assurance –" O taste and see that the Lord [our God] is good! Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who trusts and takes refuge in Him". Likewise in chapter 84 verse 11 of the same book, he said: "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly". Jesus also said in three books of the Bible that "there is none good but one, that is, God".

God knows the beginning from the end, He is all knowing, all powerful and almighty. The Bible tells us that all good and perfect gifts come from God in whom there is no variation, nor shadow of turning. He created the universe and He gave it to mankind; however mankind does as he or she pleases with the universe and as a result we all reap the reward of disturbing and sometimes perverting nature. So what God originally created as good now sometimes produces natural/physical disasters; thus all the stuff around climate change and all the repercussions that go with it.

God also gave man the commandment to obey certain laws that could help us have a good life for our own benefit, but we may also choose to disobey and just like any fair judge – God says the wages of sin is death. So many times we disobey and reap the reward of our disobedience, but still blame God. If we as humans expect fair judgment from earthly authorities for an offender taken to court, why should we not want fair judgment from God the supreme authority?.

Furthermore, the Bible tells us that the devil comes to kill, to steal and to destroy but Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly. So we have many situations whereby the devil brings bad things to "seeming good (good in our own perspective) people" not being mindful of the fact that if they trust in God, He works it out for their good. For instance, the first time I experienced failure despite lots of hard work was when I finished my high school; I performed poorly and could not go to the university of my first choice. Looking back, I can thank God for this failure because God worked it out for my good. I had to change my course, went to another university, met my husband there and I am doing what I love doing at the moment. God does not want anybody to perish but to come to the knowledge of the truth and live in it.

So let's be assured that God's promises are "sure". He said I will never leave you nor forsake you; His thoughts towards you are thoughts of good and not of evil to bring you to an expected end. He will not allow you to go through any temptation beyond what you can cope with. So believe that He is good for He is truly good. If you have not accepted Him as your God and Jesus as your savior, today is the day of salvation, come to Him for He is waiting to show you more love than you can imagine. The Bible says the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life. Ask God to forgive you for any disobedience, help you to trust and obey Him, grant you the grace to sin no more, and be completely obedient to His advice and instructions.

If you are a Christian be assured that God is good and whatever comes your way, He is a stronghold in the day of trouble. Call on Him, remind Him of His promises, and it shall be well with you. God is good all the time and all the time God is good. Don't doubt it! A quote from Sper (Daily Bread) says:

*When you are tempted to deny*
*God's goodness, love, and grace,*
*Look to the cross of Calvary,*
*Where Jesus took your place*

For all of us let us preserve the gifts and good things (our bodies, land, sea, forest, animals etc) that God made so well and gave us, and let us protect our world from sin, greed and other things that are causing havoc here and there.

**Be richly blessed in Jesus' name.**

> "O taste and see that the Lord [our God] is good! Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who trusts and takes refuge in Him"