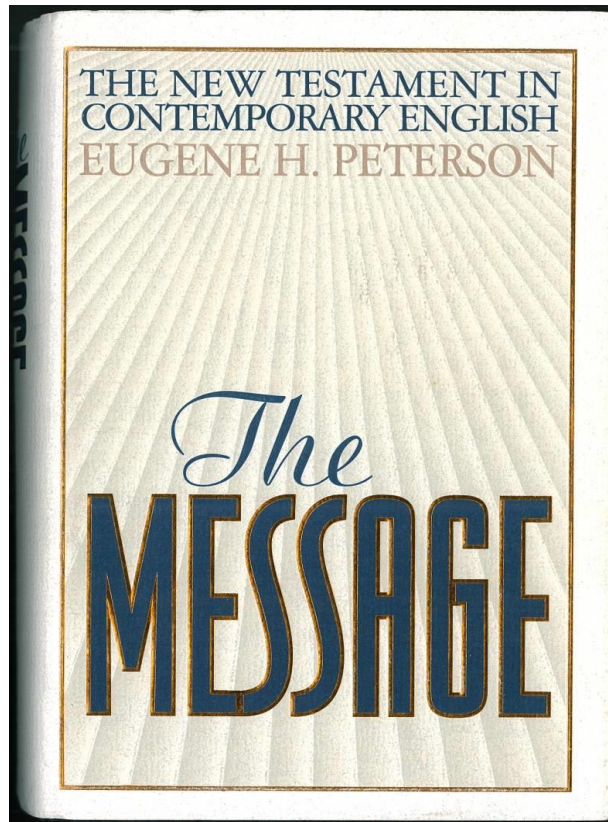


“FOR GOODNESS SAKE”



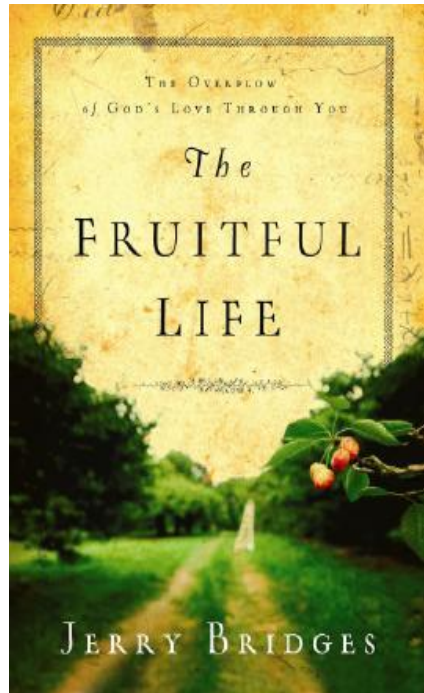
Galatians 5:22-24

GOODNESS

“Goodness arises not in the outward things we do, but in the inward thing we are” (Edwin Chapin).

“Goodness is more than a kindly disposition, it is a kindly action that must find expression” (J. Oswald Sanders).

JERRY BRIDGES



“Kindness and goodness are so closely related that they are often used interchangeably. Kindness is a sincere desire for the happiness of others, goodness is the activity calculated to advance that happiness.”

COMPARISONS

Kindness Is To Be – Goodness Is To Act

Kindness Is The Character – Goodness Is The Content

Kindness Is The Disposition – Goodness Is The Department

AGATHOS

In The New Testament

Fruit, Works, Gifts, News, Treasure, Soil, Seed, Deeds, Salt, Teacher, Heat, Pleasure, Servant, Wine, Shepherd, Man, Conscience, Conduct, Courage, Will, Purpose, Warfare, Standing, Service, Fight, Confession, Foundation, Deposit, Soldier, Faith, Things, Days, Stewards, Health, & Testimony

I. INTRINSIC MORAL EXCELLENCE

Intrinsic – Internal

Excellence – Character

Definition: Uprightness of character in treatment towards people, excellence demonstrated in integrity that is displayed in one's actions for the welfare of others.

GOODNESS IS FROM GOD

“Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone” (Luke 18:19).

Exodus 33:19; Psalm 23:6 & 31:19

EPHESIANS 5:8-11

“For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”

II. IMPEDIMENTS TO MORAL EXCELLENCE

Galatians 5:16-21

**“Not Loving Good” & “Lovers Of Pleasure
Rather Than Lovers Of God” (II Timothy 3:3-4).**

IMPEDIMENTS

1. Our Fallen Nature (Jeremiah 17:9 & Romans 7:15-18)
2. Our Fallen World (1 Corinthians 15:33 & Isaiah 5:20)
3. Our Fallen Perspective (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

III. INSTRUMENTS OF MORAL EXCELLENCE

A. Reliance On The Holy Spirit

“Fruit Of Light Is Found In All That Is Good”

(Ephesians 5:9)

Nehemiah 9:20 & Acts 11:24

III. INSTRUMENTS OF MORAL EXCELLENCE

B. Obedience To The Word Of God

“Goodness Of The Word Of God” (Hebrews 6:5)

II Timothy 3:16 & John 15:10-11

III. INSTRUMENTS OF MORAL EXCELLENCE

C. Yielding To The Will Of God

**“I Will Instruct You In The Good And Right Way”
(I Samuel 12:23)**

Romans 8:27 & 12:2

III. INSTRUMENTS OF MORAL EXCELLENCE

D. Fulfilling Your Call To Service

“We Are His Workmanship” (Ephesians 2:10)

Titus 2:14; 3:1; & 3:8

III. INSTRUMENTS OF MORAL EXCELLENCE

E. Recognizing God's Providential Purpose

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

IV. ILLUSTRATION OF MORAL EXCELLENCE



JOHN WESLEY

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can.”



REMINDERS

“Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God” (III John 11).

“He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8).

Goodness

Galatians 5:22-25

Fruit of
the Spirit



Heavenly Father, I pray that this day I may live in your presence and please you more and more.

Lord Jesus, I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you.

Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with Yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, GOODNESS, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen. (John Stott)