**THE GOODNESS OF GOD**

**2 Corinthians 1:3, 4**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. If there is one thing as Christians [we] need to know assuredly, it is the “Goodness of God”.

 A. It is only when [we] have this knowledge of His Goodness and the way He Feels towards [us] as His Children, [we] will truly be comforted in time of sorrow.

2. Without a doubt, if it were ***NOT*** for this knowledge, as Christians, [we] would ***NOT*** be any different than those, who are outside of the church [body] of Christ.

**BODY:**

**1. HE COMFORTS IN TIMES OF AFFLICTION**

 A. As children of men, [we] need comfort in times of affliction.

 1. This comfort can be found within the con­fines of God’s Word (1 The 4:18).

 2. In times of need for comfort [we] find the goodness/love of God, who is in heaven.

 B. LIFE is filled with unanswered questions and unso­lved problems.

 1. God, because of His Love for [us], knows the answer and has the solution.

 C. As His Children [we] have His Divine Resource to meet every trial/faith to sustain [us].

 D. If [we] would realize the meaning behind our text, [our] lives would change drastically.

**2. [WE] MUST TRUST IN GOD**

 A. As His Children, [we] need to trust in His Promises He Made by Him (Pro 3:5, 6).

 1. [We] need to be allowing God to direct our paths (Isa 41:10).

 A. If [we] would **BUT** grasp this, how it would change [our] lives.

 B. Reflect on the Psalmist words (Psa 46:1).

 C. Reflect on the writer of Hebrews words (Heb 13:5, 6).

 1. If [we] learn to totally trust in God, as these passages teach, [our] lives would change.

**3. [WE] MUST AVAIL OURSELVES TO THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER**

 A. When [we] utilize the privilege of PRAYER, [we] begin to understand the vastness of the

 “Goodness of God” (Heb 4:15, 16).

 1. [We] sometimes sing, “What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sin and griefs to bear.”

 A. Which reminds [us] of Jesus’ Words of (Mt 11:28 – 30).

 2. Until this avenue of PRAYER is utilize, how will [we] know what a Friend we have?

 B. Reflect on the words of Paul (Php 4:6, 7).

 1. “Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer. That calls me from a world of care. And

 bids me at my father’s throne, makes all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of

 distress and grief my soul has often found relief. And oft escaped the tempter’s snare.

 By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.”

 2. If [we] use “Sweet Hours Of Prayer” as intended, this re-enforces “God’s Goodness”.

**4. TAKE GOD’S PROMISES AT FACE VALUE**

 A. Quite often one will say, “My word is my bond” and take whatever is said at face value.

 1. [We] need to be encouraged to take God’s Promises at face value!!

 B. If [we] can believe [our] friends, how much more should [we] believe our Father?

 1. Reflect on Peter’s words of (2 Pet 1:4).

 2. Reflect on the Paul’s words (Eph 3:20, 21; Php 4:13, 19; 1 The 4:13 – 17).

**CONCLUSION:**

1. [We] need to know “The Goodness Of God” and BELIEVE in His Goodness.

 A. Psa 145:7; Isa 63:7; Jer 33:9; Zec 9:17; Rom 11:22; 15:14; Gal 5:22; Eph 5:9; 2 The 1:11