



[TOP](#)

## Daily Devotional, Monday, October 30, 2017 - Expressions of God's Goodness

OCTOBER 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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#### Lamentations 3:22-25

Imagine someone asking you if God has been good to you. What ideas pop into your head? Do you think about material possessions like a luxury car or a big house? Those things are nice, but even if you do not have any external signs of His blessing, you can still say that God has been good.

**God's goodness is expressed through His mercy.** We usually talk about the Lord's mercy in relation to His salvation plan, which provides for our rescue from slavery to sin. However, God is also concerned when we are suffering. The blind beggar Bartimaeus called out to Jesus for mercy, and the Lord responded by healing the man's eyes (Mark 10:46-52). Nothing in Bartimaeus deserved mercy, but it is God's nature to respond to the needs of His beloved children.

**God's goodness is expressed through His grace.** None of us, no matter how well behaved we might be, deserve God's favor. Yet because we are helpless to save ourselves, the Lord in His goodness took our guilt upon Himself and suffered the death penalty in our place. Upon salvation, we are invited to live by God's grace and thereby constantly receive His support and help.

**God's goodness is expressed through His love.** The Pacific Ocean, as vast as it is, seems like barely a drop compared to the Lord's boundless love. No sin we can commit could ever place us beyond the reach of His faithfulness.

Think of all that the Father has done for you! He sent His son Jesus to die for your sins. Now He offers you mercy and grace to live by. The heavenly Father is indeed good.

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