

**The Goodness of God.
Romans 3v19-31; 2v1-4.**

Harvest brings home to us again the goodness of God. This attribute is what Paul focuses upon in 2v4.

1 HOW SHOULD WE CONCEIVE OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD?

We know that in the bible he is revealed as **ESSENTIALLY GOOD**. God's goodness is un-derived for it is the essence of his eternal nature. For EW Pink He is good of Himself; not only good but goodness itself.

He is **ETERNALLY GOOD**. As He is infinite in power from all eternity, actually before it was displayed, before any omnipotent act was done, so he was, before any communication or impartation of His bounty, good, before there was any creature to whom it might be imparted. Ps. 119v68 'Thou art good and doest good'.

Also He is **IMMUTIBALLY GOOD**. James 1v17 maintains he does not change like shifting shadows or the seasons.

2 HOW HAS HE REVEALED HIS GOODNESS?

It is seen in His Creation. Gen. 1v31. Makeup of the human body. Eyelids, even our thumbs. Senses to smell, to taste etc.

It is seen in His Harvest provision. Acts 14v15-17.

It is seen in how He sustains our lives. Acts 17v28

It is seen in the gift of a saviour. Luke 2v14. This was our need, Luke 18v19 'None good but one; that is God'. Rom. 3v12; 22-23. What do we deserve? Rom. 1v18 wrath of God But in his goodness sent a saviour. We need to come to know him.

In His goodness he is a Stronghold in the day of Trouble, Nahum 1v7. To sustain those who trust in Him.

Pink 'God is not only the Greatest of all beings; He is the best'.

3 HOW HAVE MEN RESPONDED TO HIS GOODNESS? SHOULD have responded as in PS. 107v8. BUT they have responded as in Rom. 2v4. Romans 1-3 is a revelation of the guilt of all men, both Jew and gentile. Men despise the goodness of God, in their fallenness turn away. They do not know that it was all to lead them to repentance. because we have pushed away the truth, suppressed it. Rom. 1v19-20 God revealed himself in his creation – pushed away that revelation and were darkened. God left them to themselves to go the way they wished, v24, 26, 28. Under his wrath. There is Governmental wrath Rom. 13v4; Present wrath here and this leads on to Last day wrath! Rom. 2v5, 16.

But there is an answer. When we could do nothing to change our relationship with God, condemned, He did something about it – He sent his son!

Rom. 3v24-31. He PAID THE DEBT; HE REMOVED THE WRATH; HE SATISFIED THE LAW.

If we repent, turn from our rebellion, disobedience we can be accepted, saved.

What about you? Have you repented? Turned from pushing away the truth, suppressing the truth of the word of God. May God awaken you! May you see your sin! He has provided the answer through the death of his son. You can be delivered from just wrath! Rom. 10v9.