



The Fruit of the Spirit

Goodness and Faithfulness





Goodness





Defined

- A very broad term: “good apple” or “good person” – *meets a certain standard*
- **Biblical goodness:** moral excellence; (2) uprightness of heart and life; (3) may refer to kindly activity toward others; generosity (*Strong; Vine; Thayer*)
- Zealousness for good—may be seen in rebuke, correction, chastening – Mt. 21:23
- Goes beyond what is due, giving what is also beneficial
- Exemplified by God as active, energetic, zealousness for good seen in rebuke, grace, and mercy

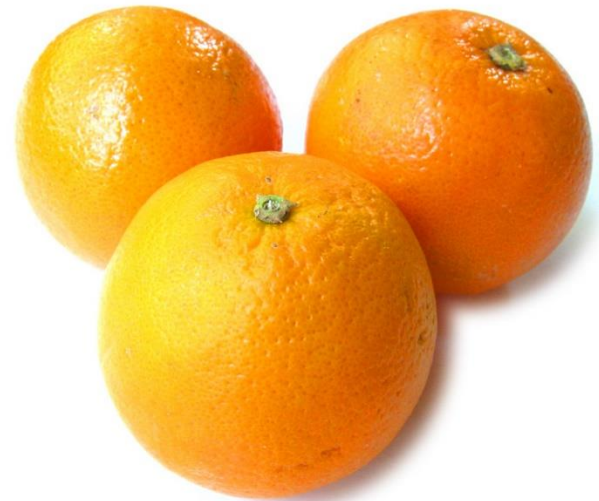


Goodness in the Christian life

- Transformation of life in Christ – Rom. 12:2
- Hating evil, being abhorred by it – Rom. 12:9
- Beneficial, upright, and generous – Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:10; 1 Thess. 5:15
- Reliance upon scripture to direct one's life – 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- Ex: Barnabas – Acts 11:23-24; 4:36-37
- Importance? – 3 Jn. 11



Faithfulness





Defined

- “Trustworthy, faithful; (2) fidelity, the character of one who can be relied on (*Vine; Strong; Thayer*)
- Not trust/faith, but **fidelity**
- Fruit of being true, or faithful, to Christ in all of one’s ways.
 - Can be relied upon to do what is assigned in their service to Christ
 - Can be depended on in controversy to do what is right and stand for truth



God's Is Faithful...

- To listen to and understand our concerns, needs, etc. – Heb. 2:17-18; 4:15-16
- To forgive our sins when we repent and confess them – 1 Jn. 1:9
- To provide continual protection concerning temptation – 1 Cor. 10:13
- To be with us to strengthen us and bring victory – Heb. 13:5-6



Faithfulness in the Christian Life

- Essential for receiving the “crown of life” – Rev. 2:10
- Seen in use of our talents – Matt. 25:20-21, 26, 30
- Duties to the church and its assemblies – Heb. 10:23-25
- As parents and children – Eph. 6:1-4
- As husbands and wives – Titus 2:4-6; Eph. 5:22; 1 Pet. 3:7