

God is Good

Psalm 27

Main Idea

Being convinced of the goodness of God is vital to the Christian Life. We see the goodness of God in the cross of Christ and the promise of Heaven.

Overview

Psalm 27:

- The situation that David finds himself in is dire:
 - Vs. 1: He references fear
 - Vs. 2: Evil doers are after him to 'eat up his flesh'
 - Vs. 3: David envisions an entire army encamping to war against him
 - Vs. 5: He considers what he will do in the day of trouble
 - Vs. 6: He considers what will happen when his enemies surround him
 - Vs. 11: He wants to be taught and led in light of his enemies
 - Vs. 12: He pleads w/ God to not give him up to his adversaries and false witnesses
 - The situation is likely either when he is being hunted down by Saul or his son Absalom
 - In either case he had done nothing wrong but be faithful (he didn't deserve what he was confronting)
 - Throughout all of this he never doubts the 'goodness of God' and leans upon it to go to God in prayer (Vs. 13)
 - "goodness of God": The expression of supreme benevolence, holiness, & excellence of the Divine character, the Sum of all Gods attributes
 - The "goodness of God is another way to describe all that God is:
 - Exodus 33.19 God uses the expression "goodness of God" as the thing that will "proclaim" His Name
- In the situation David never focuses on himself or his situation nor does he doubt the goodness of God even though he is in this situation, quite the contrary
 - His entire focus is on the "goodness of God" which he will get to see, regardless, in the land of the living (vs. 13)
- David's forward faith in seeing the goodness of God in the land of the living is the ground by which he is able to stand
 - This stabilized him through the storm
 - His situation didn't cause him to doubt the Lord but instead it was the only thing that kept him alive
 - Vs. 1: The Lord is his light and salvation and the stronghold of his life
 - Vs. 2: He believes evildoers will stumble and fall
 - Vs. 3: Wars rise against him, but he is confident
 - Vs. 5: The Lord will hide him as a shelter on the day of trouble
 - He will conceal him under the cover of his tent
 - He will lift him up high upon the rock
 - Vs. 9: The Lord is his help and his salvation
 - Vs. 10: His parents may forsake him, but the Lord will always take him in
 - Take away the goodness of God from David and he has no ground to stand...its his rock to stand in the storm
- How do we get to have such confidence in the goodness of God? By worshiping our way there
 - Vs. 4: David asks one thing from the Lord and he seeks after it:

- To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of his life and to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire (meditate) in his temple

Questions

Discussion Starter: What does it mean to be “good?” If you had to poll your friends (believers and non-believers alike) how many of them would be convinced that the Lord is good?

1. Get the group to find 10-15 explicit Scriptural references to God and His goodness. Have them briefly discuss how you see God’s goodness in that passage/specific circumstance. Have a couple people share how the Lord has been good to them.
2. Read Psalm 27. Describe the environment that David is writing. How is this similar to our/your world?
3. In this Psalm, how do you see David being convinced of the “goodness of God”? Why do you think David thought like this?
4. Read vs. 4 again. Why would David request this “one thing” in light of his present circumstances and not pray something like vs. 12 as his “one thing?” How can we learn from this? Practically speaking, how might we go about doing as David prayed?
5. Read Genesis 1 and note all the times that God is able to discern what is “Good.” What does this tell us about God?
6. If God is able to discern what is good and is said to be good (Psalm 100:5), and His Name is represented as “goodness” (Exodus 33:19), how does that then inform what is good/evil or bad?
7. How does the Gospel of Jesus Christ convince us that God is good?
8. Share how you have struggled to default into the goodness of God and simultaneously have more confidence in yourself or other things. How does David encourage you otherwise?
9. Share ways you have been convinced of the goodness of God and how this has helped you in trials and triumphs.
10. Why is being convinced of the goodness of God so important?

Accountability: Where are the places you have been tempted to doubt God’s goodness? Where have you been seeing Gods goodness and rejoicing?