10 - The Lord is Good

They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works. ~ Psalm 145:7-9 ~

> "Pure and perfect goodness is only the royal prerogative of God; goodness is a choice perfection of the Divine nature." ~ Stephen Charnock ~

I. God's Inherent Goodness

Define: What does it mean to be good

Charnock: "Pure and perfect goodness is only the royal prerogative of God; goodness is a choice perfection of the Divine nature."

A. God is originally good

- B. God is infinitely good
- C. God is perfectly good
- D. God is immutably good

II. God's Abundant Goodness

- A. Mercy Goodness revealed to those in misery is called mercy
- **B. Patience -** Goodness revealed to those who are deserving of punishment is called forbearance or patience
- C. Grace Goodness revealed to those who are undeserving

Comments on "Common Grace"

D. Kindness

E. Love - $\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$, Goodness revealed in communicating Himself

"Love is God's active (but passionless) affection, by which He delights in His creatures, and in their well-being, and delights consequently in conferring it. It is usually distinguished into love of complacency and love of benevolence. The former is a moral emotion (though God is passionless) being His holy delight in holy qualities in His creatures, co-operating with His simple goodness to them as creatures. The latter is but His goodness manifesting itself, actively. The first loves the holy being on account of his excellence. The second loves the sinner in spite of his wickedness." [Dabney, 169]

III. God's Active Goodness A. In Creation

- **B.** In Providence
- C. In Redemption
- IV. Serving a Good God A. Gratitude
 - B. Faith
 - C. Evangelism