Daily Devotion #113

God is Good

*Psalm 100:5 – “For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations.”*

I remember the first prayer I learned in Sunday School. I didn’t know it at the time, but it was based on the verse for today. It went something like this, “God is great. God is good. Let us thank Him for our food. By His hands we all are fed. Give us Lord our daily bread.” That is such a simple prayer but loaded with blessings and truth.

Aren’t you thankful for a good God? Imagine what life would be like if He were not good. Imagine life where you are under the threat of a wicked and evil god who only wants to inflict pain and suffering on you. Imagine if God were vindictive and spiteful and only wanted to see you squirm all the days of your life. Sadly, many people think God is just that way. But there could be nothing further from the truth.

Nowhere in the Bible is God ever described as an evil or meanspirited god. On the contrary, He is always spoken of as good. That does not mean He doesn’t get upset or discipline His children when they are wayward, but He is always good. His intentions are always pure and formed for what is right and holy and in our best interests. (1 Chronicles 16:34, Psalm 86:5)

The problem is that we often get lost in what we understand or what makes sense to us. We see a particular situation and have thoughts about how that situation should go or what we think would be the best result. But God, who is good, often sees the way that is best for all involved.

Admittedly, that is hard to take when the situation is difficult. Recently I heard of a mother who died at an early age due to cancer. That kind of situation is never easy to understand, and it is true, that is not a good situation for the people involved, especially her family. But the truth is, God is still good. Even though the situations of life are often not good, they have nothing to do with whether or not God is good.

We hear of tragic situations and difficult circumstances for people and we wonder where God is through it all. That question often leaves us challenged and at times questioning God. But again, the problem is not God or how He works or doesn’t work. He is still good. The problem is always our perception. We are sinful. Therefore, we are flawed in our understanding. We are finite so it is impossible for us to understand the infinite God. But none of how we see or don’t see, how we understand or don’t understand has anything to do with whether or not God is good.

God is good because His very nature is good. He is Holy, meaning He is without error. (1 Samuel 2:2) He is perfect in all His ways. Therefore, His makeup is good. He cannot not be good. To not be good would be to violate His divinity. To violate His perfection. To be perfect is by default to be good.

The point is that each morning you awaken to a new day. Thank God for His goodness. Remember that He is always good and always doing what is good. Which makes the passage all the more meaningful. His goodness displays His lovingkindness, or to say it another way, His inner makeup is to love, which is manifested in kindness. Doing kind things. Kind acts towards His children. And because He is good, He is faithful to all who belong to Him. His faithfulness is born out of the fact that His is good by His very nature. (Psalm 119:90)

That’s a lot to think about for a morning devotion. But hopefully those truths will stimulate your heart to be grateful that the God who created you, not only loves you but is also good. And He is good, all the time. No matter your situation today, God is, and always will be, good. He will help you through everything. Praise His Name!