



THE GOODNESS OF GOD DAY 3

Day 3

Psalm 103:4-5 NASB

Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with favor and compassion; Who satisfies your desires with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle.

I highly recommend you read ALL of Psalm 103, which begins in praise! Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!!! This scripture passage enumerates so many of the wonderful blessings that we receive from Father God continuously, when we are walking in alignment with His heart. So let me ask you a question before we move on with today's devotion. Where is your heart with God right now?

Are you walking in close intimate fellowship with Him? Or would you say that you are far from Him? Or maybe you're somewhere in the middle? Neither really hot nor really cold. If you truly desire to walk in the light of His presence shining brightly upon you and experience His goodness as a consistent tangible reality in your day to day life, then before we proceed with today's devotion, let's examine our hearts for a few moments, and let's invite the Holy Spirit to help us "clear the air" with God. I am going to pray over you first, and then I'm going to invite you to pray along with me, so that we can be certain to put our hearts in the best possible position to receive ALL of goodness God has for us.



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Okay, so if you prayed that prayer for the very first time in your life, I want to congratulate you and welcome you into the family of God! (please send me an email testimony at dawnchurchillministries@gmail.com if you accepted Christ as your Savior just now) And if you just rededicated your heart to God, or you cleared the air with Him, I want to encourage you as well! Psalm 89:15 says Blessed are those who know the joyful sound. They walk in the light and favor of your countenance. The goodness of God, the tangible expressions of His goodness and favor and blessing being poured out upon us continuously, those come easily to those who hearts are in alignment with Him.

To be in alignment with God's heart does NOT imply perfect adherence to the law. In other words, God knows you cannot keep the law (the 10 commandments) perfectly without error. That's why it was necessary for Him to send His son Jesus to this earth to be the final sacrifice and payment for all our sin. But when I speak about being in alignment with God's heart, I mean loving Him with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength (even though we will sometimes make mistakes). I am referring to loving what He loves and hating what He hates and growing more intimately close with Him with every passing day, month, and year of our lives. So again, the goodness of God, the tangible expressions of His goodness and favor and blessing being poured out upon us continuously, those come easily to those who hearts are in alignment with Him.



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Am I implying that you can EARN favor with God, in order to receive His goodness? Absolutely not!!! Our own righteousness is as filthy rags. We cannot EARN God's goodness anymore than we can EARN His mercy or forgiveness. All things we receive from God are received as a gift, by grace and faith. By grace, our humble acknowledgement that we do not deserve them nor can we earn them, and by faith, that we know that we know that we know that we know, we are fully persuaded that He is a good good Father who loves to lavish His children with good things!

Psalm 103:5 says He satisfies our desires with good things, so that our youth is renewed like the eagle. Wouldn't you LOVE to feel vibrant and joyful and healthy and strong, and experience God's goodness and favor and blessings everyday? In my opinion, gratitude is one of the "keys to God's heart". Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!!! Even on my worst days, I can find at least 5-10 things to genuinely thank God for! The more I have made thanksgiving and praise and worship a priority on my calendar, the more I have sought to develop a sincerely genuine heart of gratitude toward God, the more I have seen Him bless me with good things, amazing things, and often times, in surprising ways that bring me to my knees.



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Journal Entry Topics:

- 1.) Write 5-10 things you are genuinely thankful and grateful to God for, and then audibly give Him praise and thanks them. Try to stretch yourself to consider some intangible things, instead of just material things. I think you will find that God has indeed given you strength to endure, wisdom and guidance, as well as love and grace often throughout your life.
- 2.) When we turn our hearts toward praise and thanksgiving, and away from murmuring and complaining, all of a sudden our mood lifts, our energy increases, and our spirit feels lighter. Write some ways you can work gratitude and worship into your daily routine.
- 3.) Read all of Psalm 103 and try to list ALL of the benefits you recognize God has indeed blessed you with, that possibly you currently take for granted. Anytime I am tempted to succumb to depression, oppression, or a heavy spirit, I make a conscious choice to turn my thoughts toward praise!

Affirmations to Pray/Speak over yourself:

- 1.) Father God, I praise and thank you for your presence in my life! Help me to see all the good you ARE doing in my life today, instead of focusing on the negative.
- 2.) Holy Spirit, I invite you to be actively present with me today, leading and guiding me with your wisdom, and showering me with your presence!
- 3.) Lord give me eyes to see and ears to hear what your Holy Spirit would say to me this day. Open the heavens of your good storehouse of blessings to me (love, joy, peace, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, mercy, grace, strength, provision, protection) and pour out tsunami waves of your love over me!

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