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**3 His divine power has given us everything we need** for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to selfcontrol, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.

**8** For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

### **The Source of Goodness**

## **Philippians 2**

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

**Exodus 33:19** And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence.

Exodus 34:6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

### **The Essence of Goodness**

### 2 Timothy 3

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, <u>not lovers of the</u> <u>good</u>,

### **The Goal of Goodness**

### **Ephesians 2** 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### 2 Thessalonians 1

11 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.

8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus **Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is** nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

1. Rather than living in the moment – Look behind you

- Remember the Cross

- Remember His promises
- Remember His victories
- Remember your commitments



2. Rather than living in the moment – Look ahead of you - Remind yourself to prepare and plan



### **Deuteronomy 6**

**10** When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, 11 houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, 12 be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

2. Rather than living in the moment – Look ahead of you - Remind yourself to prepare and plan - Remind yourself of your eternal salvation Hebrews 12 2 ... For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.



3. Rather than living in the moment – Look around you

- Realize that your victories and defeats affect others

1 Timothy 4 16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.



### 4. Go on the offensive – Do good to others

## Romans 12 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



### Romans 12

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

5. If you have willful, defiant, repetitive sin in your life, turn from it, and to simple obedience

Josh 7 13 You cannot stand against your enemies until you remove them.





**D.A.** Carson - "What then does Jesus mean? Just this: we are to deal drastically with sin. We must not pamper it, flirt with it, enjoy nibbling a little of it around the edges. We are to hate it, crush it, dig it out."

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