

Sermon Notes

Is That a Fact? - 2Tim 3:16

September 14, 2025

I. Introduction

- a. people struggle with God's goodness... can be difficult to accept if you rely on **etp** rather than Word... God is good to everyone... every time... everywhere... in every circumstance...
Psa 33:5... "the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord..."
Psa 119:68... "You are good and You do what is good..."
Psa 145:9... "the Lord is good to everyone..."
Isa 55... "come to Me... listen... find life... My word will prosper... and you will go out with joy..."
Jonah 1:4... "I knew you are merciful... slow to get angry... filled with unfailing love..."
Rom 1:16-32... "gospel is power of salvation to everyone who believes... they know truth because God has made it obvious... people can clearly see His qualities, power, nature... have no excuse..."
- b. several answers why it *may not seem* like God is doing anything good in your life... how are you expecting to see results... your good works... or resting and believing finished work of Christ...
Mark 7:1-13... "you make the Word of God of no effect thru your tradition..."
John 15:5... "without Me... you can do nothing..."
2Cor 3:5... "can't do anything of lasting value on our own... only power and success from God..."
Gal 3:5... "receive miracles by obeying law... no, by believing message heard about Jesus..."
Gal 5:4... "Christ is of no effect... you who attempt to be justified by law... fallen from grace..."
Heb 3:4... "watch out for an evil, unbelieving heart... encourage each other daily... unable to enter rest because of unbelief... we who believe enter rest... make every effort to enter that rest..."
- c. answers not necessarily found in bible... found in the Word... Jesus is our answer... as we read... we're looking for Jesus... more than just facts... it's about Truth... pray...
John 5:39-47... "search Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them... yet, they testify about Me... and you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life... how can you believe..."
John 14:6... "I am the way... I am the truth... I am the life..."
John 16:13... "when the Spirit of truth comes... He will guide you into all truth..."

II. Is That a Fact?

- a. as we search for truth... God welcomes questions... however, questioning is an entirely different thing... when you seek answers are you asking a question or questioning...
Question... sentence, phrase, or gesture that seeks information thru a reply...
Questioning... proceeding from, or characterized by, doubt or uncertainty...
- b. may not think this is a big deal... but it's a huge deal... and will affect your results...
Prov 3:34... "God mocks those who mock... but gives grace to the humble..."
Mark 9... "if You can help... all is possible to one who believes... I do believe, help my unbelief..."
1Cor 8:2... "if anyone thinks he knows anything... doesn't yet know it as he ought to know it..."
1Pet 5:5... "God resists the proud... but gives grace to the humble..."
James 1:5... "if anyone lacks wisdom... ask God... He'll give it to you generously..."
- c. when you're teachable... when your heart is open... great things happen...
Matt 13:58... "He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief..."
Mark 4:26-29... "the soil produces the crop... first blade, then head, then full grain..."
Luke 8:11-15... "seed in good ground... open and honest heart... produces fruit..."
Rom 4:16-21... "kept hoping, kept believing... convinced God was able to do as He promised..."
- d. everything in the bible is true... but it's not always Truth... it is a fact these people said these things... but they are not spiritual Truth... they are not a doctrine to live by...
Job 1:21... "Job said... the Lord gives and the Lord takes away..."
Matt 12:22-32... "Pharisees said... this man drives out demons by the prince of demons..."
Acts 26:19-29... "Festus said... Paul, you are insane, too much study has made you crazy..."

- e. how about these... are they fact or Truth... part of thousands of precious promises...
Gen 1:1... "in the beginning... God created the heavens and the earth..."
John 3:16... "God so loved you... sent His Son... anyone who believes has eternal life..."
John 5:19... "the Son does only what He sees the Father doing..."
Rom 4:16... "the promise is by faith... so it may be according to grace... as a guarantee..."
Rom 8:31-39... "who can separate us from the love of God... nothing in all creation..."
2Cor 1:20... "all of God's promises are yes in Christ... that is why we say amen..."
2Cor 5:17-21... "if anyone is in Christ... he is new creation... old is gone, new has come..."
2Pet 1:1-9... "everything required for life... thru His great and precious promises..."
- f. everything in bible is inspired by God... some are just facts... others are eternal truth... which are these... *God helps those who help themselves... just sinner saved by grace... money is root of all evil... cleanliness next to godliness... hate sin, love sinner... fact or Truth...*
2Tim 3:16... "all scripture inspired by God... useful to teach, rebuke, train, correct..."
2Pet 1:21... "no prophecy came from man... moved by HS... men spoke from God..."
- g. when trying to understand bible... must first determine if its actually in the bible... then look at context, context, context... is this statement written for you or to you... is it fact or truth...
Matt 27:1-10... "Judas went and hanged himself..."
Luke 10:37... "then Jesus said... go and do likewise..."
- h. all bible was written FOR you... not all was written TO you... don't know, you'll be confused... preachers often confuse these words to condemn the righteous... not written to them...
2Pet 2... "denying the Lord... remain under condemnation... blaspheme truth... greedy... exploit with words... never stop sinning... love unrighteousness... slaves of depravity..."
2Pet 2... "false teachers among you... their condemnation... their destruction... unrighteous under punishment... they will be destroyed... they have gone astray... cast them to hell..."
- i. much of 2Peter is written FOR you to warn you of false teachers... not written TO you...
2Pet 1... "grace and peace to you... given us everything... given us great promises... you share..."
2Pet 3... "dear friends... awaken your understanding with a reminder... remember words spoken..."
Jude... "godless men have slipped in among you... woe to them... they are dangerous... they are waterless clouds... Lord comes to convict them of their ungodly deeds... they are grumblers..."
Jude... "those who are called... loved by God, kept by Jesus... mercy, peace, love to you... eager to write you about salvation... you dear friends... build yourself up... keep yourself in love of Christ..."
- j. sometimes when we read we make assumptions... sometimes those assumptions are just wrong... assume God was angry and punishing people... read these passages, they don't say that...
Num 20:6-12... "speak to rock... Moses struck rock... *because you did not believe Me...*"
Num 21:5-9... "people spoke against God... Lord sent poisonous snakes... many died..."
- k. can be confusing when we read about God's wrath in OT... assume it was anger, wrath and fiery judgment... but what if it was God showing His goodness and love to His family and children...
Num 16:28-35... "earth opened... swallowed them up... households, men, possessions..."
Deut 7:1-16... "destroy them... show them no favor... consume them... do not pity them..."
1Sam 15:3... "completely destroy everything... men, women, children, infants, animals..."
- l. no cure for cancer... if someone has it... try lots of things to kill it first... if that doesn't work... a last resort would be to cut off body part to save rest of body... not wrath, but love for whole... no OT cure for sin... in order for it to stop spreading and kill whole body... something had to be done...
Gen 6:5-18... "wickedness was widespread... every scheme man thought of was evil all the time... *I will wipe man and animals off the earth...* Noah found grace, he was righteous, walked with God..."
Rom 1... "God's wrath is revealed against all who suppress truth... men are without excuse..."
Rom 9... "what if God... enduring with much patience objects of wrath... to display His mercy..."
2Pet 3:9... "the Lord is patient... not wanting any to perish... but all to come to repentance..."
- m. what if there was a cure for cancer or sin... foolish to destroy body parts if it could be healed... because of God's goodness, we have a cure for sin... His name is Jesus... choice is up to you... pray...
1Cor 13:9-12... "now we know in part... when perfect comes, partial will come to an end..."
1John 2:2... "He is sacrifice that holds back wrath of God for our sins... and sins of entire world..."