

The Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness
3/23/2025

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

agathosune - an intrinsic goodness, a moral quality that reflects uprightness of heart and life.

Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Ephesians 5:7-10

God's Standards of Goodness

1. God's Holiness

"There is only one who is good." Matthew 19:17

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts the whole earth is full of his glory!" Isaiah 6:3

"Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you—majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?" Exodus 15:11

"For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens." Hebrews 7:26

God's Standards of Goodness

1. God's Holiness

2. God's Righteousness

"And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

"who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification." Romans 4:25

God's Standards of Goodness

1. God's Holiness

2. God's Righteousness

3. God's Justice

Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. Isaiah 1:17

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amos 5:24

But you must return to your God; maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always. Hosea 12:6

Jesus Fulfills the Law

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22: 37-40

God’s Standards of Goodness

1. God’s Holiness
2. God’s Righteousness
3. God’s Justice
4. **God’s Love**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:7–8

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Quotes by George Foreman

"Plant a seed of greatness in your children. Speak a word of encouragement to someone who needs to hear it. Inspire someone to be a better person. One day you'll reap a harvest, and your world will become a better place to live."

"When I found Jesus Christ, I learned to be a better athlete. I didn't have to go out there and knock them out in the first round. I've learned to be patient, skillful in the ring. At the same time, I wanted to prove to other boxers that you can take off this killer instinct stuff, you can be a great athlete, a great boxer, and love your brother."

"I don't even think about a retirement program because I'm working for the Lord, for the Almighty. And even though the Lord's pay isn't very high, his retirement program is, you might say, out of this world."

"Sometimes God gives instructions that go against conventional wisdom, such as treating people kindly when they're hateful. Who really wants to do that? Instructions like that may not always make sense, so that's why I need to trust and obey the One who inspired them."