



The Evangelist

The Goodness Of God

Issue 27



Romans 2:1-4 KJV Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. 2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. 3 And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? 4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Many years ago, (it now sometimes seems like a very long time ago to me) I heard, with my heart, that someone that I had never really met, allowed Himself to die for my dirty, rotten sins! He did this for me!. It was at a Baptist Church in Newtonsville, Ohio in 1966. The man that God chose to use to tell me about our Lord Jesus, was Pastor James O. Holder — he now lives in California.

As long as I live, I will never forget that Sunday morning. There I was, a father of two children, standing in the last row of that country church, now hearing with my heart, what I only heard with my ears for so many years before. It is so strange, how that we can hear for such a long time with our ears, yet never hear with our heart? Now, it was like some great light was showing to my heart the "Goodness of God". Now, I could see my awful sin and the great love of our Heavenly Father and His only Son, Jesus!

I remember thinking at that time of the important people in my life. Like my Mother and a little Methodist Church in Fayetteville, Ohio, who had given to us high school seniors of 1963, each, a little red bible. Funny, but there were more than these people who were important to me, but at that time, only Mom and this small Methodist Church seemed to be the ones that seemed to really care. As I write this testimony for you, I also recall that it was my mom, Anne Dishon Hubbard, who had also given me a black personal bible. (I still have this bible - 58 years later) Now it is plain to me, that it was these two gifts of God's Holy Word, that made these people so very important.

But then, it was the goodness of God's love for my rotten - hell bound soul, and the goodness of His only Son Jesus, who paid for my filthy life of sin, and the goodness of those who gave me the Holy Word of God, and the goodness of Pastor James Holder and of his church, that caused this sinner to stand in totally awe and say in his heart, **no one every loved me like this before!** No one, - only Jesus and His Heavenly Father.

Now, I have made this same Jesus my own personal Savior, and His Heavenly Father - I have made Him my Heavenly Father and now the Precious Holy Spirit of God lives in my heart. There are no regrets and there can be no turning back! The life that I live is one of faith that looks forward to the day when I shall see with my own eyes, what I have believed in all of these years. Those who choose to go with me - well - we shall make that glorious trip together and to be with our loved ones who have gone on before us. There we shall see Jesus and all of those who have believed.

Won't you also choose this Jesus as your own Lord and Savior.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: .. John 1:12a