

Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati 405 West Seventh Street Cincinnati, OH 45203 (513) 381-3858

www.union-baptist.net

Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

## God is Always Good!

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." (Psalms 136:1)

God's goodness (Psalm 100:5; Mark 10:18), that is, the glorious kindness and generosity that touches all his creatures and that ought to lead all sinners to repentance Other aspects of this goodness are the mercy or compassion or pity that shows kindness to persons in distress by rescuing them out of trouble and the long-suffering, forbearance, and slowness to anger that continue to show kindness toward persons who have persisted in sinning. The supreme expression of God's goodness is still, however, the amazing grace and inexpressible love that show kindness by saving sinners who deserve only condemnation: saving them, moreover, at the tremendous cost of Christ's death on Calvary.

God's faithfulness to his purposes, promises, and people is a further aspect of His goodness and praiseworthiness. Humans lie and break their word; God does neither. In the worst of times it can still be said, "His mercies never come to an end....great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23). Though God's ways of expressing His faithfulness are sometimes unexpected and bewildering, looking indeed to the casual observer and in the short term more like unfaithfulness, the final testimony of those who walk with God through life's ups and downs is that "not one word has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed" (Joshua 23:14). God's fidelity, along with the other aspects of His gracious goodness as set forth in His Word, is always solid ground on which to rest our faith and hope. AMEN.

~Dr. J. I. Packer

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18-20

