



Doing Good, Hoping for Nothing

“But love your enemies, do good, and lend,
hoping for nothing in return...” – Luke 6:35

Goodness is a quality of God

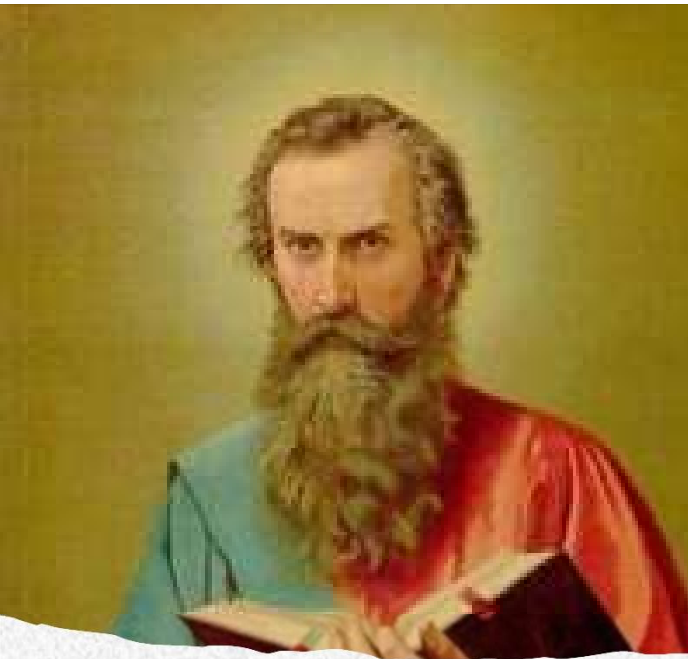
- Creation – He created out of His goodness
- Communing with humanity
- The work of salvation
- “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Rom. 12:21)



Our Struggle

- Requires the removal of my own wickedness
 - Actively struggling to remove my wickedness is necessary for life on earth
- The denial of a reward





Examples

- “And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.” (2 Cor. 12:15)

How to grow in goodness?

- Goodness must be valued above the self
- Goodness is learned
 - It takes practice
 - It is deliberate



Learning Goodness

- Bible
 - “Turn away my reproach which I dread, For Your judgments are good.” (Ps. 119:39)
 - “Teach me good judgment and knowledge, For I believe Your commandments.” (Ps. 119:66)
- Lives of the saints
- Other member of the Church
- Pray for it – it is a gift of the Holy Spirit
 - “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...” (Gal. 5:22-23)

Matthew 5:16



“Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.”