

**A Harvest of Spiritual Fruit: Goodness
Colossians 1:9 - 14 (text: vs. 10)**

- I. Introduction: Paul's devotional theology
- II. Christianity strongly emphasizes: "Be good. Do good."
 - A. A serious misunderstanding: "Good people go to heaven; bad people go to hell."
 - B. By nature, we are all "bad people" (sinners).
- III. God is perfectly good
 - A. He is the standard by which we define what is good.
 - B. The Bible attests to God's goodness.
 - C. The world he made displays his goodness.
 - D. His discipline reflects this.
 - E. The cross decisively demonstrates God's goodness.
- IV. Christians are empowered by the Spirit to be good and do good.
 - A. Our motivation: 'joyfully giving thanks to God' for rescuing us.
 - B. Our calling: to grow in 'the knowledge of God's will' as we gain 'spiritual wisdom and understanding.'
 - C. The result: 'bearing fruit in every good work'
- V. Conclusion