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God is Perfect

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GOD IS PERFECT

God is perfect:

"As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him" (Psa. 18:30).

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matt. 5:48).

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17).

The word *perfect* means "complete," without the slightest flaw. This states, therefore, that anything God is, has, or does is perfect.

- Perfection as related to God

- A. His various characteristics (attributes) are perfect.

His love is a perfect love, His grace is perfect, His holiness is perfect, etc.

- B. His law is perfect.

"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Psa. 19:7).

- C. His actions toward believers are perfect.

"The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever: forsake not the works of thine own hands" (Psa. 138:8).

Thus, all of God's dealings with His people are perfect, that is to say, complete, without the slightest flaw or mistake.

- Perfection as related to angels

- A. Lucifer

"Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty'" (Ezek. 28:12).

- B. One-third of heaven's angels

"Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born" (Rev. 12:4, NIV).

- Perfection as related to believers

- A. James says we can become perfect (flawless) simply by using positive words (James 3:2).

- B. Paul urges us to present our bodies as living sacrifices that we might know God's perfect will for us (Rom. 12:2).

- C. He also assures us that suffering helps produce a flawless believer (2 Cor. 12:9).

- Perfection as illustrated

One of the Greek words translated perfection in the English Bible is *akribeia*. It refers to exactness or accuracy, and can in the physical world, have in mind a well-rounded wheel on a wagon. Now for the illustration:

In the 1960s I accepted the call to pastor a church in Minneapolis, Minnesnowta (pun intended). As the parsonage had no garage, it was necessary for me to park my car in front of the house. So, when the temperature would fall well below zero (which it often did), that part of the tire resting on the pavement would freeze flat, resulting in a very bumpy ride for the first few miles.

During one of these occasions the words of Hebrews 12:1 suddenly came to mind:

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”

Wow! That besetting sin phrase could well be applied in the spiritual realm, describing believers who were allowing an unconfessed sin, however small, to make its pilgrimage down here a very bumpy and uncomfortable one indeed!

Someone has observed that it is not the large boulders in our path which present the greatest challenge, but rather the tiny pebble in our shoe!

And the intended lesson? Allow the indwelling Holy Spirit to deal with any and all flat spots in your walk with Christ.