

COMMON GRACE & NATURAL REVELATION PS 103:6-7

Common grace: simply God's goodness, mercy & grace available

To all people

In all places

At all times

Natural revelation: God's self-revelation in creation & conscience

As opposed to **special revelation** in Scripture → which also clarifies natural revelation

An introduction:

1. God knows & knows about **all** people(s)!

Psalm 103:6 The LORD executeth righteousness And judgment for **all** that are oppressed.

He just knows!

We need **journalists & news/newspapers.**

2018-2019 Spoke for Ezra's father's ministry & attended Ezra & Emily's reception (???)!

I saw the largest group of Pinoy... who weren't Pinoy!

I knew nothing about them! They are **not** unknown to God!

2. God is concerned about justice for **all** people(s)!

3. God **actively works** to that end!

Psalm 103:6 The LORD **executeth** righteousness And judgment for all that are oppressed.

See Amos 1

Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth **all** men **every where** to repent:

Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

4. God is **good** to **all** people(s)!

Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: **for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.**

Psalm 145:8 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; Slow to anger, and of great mercy.

Psalm 145:9 The LORD is good to **all**: And his tender mercies are over **all** his works.

Psalm 145:10 All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; And thy saints shall bless thee.

We live in a fallen world and **therefore** evil / bad happens.

However, evil / bad **can only be understood** in comparison with the good & that the world / created order is usually good → even very good.

Ashville NC:

5. God is good **to** the good, the **not-so-good**, & the **not-good-at-all!**

Acts 14:11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of

Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men. **Acts 14:12** And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. **Acts 14:13** Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

Acts 14:14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

Acts 14:15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, **and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:**

Acts 14:16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

Acts 14:17 **Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.**

Acts 14:18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

6. God built all of this into the system → nature itself!

Romans 1:14 **I am debtor** both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.

Romans 1:15 So, as much as in me is, **I am ready** to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. **Romans**

1:16 For **I am not ashamed** of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God **revealed** (*ἀποκαλύπτεται*) from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God **is revealed** (*Ἀποκαλύπτεται*) from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, **who hold** (*τῶν τὴν ἀλήθειαν ἐν ἀδικίᾳ κατεχόντων*) **the truth in unrighteousness;**

Romans 1:19 **Because** that which may be known of God is manifest **in them** (*ἐστὶν ἐν αὐτοῖς*); for God hath shewed it **unto them** (*αὐτοῖς*).

Romans 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even **his eternal power and Godhead;** so that they are **without excuse:**