1 – **“O Taste And See That The Lord is Good”** (Psalms 34:8)

2 – **BACKGROUND**

**SUMMARY OF DAVID’S LIFE**

* Great-grandson of Ruth
* Chosen by God to be the next King over Israel as he was “***a man after God’s own heart***” . (13:14; 16:7, 12)
* **Trusted God** to defeat Goliath & the Philistines. (1 Samuel 17)
* The people praise David. (18:7)

3 – **BACKGROUND**

**SUMMARY OF DAVID’S LIFE**

* David’s friendship with Saul’s son Jonathan (18:1-4) and marriage to Saul’s daughter. (18:20-27)
* Jealousy, envy and hatred for David because of his success from God (18:28; 18:12-16; 18:30-19:2, 10-17)
* David flees for his life (1 Samuel 21-31; 3-5 years?) as he develops an “army” of supporters (22:2; 1 Chron. 12:22)
* During this time, he fled to Achish, King of Gath, & after being recognized, feigned insanity & penned Psalms 34.

4 - **“O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!”
(Psalms 34:8)**

5 - **1 Peter 2:1-3,** “…*like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,* ***if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord****.”*

6 - **Hebrews 6:4-5**, *“For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and* ***have tasted of the heavenly gift*** *and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have* ***tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come****.”*

7 - Key Words… **Taste**

* **To perceive by experience and total involvement. To consume. Not just initial reaction.** (Consider the same Hebrew word in Proverbs 31:18 & 1 Samuel 14:24ff)
* The “**experience**” by which we “**taste**” the Lord is “**walking by faith**”. (2 Corinthians 5:7); especially in times of conflict and tribulation. (1 Peter 1:6-9)
* To give **our all** in **full commitment**. (Mark 12:30; 1 Kings 18:21ff; Matthew 19:16ff) even when the storms are fierce (Matthew 14:28ff).

8 - Key Words… **See**

* **Look to the outcome of full discipleship, commitment and sacrifice.** (Matthew 19:27)
* **What is the “*outcome of your faith*”?** (1 Peter 1:9)
* **We need spiritual vision**. (Ephesians 1:18-19)
* See how it turns out! (Acts 27:25)

9 – **Examples**

* **Abraham** (Hebrews 11:8-10)
* **Job** (Job 1:20-22; James 5:11)
* **Moses** (Hebrews 11:24-27)
* **Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego**
* **The apostle Paul** (Philippians 3:7-14)

10 - **(Vs. 1) Bless The Lord At All Times**

* “***Bless***” - to kneel down in submission, honor and trust.
* When things are good and when we’re troubled. (Philippians 4:4-7; Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; Acts 5:41)
* “*Just as you have always obeyed*…” (Philippians 2:12)
* When suffering for righteousness sake and suffering for what we deserve. (1 Peter 4:12-16)
* On our minds and in our mouths always. (Psalms 19:14; Joshua 1:7-9; Proverbs 22:17-19)

11 - (Vs. 2-3) **Tell Others & Exalt His Name Together**

* **Evangelism** - allow others to **hear of our *“boast in the Lord”***. (Jeremiah 9:23-24; Psalms 20:7; 44:8; 2 Cor. 10:17)
* “***The humble will hear***…” (note vs. 6 & 18; Isaiah 57:15; Isaiah 66:2; Psalms 25:9; Matthew 5:3)
* “***O******magnify*** *the* ***Lord with me****, and let us* ***exalt******His name together***.” (example: Acts 16:25, 30)

12 - **Other Keys To Being Able To “Taste The Lord”**

* (Vs. 4-5) **Don’t be ashamed of His word or of our brethren**. (2 Timothy 1:8-13; cf., 2:15; Psalms 25:1-3, 20; 31:1)
* (Vs. 9) **Fear the Lord!** (2 Cor. 5:11; Hebrews 10:31)
* (Vs. 12-14) “***Depart… and Pursue***” (1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Peter 4:1-3)
* (Vs. 15-19) Maintain a **humble heart**. (Matthew 5:3; Isaiah 57:15; 66:1-2; Luke 18:9-14)

13 - **Will You Taste And See That The Lord Is Good?**

By rendering obedience to His will through…

* Your faith and trust in Jesus, the Son of God, your confession before men, your repentance and baptism into His body.