

**Intro**

~ If we find something we enjoy whether it be food, a book, an event, a program we look forward to that thing. The Psalmist David has something that he enjoys and it's the Lord. David is inviting us to also enjoy the Lord. When we find a food we enjoy we want to share it and we'll say, "here...try this....it's good." This is what David is doing here. He's saying I've tasted and have discovered the Lord is good. Won't you try?

~ Wilda Williamson worked offering food samples in the store and also shared Christ with people

~ From this passage we see an invitation to taste and see the goodness of God and to be satisfied with him

~ How is our taste buds? Are they ready for the Lord and his word?

**Outline**

1 Invitation (v8) – To taste and experience

2 Satisfaction (v9) – Satisfied yet hungry for more

3 Allusion & Distinction (v10) – The young lions

**V8 Invitation**

~ Three times David gives us an "O" (v3,8,9). He says O magnify, O taste and O fear the Lord

~ Taste and sight are physical senses, ways in which we interact with the material world. Similarly, faith is like a spiritual sense, and with it we interact with the spiritual world.

~ Invitation and experience are the essence of this verse

~ It seems this verse is stating the fact that the Lord is good, but we must come for ourselves and taste and experience

~ The invitation is to come taste and experience God's grace and the goodness of God.

~ Every person wants forgiveness, kindness, purpose and a second chance – that's all found in the Lord

~ Taste

- Heb 6:4,5 Tasted the good word of God
- 1 Pet 2:2,3 We have tasted that the Lord is gracious

~ Trust

- There's a connection made here between taste and trust
- If we've truly tasted that the Lord is good we'll be able to trust the Lord
- Could I have trouble trusting because I've stopped tasting the Lord's goodness
- Trust is a fundamental word in the relationship of God's children to God
- God is always after our trust

**Text****V9 Satisfaction**

~ To fear the Lord is to trust the Lord

~ Trust in God leads to a thankful, contented and satisfied life

~ There's satisfaction found in the Lord

~ This verse calls to mind Ps 23:1 (The Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want)

~ It's an interesting thing with Lord – we can have as much of God and never be full

~ David spoke also in Psalm 23 of not having any wants because he realized the Lord is his shepherd

~ We overeat at times and feel stuffed and say, "I can't eat another bite." But, with the Lord we can eat the words of God and never get full. It actually makes us want more and more

~ To be called a glutton is a bad thing but we should all want the reputation of being gluttons when it comes to the bible

~ If we're satisfied with the Lord we'll not look elsewhere

~ "Paul had nothing, and yet possessed all things." (Trapp)

**V10 Allusion & Distinction**

~ David compares the young lion and wanting to his situation of not wanting

~ He says the young lions will at times lack and suffer hunger

~ Lack = poor, needy and destitute (describing the young lions)

~ Perhaps David could often hear the young lions around his camp roaring in hunger and the delight of the lion when they've captured their prey

~ David was familiar with wild animals' hungry ways. When King Saul told David he wasn't ready to fight Goliath David told Saul that David had defended his father's sheep from the lion & bear and killed them both ( 1 Samuel 17:33-36)

~ While the lion is considered the king (fierce, powerful, fast) of the animal world they have to hunt for their wants

~ Yet the young lions are dependent on mamma to help provide food for them. They're dependent

~ So David says that though the young lions suffer hunger and are dependent on their parents but those who seek God won't lack any good thing

~ *Holman OT "David pointed out that lions, the kingly animals at the head of the food chain, would grow weak and hungry before those who seek the Lord.*

#### An allusion and a Distinction

~ Allusion – the young lions are dependent on their parents to provide for their needs – just as the child of God is a dependent on God for their needs

~ Distinction – The lion can be dependent on circumstances of the hunt, their health, their needs, what they come across in their hunt – yet the child of God isn't dependent on circumstances but on our heavenly father who already knows our needs and is concerned

~ *Barnes "The old lions may be unable to procure food for their young; God is never unable to provide for the wants of his children. If their needs are in any case unsupplied, it is for some other reason than because God is unable to meet their necessities."*

~ *Constable "Young, self-reliant lions occasionally cannot provide for their own needs adequately, but people who trust in the Lord never suffer such a fate (cf. Mat\_6:33).*

#### **Practical Points**

1 Hungry-yet satisfied (this paradox)

~ When we've overeaten and miserable we'll say I can't eat again yet we can eat as much of God's word as we want and never be full

~ *Matt 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*

~ The challenge for us is to always stay hungry for more of God's word

~ The more eat of God's word the hungrier we'll be for it

~ Appetite for God begets more appetite

2 Fearing the Lord is respect & reverence for the Lord

~ We fear and respect God's way more than our wants

~ A healthy respect for God puts all of our desires and needs into check so that we don't want things outside of God's provision for us

~ Israel was always longing for and looking for provisions outside of God's timing & plan

~ The serpent tempted Eve to a provision outside of God's will

~ Satan also tempted Jesus to create food for his own need outside of God's timing & plan

~ Satan tempts us to make our own provisions for satisfaction. He tells us the things of this world will satisfy us and we have a right to them and we should just take it

~ Fear the Lord and pray for contentment and wait on the Lord's provision

~ What does it mean to be satisfied? Does it mean the Lord just gives us what we want? NO

~ We know a wise parent is wise about what their children really need versus what they really need

~ We're familiar with the litmus test of "is it a need or is it a want?"

~ Sam reminded us when we were considering a new stove "is it a need or a want?"

~ Perhaps some of our discontentment comes from confusing or needs and wants from the Lord

~ Jesus taught the disciples to pray, "give us our daily bread."

~ Contentment comes easy to the person whose thankful, humble and appreciative for what they have

~ A discontented person will never be happy with what the Lord has blessed them with

~ *Phil 4:19 My God shall supply all your needs*

3 Don't forget how good the Lord is

~ We don't forget how good a particular food is – we can remember it was good, but unfortunately sometimes God's children forget how sweet the Lord and his word is

~ We get busy, sick, stressed out, and self-absorbed and we forget how good the Lord is

~ We may hear the word but it doesn't touch our heart and soul because it's not important as it once was

4 Off-taste buds

~ Sometimes our taste buds get ruined

~ Covid causes your taste buds to get inflamed

~ Covid cured me of my coffee snobbery. My taste for coffee is still off. I had Covid back in October. Now I can drink the cheap Walmart coffee and not taste a lot of difference between that and the coffee I get at Panera

~ The world pollutes and inflames our taste buds for God's word

~ We can develop inflamed taste-buds

~ What once tasted good (the Lord) now is ok or so-so

~ Don't let anything ruin our taste buds for the Lord

5 We can taste the Lord's goodness through his word

~ Meditating on God's word in Psalm 1 – the blessed man meditates on the word and is fruitful. God prospers his way and he's fruitful in all seasons of life (Gal 5:22,23)

~ *Ps 23:7 As a man thinks in his heart so is he*

~ *Ps 19:10 the word is sweeter than honey and better than money*

~ Jonathan tasted the honey and his eyes were enlightened

6 Find even the challenges of the word of God to be good

~ *Prov 27:7 The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.*

~ If we're not hungry for God nothing from the Lord, his plan and his word will taste good

~ But to the hungry soul...all food is good. Even the bitter things. Just like trying to eat a grapefruit. It is bitter and for me it takes some doctoring to get it palatable.

~ The promises and hard challenges from God's word taste good to the hungry soul.

## **Conclusion**

The Westminster Shorter Catechism says the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy him forever

~ We've been invited and we want to invite others to taste the Lord is gracious