

July 14, 2020

“O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.”
Psalm 34:8

I realized that I fell off the tracks somewhere during the last couple of days. My prayers were becoming an obligation rather than a journey and refreshment.

The world snuck up and overwhelmed me.

Dylan had a few nights of low blood sugar which affected our sleep patterns. The roar of the competing voices in the world depressed me. The uproar of masks bewildered me. (I wear a mask just as I use a seat belt because it is the law or a rule that has been given me. I am a rule follower.) Oops! Back on topic. Almost got distracted by the roar of the world.

This morning I returned to the early morning prayers before my house awoke. I had a chance to email someone that God has been nudging me to contact. I realized that even in this isolation, I needed to find some silence ... to hear God.

The word in scripture that perplexes me to today is “taste” – “O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” When this happens, I try to go back to the original text. If from the Old Testament, I’ll look up the Hebrew word – in this case, טָּעַם. (If the New Testament, I would look up the Greek word.) Then I’ll look at a concordance to see if the word is unique in some way. When I did that, I found a definition for the various times “taste” has been used in the Bible: (1) taste, of eating in small quantity, (2) of sense of taste, and (3) figurative.

This information wasn’t the most helpful. It seems to me there must be some reason why David (who is presumed to have written Psalm 34) used the word “taste.” I searched around for some further explanations but found nothing convincing. So, I’m going to think of “taste” in the sense of to partake or to experience. I think the Bible is probably filled with expressions that the people at the time understood maybe with a wink or knowing glance that has been lost

over time. Although I wish we knew some of those subtleties, it doesn't take away from the beauty of the words as they are used.

As we continue our journey of prayer and study, I pray that you will experience a God that is good all the time and that blesses us in all that we do.

[Note: I like looking at Interlinear Bibles online. Interlinear mean that they have Hebrew and English side-by-side or Greek and English side-by-side. [For Hebrew, you can click here](#). [For Greek, you can link here](#). A concordance is an alphabetical list of the words present in the Bible with definitions and a list of where that word appears in scripture. Strong's Concordance is one of the best. [Click here to go to Strong's](#).]