

Taste and See

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Psalm 34:8

Taste and see suggests rich & satisfying experiences with God

- Hearing & seeing & even smelling allows us to experience something from a great distance
- Touching closes the gap completely (We certainly need a touch from God), but is still only surface to surface. Touching is good and gets us much closer to the goal.
- Tasting goes deeper. What we have tasted becomes part of us. We must chew, swallow, dissolve, absorb & process what we taste.

We cannot completely understand Jesus before we start following Him. We discover who He is on the journey.

it is time for some of you to come out of the fringes and draw in a little closer today. It is time for somebody to be touched by God today. It is time for somebody who has been getting touched by God here-and-there to taste the goodness of God. It is time for all of us to experience God at a greater level. It is time for God to have His way with us. Tasting allows God to become a greater part of us. Tasting allows God's DNA to become part of our DNA.

Like John the Baptist said, "I must decrease that He might increase." I want to taste God today. I want to be more like Him today. Hearing, seeing, smelling and even touching is not enough to change me. Only tasting will do it.

Bro. Don's warning against emotionalism. There is danger in excessive emotionalism. Yet, how can one taste God and be unmoved? Let me warn you today, "Beware if you have never become emotional about God. Beware that you have settled for a hear and see experience only. You like it, but are mostly unaffected. Beware that you settle for a little touch now and then." Africans and Indians and Latin Americans really sing and shout and dance in their worship services. Perhaps they have tasted the goodness of God? Perhaps we need a taste of the same thing today? When was the last time you were moved to tears or to shouts of joy?

A strange thing happens to me when I eat really spicy food; I break out into a sweat. I have to douse my forehead with a napkin. The food changes me. It tastes wonderful. But it also changes me. It creates a hunger in me for more. Only through tasting did we discover all the wonderful different foods that we now enjoy-Mexican, Chinese, Indian, German, Thai, Honduran. A great meal is something to be shared. Food tastes better together. Food tastes better at the Shiflett's or Holcer's house. We so enjoyed our meals with the Marxsen family in Germany & Lori Johanson India.

Many of you have tasted the wonderful goodness of God, but its been awhile ago. Some have lost your hunger for God. But, you are starting to smell something today. There is a rich aroma of God in the air.

Matthew 15:7-9

Let`s give more than lip service to God today; let`s give Him our hearts (the emotional center of our life). I am tired of coming to church services and leaving unaffected and unchanged. I want to taste God.

Philippians 3:7-14

- In order to taste God more fully, we are going to have to let go of our past experiences (good and bad). They will only prevent us from tasting God`s goodness today.
- Let go of self-righteous opinions.
- Want nothing as much as you want to know God.
- Allow yourself to suffer with Him, that you may know Him. Our Indian friends suffer with Christ, and they know Him. As we suffer rejection & betrayal, Christ is revealed in us. If we run away from suffering, we run away from Christ.
- In order for me to have all of Him, He must have all of me.
- Keep pressing in today.

Coffee

- Can`t experience pleasure of coffee through the raw bean
- Plucked and roasted (put through the fire)
- Ground and boiled in water
- Then it is poured out a rich and flavorful delight
- Coffee is an acquired taste
- The more you have tasted the more you want. The better coffee you drink, the less satisfied you become with weak, stale, dry old beans. You develop a taste for strong, oily, freshly ground beans.

All of Me

Discussion Guide

Taste and See

Psalm 34:8

What does “taste and see” suggest to you?

Taste and see suggests a rich and satisfying experience with God.

- Hearing and seeing allows us to experience something from a great distance
- To smell something require us to be a little closer
- Touching closes the gap completely (We certainly need a touch from God), but it is still only surface to surface. Touching is good and gets us much closer to the goal.
- Tasting goes deeper. What we have tasted becomes part of us. We must chew, swallow, dissolve, absorb and process what we taste.

Matthew 15:7-9

- What does it mean to give lip service to God?
- What does it mean to give him our heart?

Philippians 3:7-14

- How can past experiences with God rob intimacy with God today?
- Do you want nothing as much as you want to know God?
- What is the difference between knowing about God and knowing Him?
- What does this statement mean to you?