

# Behold Our God! Reflections in Psalms

## Psalm 34

"God is Good"— August 6, 2023



### **Introduction**

When people try to relate exciting events to you, often something is lost in translation. They commonly end saying, "you had to be there." People often discover that they are excited about the event, but they are not as good at explaining it.

This psalm shows us what it is to go through a time of need and have the Lord help us. It is an instructional psalm, an acrostic. The pattern makes it easy to remember it. David wants us to hear and know and learn this because this is the fruit of life in walking with Christ.

What does it mean for God to be a blessing in our lives? What does it mean to taste and see that the Lord is good? In order to taste the goodness of life and the fullness of days, we must do it in the refuge of God.

### **Sermon Outline**

1. We need to trust God's testimony. Vs. 1 - 10
2. We need to apply God's teaching. Vs. 11-22

### **Read & Discuss**

#### **1. Read vs. 1 - 10**

David begins this psalm by praising God because He is praiseworthy. We don't praise God as a result of what He does for us. We praise God for Who He is. We boast in the Lord. ([Jeremiah 9:24](#)) God is great and worthy of praise. We receive **our** worth from Him. We magnify the Lord and exalt His name **together**. We need each other to share the experiences we all have. In your next prayer time, begin by praising God for who He is – use this psalm and others as a guide. Is there another brother or sister in Christ who can benefit by hearing your testimony of God's goodness in your life?

God answered and delivered David. David sought the Lord in his brokenness and need, and he found Him. Are there times when you think you can take care of yourself and your problems? Are you challenged by your own needs and the needs of others? Everyone has needs. God sees us as children with needs. We don't have to bear all of our problems. God hears us and answers. What are you struggling with today? What do you need to take to God? He hears every prayer and answers, but we must be attuned to how He answers. He will deliver us from all our troubles.

As we see the goodness of God through His deliverance, David reminds us that He rescues **ALL** his children. David encourages us to experience the living God. In order to know God, we must be involved with Him, doing the work He has called us to do. What has God called you to do? ([Ephesians 2:10](#))

What does it mean that God is a good God? It means that He is worthy of approval. Who is the one approving God's work? God can only be approved by Himself. He is the final standard of good. He is perfection. He loves perfectly. He has perfect patience. He offers grace perfectly. The saints of God need to testify of His goodness. He is good all the time regardless of our circumstances, but it is good according to His standards not ours. We lack nothing. ([Psalm 23:1](#)) God is an endless supply of good for your life.

#### **2. Read vs. 11 - 22**

God's goodness provides the perfect model from which to learn.

In this Psalm, David tells us to control our tongue, keep from being deceitful and turn away from evil. Then, he tells us to do good, and seek and pursue peace. Are you doing good? ([Ephesians 2:10](#)) All the children of God have something that God is calling you to do – it has been prepared in advance. Do you seek and pursue peace? ([Matthew 4:9](#); [Romans 12:18](#); [2 Corinthians 13:11](#))

How can we do these things? We must go to God's word. It is the life-blood of the saint. God's word is encouraging, convicting, instructive, etc. ([2 Timothy 3:16](#)) God's word is alive and active, and it exposes our

thought and motives. ([Hebrews 4:12](#)) In reading, we then apply it to our lives and experience it. This is how we grow. What is your regular plan for reading and/or studying God's word?

The apostle Peter encouraged the persecuted saints with David's words in [1 Peter 3:10-12](#). This is what God's people need in the face of trial, trouble, and persecution. What helps us to do all these things? We must trust God's testimonies and apply His teaching. The goodness of God is ours.

**Prayer of Response**

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at [fbcum.org](http://fbcum.org)

**Next week's sermon text:** we turn to [Psalm 139](#) "**God is Omniscient (All-Knowing)**"