

Advance to the Manger — Day 21

Advance in Goodness

Psalms 34:8 NLT

“Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in Him!”

Introduction:

Celebrating God's Goodness

- Scripture: Psalm 34:8
- Reflect on the goodness of God.
- Encourage a spirit of celebration and gratitude for God's goodness.

During this Christmas season, as we advance towards the manger, it is essential to reflect on the goodness of God. Psalm 34:8 invites us to taste and see that the Lord is good. Today, let us meditate on the goodness of our Heavenly Father and how it is magnificently revealed in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Heart Reflection

1. Experiencing the Goodness of God:

The psalmist encourages us to "taste and see" the goodness of God. This invitation is not just about intellectual understanding; it is an invitation to experience God's goodness firsthand. As we approach the manger, let us open our hearts to encounter the goodness of God in a profound and personal way. Through Jesus' birth, God's love, mercy, and grace are made tangible and accessible to all.

2. The Incarnation: God's Ultimate Expression of Goodness:

The birth of Jesus is the ultimate expression of God's goodness towards humanity. In this miraculous event, God Himself took on human form, entering our world to bring salvation, hope, and reconciliation. The manger represents the humble beginning of God's redemptive plan for humanity. It is a reminder of God's incomprehensible love and His desire to restore and rescue us from sin and brokenness.

3. Taking Refuge in God's Goodness:

The psalmist declares, "Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!" When we take refuge in the goodness of God, we find security, peace, and joy. In the midst of life's challenges and uncertainties, God's goodness becomes our shelter and strength. As we advance towards the manger, let us find solace in the assurance that God's goodness is our constant anchor, guiding us through every season of life.

Call To Action

- Seek Intimate Relationship:
 - Be Intentional
 - seek an intimate relationship with Him.
 - Follow a plan to guide you.
 - Be specific
 - Set a time and place each day for:
 - Prayer
 - studying His Word
 - meditating on His promises.

- Be Open
 - Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the depth of God's goodness and love in your life.
- Embrace God's Gifts: (John 3:16)
 - Salvation—The manger represents the gift of Jesus Christ.
 - Embrace this gift with gratitude and surrender.
 - Recognize that the greatest expression of God's goodness is His Son.
 - Receive Jesus into your heart and allow His goodness to transform your life.
- Share God's Goodness:
 - Share His love and grace with others.
 - Be a vessel of kindness, compassion, and generosity.
 - Reflect God's goodness in your words, actions, and relationships, pointing others towards the manger and the hope found in Jesus.

Take A Way

As we advance towards the manger, let us celebrate and embrace the goodness of God. May we taste and see His goodness in every moment of our lives, finding refuge and strength in Him. Through the birth of Jesus Christ, God's ultimate expression of goodness, we experience His love, mercy, and grace. Let us seek an intimate relationship with Him, embrace His gifts, and share His goodness with others. May the goodness of God be our guiding light as we journey towards the manger and beyond.

Prayer:

Oh Lord,
 we thank You for Your goodness that is beyond measure. Open our eyes to taste and see Your goodness in every aspect of our lives. Help us to take refuge in You, finding strength and peace in Your loving presence. May the birth of Jesus remind us of Your unfailing love and the depth of Your goodness. Empower us to share Your goodness with others and to advance towards the manger with hearts filled with gratitude and joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.