

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TODAY.

>> WELCOME TO GOOD NEWS TODAY, THE PROGRAM WHERE YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND GOOD NEWS, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD.

>> I'M MARK TESKE, YOUR HOST FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US. WE'VE GOT A GREAT PROGRAM TODAY, AND HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP. WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, AND THAT CONSISTS OF OUR SCRIPTURE READING, BEAUTIFUL SINGING, AND A BRIEF STUDY OF OUR SCRIPTURE. TODAY WE'LL BE LOOKING AT 2ND THESSALONIANS 1:7-10, WHERE WE READ ABOUT BOTH THE GOODNESS AND SEVERITY OF GOD AT THE JUDGMENT DAY. GET OUT YOUR BIBLES, TURN TO 2ND THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 1. I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, TROY SPRADLIN WILL BE REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE POOR CANAANITES. JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US WITH SOME SOUND WORDS ABOUT A BAR TO HEAVEN AND A DOOR TO HELL. ROGER CAMPBELL JOINS US TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT EVER TALK ABOUT THE WRATH OF GOD? IN OUR FINAL SEGMENT, WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN: CAN WE KNOW HOW OLD ABIMELECH'S KINGDOM LASTED? WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO 2ND THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 1, WHERE WE READ BEGINNING AT VERSE 7, AND TO GIVE YOU WHO ARE TROUBLED REST WITH US WHEN THE LORD JESUS IS REVEALED FROM HEAVEN WITH HIS MIGHTY ANGELS, IN FLAMING FIRE TAKING VENGEANCE ON THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW GOD, AND ON THOSE WHO DO NOT OBEY THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. THESE SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD AND FROM THE GLORY OF HIS POWER, WHEN HE COMES, IN THAT DAY, TO BE GLORIFIED IN HIS SAINTS AND TO BE ADMIRER AMONG ALL THOSE WHO BELIEVE, BECAUSE OUR TESTIMONY AMONG YOU WAS BELIEVED.

>> (SINGING)

>> OUR TEXT FOR TODAY COMES FROM PAUL'S SECOND INSPIRED LETTER TO THE YOUNG CHURCH IN THESSALONICA. IT HADN'T BEEN AROUND VERY LONG, AND 1ST THESSALONIANS AND 2ND THESSALONIANS WERE WRITTEN FAIRLY SOON AFTER THE CHURCH WAS ESTABLISHED. PAUL WAS THERE IN THESSALONICA FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS. AND THOSE NEW CHRISTIANS ALREADY ENDURED SIGNIFICANT PERSECUTION. WE CAN READ ABOUT THE ASSAULT ON JASON'S HOUSE BY THE JEWS WHO WERE ENVOIOUS OF ALL THE PEOPLE THAT WERE FOLLOWING CHRISTIANITY DURING PAUL'S SHORT STAY THERE. WE READ THAT IN ACTS CHAPTER 17. SO AS YOU LOOK AT OUR TEXT, WE HAVE THIS PERSECUTED CHURCH; AND FOR THOSE PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS, A WONDERFUL REST IS GOING TO BE COMING. A WONDERFUL REST WILL BE THERE FOR THEM. THEY'RE GOING TO BE FREE FROM PERSECUTION, FROM SORROW, FROM PAIN, TRYING TO HELP THEM SEE THAT HOPE OF HEAVEN THAT THEY HAVE BEFORE THEM. IT'S A REWARD WHERE THEY CAN REST FROM THEIR LABORS. AND WHILE THEY HAVE THAT GLORIOUS REWARD, JESUS IS ALSO GOING TO TAKE VENGEANCE ON THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTING THEM, THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW GOD, AND THOSE WHO DON'T OBEY THE GOSPEL. YOU SEE, THEIR EVIL DEEDS WON'T GO UNPUNISHED. THE SAME RESULT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO IGNORE GOD. ALSO THAT SAME RESULT IS GOING TO HAPPEN FOR THOSE WHO HEAR GOD BUT CHOOSE NOT TO

OBEY THE GOSPEL. THE GOSPEL, 1ST CORINTHIANS 15:1-4 TELLS US IT'S THE DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS. AND WE REENACT THAT WHEN WE REPENT AND ARE BAPTIZED. WE READ THAT IN ROMANS 6:1-4. SO YOU SEE, THE GOSPEL CONTAINS COMMANDS THAT MUST BE OBEYED. SO YOU HAVE TO OBEY THE GOSPEL. SOME PEOPLE'S CONCEPT OF THE GOSPEL HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH OBEDIENCE. THAT'S NOT A BIBLICAL CONCEPT AT ALL. THAT'S SOMETHING THEY'VE MADE UP, BECAUSE THE GOSPEL NEEDS TO BE OBEYED. AND HE SAYS THOSE WHO KNOW NOT GOD, WHO DON'T OBEY THE GOSPEL, THEY'RE GOING TO BE PUNISHED WITH EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION, IN FLAMING FIRE, TAKING VENGEANCE UPON THEM. YOU SEE, PART OF GOD'S NATURE IS THAT HE REQUIRES THAT JUSTICE BE CARRIED OUT. HE GIVES PEOPLE FREE WILL TO REBEL AGAINST HIM; BUT THERE COMES A TIME THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY THE PRICE. JESUS IS GOING TO BE GLORIFIED THROUGH THE SALVATION OF HIS BELIEVERS. THERE'S GOING TO BE A DAY OF GREAT REJOICING AND THE CULMINATION OF HIS REDEMPTION OF HIS PEOPLE ON THAT JUDGMENT DAY. WHAT A GLORIOUS DAY THAT'S GOING TO BE FOR HIS PEOPLE. WHAT AN AWFUL DAY IT'S GOING TO BE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT OBEYED THE GOSPEL. SO AS WE SEEK TO APPLY THIS IN OUR LIVES, WE NEED TO BE READY FOR THE COMING JUDGMENT DAY. THERE'S ONLY ONE OF TWO PLACES WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND ETERNITY: EITHER IN HEAVEN OR IN HELL. THERE'S NO OTHER OPTION. ANOTHER THING WE LEARN FROM THIS PASSAGE IS YOU NEED TO OBEY THE GOSPEL. ANYONE WHO TELLS YOU YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING, THAT'S A FALSE TEACHER DIRECTLY CONTRADICTING THIS PASSAGE. THE GOSPEL INDEED CONTAINS COMMANDS THAT NEED TO BE OBEYED. WE MUST HAVE FAITH. IN JOHN 6:29, JESUS SAYS THAT WE MUST DO THE WORK OF FAITH. HE CALLS FAITH A WORK. WE ALSO HAVE TO REPENT OF OUR SINS, ACTS 2:38. WE NEED TO CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN, MATTHEW 10:32. AND WE ALSO NEED TO BE BAPTIZED, THE PROCESS OF WHICH THAT LAST ACT IN THIS PROCESS WASHES AWAY OUR SINS, ACTS 22:16. THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO OBEY THE GOSPEL. WE'RE BURIED WITH HIM THROUGH BAPTISM INTO DEATH, ROMANS 6, RAISED TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE. WE'VE GIVEN UP THAT SIN, WE'VE GONE THROUGH THAT PROCESS OF BAPTISM AND WE BEGIN AS A NEW CREATURE, A NEW PERSON THAT'S SET TO GO TO HEAVEN. AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. IT'S TIME FOR US TO VISIT THE WORKSHOP, WHERE TROY SPRADLIN WILL BE REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE POOR CANAANITES.

>> YOU KNOW, SADLY, THE WORLD HAS A LONG HISTORY OF WAR AND GENOCIDE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1990, CIVIL WAR BROKE OUT IN RWANDA, AFRICA RESULTING IN THE MURDER OF ABOUT A MILLION PEOPLE. IN 1976, POL POT'S COMMUNIST REGIME IN CAMBODIA IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE KILLED AS MANY AS 2 MILLION PEOPLE. AND OF COURSE, THE MOST WIDELY-KNOWN GENOCIDE IN HISTORY IS ADOLF HITLER'S EXTERMINATION OF MORE THAN 6 MILLION JEWS AND OTHER PEOPLE FROM 1939 TO 1945. AND THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHERS. MOST RATIONAL AND SANE PEOPLE, NO MATTER WHAT THEIR BACKGROUND MIGHT BE OR THEIR ETHNICITY OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, THEY ALL VIEW THESE EVENTS AS CRUEL AND CALLOUS AND NEFARIOUS, AND IT'S JUST CONSIDERED A TERRIBLE CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY. SO IF MASS MURDER IS HORRIBLE AND UNACCEPTABLE, THEN WHAT ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CANAANITES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, LIKE WHAT WE READ IN EXODUS 23, IN DEUTERONOMY 7, IN JOSHUA? WOULDN'T THAT BE CONSIDERED GENOCIDE? AFTER ALL, HOW COULD A LOVING GOD INSTRUCT ONE GROUP OF PEOPLE TO KILL AND CONQUER AN ENTIRE OTHER GROUP? AND WHAT ARE WE CHRISTIANS TO MAKE OF ALL OF THAT? WELL, LET'S

REPAIR OUR UNDERSTANDING AND CONSIDER THREE VERY IMPORTANT POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND THAT WILL HELP US TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING. NUMBER ONE, GOD IS SOVEREIGN. THAT'S THE FIRST THING WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE. GOD IS THE CREATOR, AND WE ARE THE CREATION. HE'S THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY, PERIOD. SO HE HAS THE RIGHT TO DO WITH HIS CREATION AS HE DESIRES. AND HIS OMNIPOTENCE MIGHT NOT SIT WELL IN SOME MINDS, BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE TRUTH. GOD HIMSELF SAID, MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NOR ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS; FOR AS THE HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH, SO ARE MY WAYS HIGHER THAN YOUR WAYS, SAYS ISAIAH 55:8-9. SO IT'S FOOLISH FOR US TO TRY AND JUDGE GOD'S ACTIONS WITH HUMAN WISDOM WHEN WE'RE SIMPLY NOT IN A POSITION TO DO SO. NUMBER TWO, GOD IS LONGSUFFERING. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT GOD DID NOT JUST MAKE AN IMPULSIVE OR CAPRICIOUS DECISION TO DESTROY THE NATION OF CANAAN. NO, NO. GOD IS SLOW TO ANGER AND GREAT IN MERCY, SAYS PSALM 145:8. HE'S LONGSUFFERING, NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH, BUT THAT ALL SHOULD COME TO REPENTANCE, SAYS 2ND PETER 3:9. YOU SEE, GOD WAITED MORE THAN FOUR CENTURIES TO BRING JUDGMENT UPON THE INHABITANTS OF CANAAN. TO ABRAHAM HE STATED, THE INIQUITY OF THE AMORITES WAS NOT YET COMPLETE IN GENESIS 15:16. SEE, HE KNEW THEIR SIN WAS GETTING WORSE; BUT HIS PATIENCE HAS A LIMIT. WHEN THE CANAANITES' INIQUITY WAS FULL, WELL, THEN GOD USED ISRAEL AS HIS AGENT OF JUSTICE UPON THAT BARBARIOUS CULTURE. AND THAT'S A LESSON WE MUST LEARN. HIS PATIENCE WITH IMPENITENT SINNERS EVENTUALLY ENDS, JUST LIKE IT DID FOR THE WICKED WORLD OF NOAH'S TIME OR FOR SODOM AND GOMORRA IN THE DAYS OF ABRAHAM. AND LIKEWISE, IT ENDED FOR THE INHABITANTS OF CANAAN. NOW, NUMBER THREE, GOD IS A JUST JUDGE. LASTLY, WHILE WE MAY NOT FULLY COMPREHEND GOD'S ETERNAL WAYS OR COMPLETELY RECOGNIZE HIS PATIENCE IS LIMITED, WELL, HE'S STILL LOVING, HE'S STILL HOLY AND MERCIFUL AND RIGHTEOUS; YET HIS LOVE AND MERCY DOES NOT PROHIBIT HIM FROM PUNISHING WICKEDNESS ANY MORE THAN LOVING, MERCIFUL PARENTS OR A POLICEMAN OR JUDGES MIGHT JUSTLY ADMINISTER PUNISHMENT TO THOSE WHO VIOLATE THE RULES OR THE LAW. IN FACT, IT WOULD BE UNLOVING IF GOD DID NOTHING TO SINNERS. YOU SEE, THE PEOPLE OF CANAAN WERE FAR FROM INNOCENT. THEY PRACTICED HUMAN SACRIFICE AND MURDERING INNOCENT CHILDREN. THEY WERE WORSHIPING IDOLS AND INCEST AND BESTIALITY AND WERE EXTREMELY HOSTILE TOWARD YAHWEH. THEY WERE ALSO FULLY AWARE OF GOD'S EXPECTATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF NINEVEH KNEW TO REPENT, LIKE WE READ IN JONAH 3, WELL, SO CANAAN. THEY COULD HAVE EVEN SAVED THEIR OWN LIVES LIKE RAHAB AND HER FAMILY DID BY SUBMITTING TO GOD, AS WE READ IN JOSHUA CHAPTER 2. SO BEFORE WE THINK SOMETHING LIKE, OH, THOSE POOR CANAANITES, LET'S RECOGNIZE THAT GOD CERTAINLY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO SENTENCE AN ENTIRE WICKED NATION TO EXECUTION. GOD'S STILL LOVING, HE'S STILL A LONGSUFFERING GOD, BUT THAT DOES NOT PROHIBIT HIM FROM PUNISHING WICKEDNESS. AND ULTIMATELY, THE LESSON IS THIS: LET'S MAKE SURE THAT OUR HEART IS RIGHT WITH GOD AND NOT LIKE THOSE CANAANITES.

>> I'M SO THANKFUL FOR GOD'S LONGSUFFERING AND PATIENCE WITH ME. I'M GLAD I DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT LIKE THOSE PEOPLE DID WHEN GOD'S PATIENCE RAN OUT. THANKS, TROY. TO HELP MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE RIGHT WITH GOD, WE'VE DEVELOPED A FREE BIBLE COURSE TO HELP YOU IN THAT EFFORT. WE'RE ABOUT TO GIVE YOU OUR CONTACT INFORMATION SO YOU CAN ENROLL. THEN JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US.

>> YOU MAY HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. AGAIN, THAT'S GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. YOU MAY PREFER TO E-MAIL US AT GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. OR CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-877-384-7221. THAT'S 1-877-384-7221. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. HEARING FROM OUR AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TO US.

>> THE EASIEST WAY TO ENROLL IN OUR BIBLE COURSE IS ON OUR WEBSITE AT GNTTV.ORG. JUST CLICK WHERE IT SAYS BIBLE COURSE, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION, AND WE'LL MAIL IT TO YOU. REMEMBER, YOU CAN ALWAYS HEAR GOOD NEWS TODAY ON TRUTH.FM. OUR CHANNEL PLAYS THERE CONTINUALLY. CHECK IT OUT. NOW, HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT A BAR TO HEAVEN AND A DOOR TO HELL.

>> ONE OF THE GREATEST PROBLEMS IN TODAY'S SOCIETY IS ALCOHOLISM. BECAUSE OF ALCOHOL, FAMILIES HAVE BEEN LOST, MOTHERS HAVE LOST CHILDREN, AND MANY HAVE LOST THEIR SOULS. AN ANONYMOUS AUTHOR ONCE WROTE THE FOLLOWING WORDS: THE NAME OF EACH SALOON IS BAR, THE FITTEST OF ITS NAMES BY FAR. A BAR TO HEAVEN, A DOOR TO HELL; WHOEVER NAMED IT NAMED IT WELL. A BAR TO MANLINESS AND WEALTH; A DOOR TO WANT AND BROKEN HEALTH. A BAR TO HONOR, PRIDE, AND FAME; A DOOR TO GRIEF, SIN, AND SHAME. A BAR TO HOPES, A BAR TO PRAYER; A DOOR TO DARKNESS AND DESPAIR. A BAR TO HONORED, USEFUL LIFE; A DOOR TO BRAWLING, SENSELESS STRIFE. A BAR TO ALL THAT'S TRUE AND BRAVE; A DOOR TO EVERY DRUNKARD'S GRAVE. A BAR TO JOYS THAT HOME IMPARTS; A DOOR TO TEARS AND ACHING HEARTS. A BAR TO HEAVEN, A DOOR TO HELL; WHOEVER NAMED IT NAMED IT.

>> WINE IS A MOCKER, STRONG DRINK IS A BRAWLER, AND WHOEVER IS LED ASTRAY BY IT IS NOT WISE, PROVERBS 20:1. THANKS FOR THOSE THOUGHTS, JIM. OUR APPS ARE AN EXCELLENT PLACE TO GET A DOSE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY OR ANY DAY. WE HAVE MATERIAL THAT YOU'LL SEE ON OUR PROGRAM AS WELL AS SOME EXCELLENT MATERIAL FROM YEARS GONE BY. THEY'RE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PHONE, TELEVISION, OR TABLET. JUST LOOK FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY IN THE APP STORE AND DOWNLOAD IT FOR FREE. ROGER CAMPBELL JOINS US TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT EVER TALK ABOUT THE WRATH OF GOD? BE READY ALWAYS.

>> HAVE YOU EVER HEARD ANYBODY SAY THAT THE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS A GOD OF WRATH, BUT THE GOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IS A GOD OF LOVE. HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THAT? SOMETIMES PEOPLE WONDER, WELL, DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT EVEN TALK ABOUT THE WRATH OF GOD? WE KNOW THIS: THE GOD OF HEAVEN DOES NOT CHANGE. AND SO WHATEVER WAS TRUE ABOUT HIM IN THE BEGINNING, THAT'S TRUE ABOUT HIM NOW. THAT IS, WHATEVER GOD WAS LIKE IN THE PAST, THAT'S WHAT HE IS LIKE NOW. IN HEBREWS 1:1-2, THE READING IS, GOD, WHO AT SUNDRY TIMES AND IN DIVERS MANNER SPAKE IN TIME PAST UNTO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS, HATH IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN UNTO US BY HIS SON. NOW GOD SPOKE THROUGH THE PROPHETS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ERA AND SPEAKS TO US NOW THROUGH HIS SON; BUT IT'S THE SAME GOD WHO WAS SPEAKING THEN WHO'S SPEAKING NOW. DOES THE OLD TESTAMENT SPEAK

ABOUT THE WRATH OF GOD? YES, IT DOES. DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT SAY THAT GOD IS LOVE? YES, IT DOES. BUT THE WRATH OF GOD IS ALSO PART OF THE NEW COVENANT TEACHING. JESUS SAID ONE WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE ON THE SON OF GOD, THE WRATH OF GOD ABIDES ON HIM. WE READ THAT IN JOHN 3:36. AND IN SPEAKING ABOUT JESUS IN REVELATION 6:16, WE READ ABOUT THE WRATH OF THE LAMB. WE READ IN 1ST THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 1 THAT THOSE BRETHREN IN THESSALONICA, THEY HAD SERVED IDOLS, BUT THEY TURNED FROM IDOLS TO GOD TO SERVE THE LIVING AND TRUE GOD AND TO WAIT FOR HIS SON FROM HEAVEN WHO HAS DELIVERED US FROM THE WRATH TO COME. WELL, WHOSE WRATH WOULD THAT BE? THAT WOULD BE THE WRATH OF THE GOD OF HEAVEN. DOES ROMANS 5:8 SOUND FAMILIAR TO YOU? THAT'S THE WONDERFUL MESSAGE THAT GOD HAS COMMENDED OR DEMONSTRATED HIS LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US. BUT WHAT ABOUT VERSE NUMBER 9, ROMANS 5:9, MUCH MORE THEN, BEING NOW JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, WE SHALL BE SAVED FROM WRATH THROUGH HIM. THE DAY OF JUDGMENT, IN FACT, IS CALLED A DAY OF WRATH FOR SOME PEOPLE, ROMANS 2:5 AND 8. WELL, IS THERE ANY DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S WRATH IN THE TEACHING OF THE NEW COVENANT? WE HAVE EXAMPLES OF GOD'S WRATH IN THE BOOK OF ACTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN CHAPTER 5, WE READ THAT A COUPLE, SAPPHIRA AND HER HUSBAND ANANIAS, THEY WERE PUT TO DEATH. BY WHOM? BY GOD. FOR DOING WHAT? FOR LYING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. IN CHAPTER NUMBER 13, WE READ THAT THERE WAS A MAN BY THE NAME OF BAR-JESUS OR ELYMAS. HE TEMPORARILY WAS STRUCK BLIND FOR TRYING TO HINDER OTHERS FROM OBEYING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS. AND THEN GOING BACK TO CHAPTER 12, THERE WAS A KING BY THE NAME OF HEROD. HISTORY KNOWS HIM AS HEROD AGRIPPA THE FIRST. HE WAS STRUCK DEAD, EATEN BY WORMS BECAUSE HE DIDN'T GIVE GLORY TO GOD. AND SO YES, THE NEW TESTAMENT DOES SPEAK ABOUT THE WRATH OF GOD. AND THE GREAT NEWS IS IT SHOWS US HOW TO AVOID RECEIVING GOD'S WRATH ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT. HOW'S THAT? BY SERVING THE LORD JESUS. I'M ROGER CAMPBELL, AND THIS HAS BEEN BE READY ALWAYS.

>> WE NEED TO DO OUR PART TO AVOID THAT WRATH. THANKS, ROGER. YOU KNOW, GOOD NEWS TODAY HAS FOUR DIFFERENT PODCASTS: GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME, GOOD NEWS TODAY WEEKLY, HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION, AND SOUND WORDS WITH JIM DEARMAN. THEY'RE AVAILABLE WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION TO ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN. YOU MAY WANT TO OPEN YOUR BIBLE TO GENESIS 20 TO PREPARE.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY AND TROY: CAN WE KNOW HOW LONG ABIMELECH'S KINGDOM LASTED?

>> TODAY OUR QUESTION IS A VERY INTERESTING QUESTION.

>> OKAY.

>> ALL RIGHT. CAN WE KNOW HOW OLD ABIMELECH'S KINGDOM LASTED? AND THEY USE THE TEXT OF GENESIS 20:2, ALSO CHAPTER 26 AND VERSE NUMBER 7. SO AS ALWAYS, WHAT WE LIKE TO DO IS WHEN THEY GIVE US TEXT, WE LIKE TO GO TO THE TEXT. SO WE'LL START WITH THAT. WE'LL READ THE TEXT THAT WE HAVE HERE BEGINNING WITH GENESIS 20:2. IT SAYS AND ABRAM SAID OF SARAH HIS WIFE, SHE IS MY SISTER. AND ABIMELECH KING OF GERAR SENT AND TOOK

SARAH. SO WE SEE THAT THERE. AND VERSE NUMBER 7 SAYS, NOW THEREFORE RESTORE THE MAN HIS WIFE; FOR HE IS A PROPHET, AND HE SHALL PRAY FOR THEE, AND THOU SHALT LIVE. AND IF THOU RESTORE HER NOT, KNOW THAT THOU SHALT SURELY DIE, THOU, AND ALL THAT ARE THINE.

>> ALL RIGHT. WELL, IT IS INDEED AN INTERESTING QUESTION, AS YOU SAID. AND LISTEN, ALL QUESTIONS ARE GOOD QUESTIONS, AND WE DON'T WANT TO DISCOUNT ANY QUESTION. BUT THIS IS ONE OF THOSE THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO ASK WHY. WHY DOES IT MATTER? I MEAN, WHAT DO WE REALLY NEED TO KNOW? BECAUSE WE NEED TO KNOW THE WILL OF GOD. WE NEED TO KNOW THINGS ABOUT GOD. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS LIKE THIS, THIS IS JUST ONE OF THOSE QUESTIONS THAT WE JUST DON'T HAVE THAT MUCH INFORMATION. NOW, THERE IS SOME EXTRA-BIBLICAL THINGS THAT WE COULD LOOK TO, YOU KNOW, AS FAR AS WHO ABIMELECH WAS. THERE'S A FEW OTHER PLACES AND SOME INTERESTING BOOKS LIKE THE APOCALYPSE OF PETER AND ANOTHER ONE THAT'S CALLED THE CAVE OF TREASURES AND SOME OTHER EXTRA-BIBLICAL THINGS. THERE'S ALSO SOME SCHOLARS THAT THINK THAT THAT'S JUST A NAME THAT IS USED FOR A KING, KIND OF LIKE PHARAOH DOWN IN EGYPT. BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS, WHILE WE CAN MAKE EDUCATED GUESSES ABOUT THAT, THE BIBLE DOESN'T TELL US.

>> SIMPLY PUT.

>> BUT HERE'S A QUESTION I HAVE IN REGARDS TO THAT: WHY IS HIS NAME RECORDED IN THERE? THAT'S REALLY WHAT MATTERS. WHY DID GOD PUT HIS NAME IN THERE? AND I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN TAKE THAT FROM THE TEXT THAT NUMBER ONE, GOD SPOKE TO THIS GUY.

>> YES, HE DID.

>> HE SPOKE TO THIS PAGAN KING. AND WHAT DOES THAT TEACH US? IT TEACHES US THAT GOD'S IN CONTROL, RIGHT?

>> YES, SIR.

>> THE SECOND THING IS THAT IT ALSO, AS YOU READ THERE IN GENESIS 20:2, THAT ABRAHAM SAID OF SARAH HIS WIFE, SHE IS MY SISTER. WELL, HE LIED. HE MAY HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A LITTLE WHITE LIE, BUT IT WAS ONE OF THOSE LIES THAT HAD SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. AND THEN THIRDLY, WE CAN ALSO TAKE FROM THIS THAT ABIMELECH DID WRONG. IT DIDN'T MATTER IF HE KNEW HE WAS DOING WRONG OR NOT DOING WRONG. AND THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR SIN, AND GOD'S GOING TO HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE. AND SO WHILE WE CAN'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HIS KINGDOM IS OR HOW LONG IT LASTED OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, IT'S VERY INTERESTING. WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS WHAT IS REVEALED.

>> RIGHT. THE MESSAGE WHICH IS BEING PRESENTED IS IMPORTANT. ABRAHAM TRANSGRESSED AND LYING, SAYING THAT IT'S HIS SISTER. AND THOUGH PART OF IT'S TRUE, HE'S STILL LYING, THOUGH, BECAUSE IT'S HIS WIFE. HE JUST CHOSE TO GO WITH THE OTHER ONE, DIDN'T SAY, HEY, THIS IS MY WIFE, YOU KNOW, THIS IS YOUR WIFE. AND ABIMELECH, AS YOU SAID, WAS WRONG AS WELL. HE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN TAKING ANOTHER - HE SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT. AND THE THING THAT WAS VERY AT LARGE AT THIS POINT IS YOU ALMOST RUINED THE SEED, RIGHT? YOU ALMOST RUINED THE SEED LINE THERE,

ABRAHAM, BY ALLOWING HIM - AND ABIMELECH. BOTH WOULD HAVE BEEN GUILTY, RIGHT? ABIMELECH FOR TAKING HER AND PARTAKING IN THAT ACT, AND THEN ALSO ABRAHAM FOR ALLOWING THAT TO TAKE PLACE. SO WE HAVE TO PUT OUR TRUST IN GOD, DON'T ALLOW - ABRAHAM WAS FEARFUL IN THAT MOMENT OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF HE SAID THAT WAS HIS WIFE, SO HE DIDN'T TELL THE TRUTH. BUT GOD HAS BEEN ON HIS SIDE AND GOD WILL ALWAYS BE ON HIS SIDE. LIKewise WILL HE BE THERE FOR US WHEN WE FIND OURSELVES IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

>> AMEN.

>> THANKS, GUYS. A JUDGMENT DAY IS COMING, AND WE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR IT. IT'LL BE THE GREATEST DAY FOR SOME, BUT IT WILL BE THE MOST TRAGIC DAY FOR MANY, MATTHEW 7:13-14. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE OBEDIENT TO THE THINGS THAT GOD TELLS US TO DO IN ORDER TO BE SAVED. AND YOU CAN FIND THOSE THINGS IN THE WORD OF GOD. CHECK THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS AND SEE WHAT THEY DID, DO WHAT THEY DID, AND YOU'LL BECOME EXACTLY WHAT THEY BECAME, AND THOSE PROMISES THEY RECEIVED OF SALVATION ARE THE SAME PROMISES YOU CAN RECEIVE. IF YOU NEED TO WATCH OR LISTEN TO OUR PROGRAM AGAIN, YOU CAN DO THAT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH OUR APPS, OR THROUGH OUR PODCASTS. REMEMBER, WE LOVE YOU, WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU, AND WE WANT YOU TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY