

>> 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, AND HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP. WE'LL BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, WHICH CONSISTS OF OUR SCRIPTURE READING, BEAUTIFUL SINGING, AND A BRIEF STUDY OF THAT SCRIPTURE. TODAY WE'LL BE LOOKING AT EPHESIANS 1:22-23, WHERE WE READ ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH. GET OUT YOUR BIBLES AND TURN TO EPHESIANS 1. I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, FREDDIE CLAYTON JOINS US, AND HE'S HELPING US UNDERSTAND SALVATION GOD'S WAY BY ASKING, WHO CAN BE SAVED? JIM DEARMAN WILL JOIN US WITH SOME SOUND WORDS ABOUT CHRIST WITHOUT HIS CHURCH. JOE GUY JOINS US FROM THE PASTIME PORCH, AND HE SAYS THAT HE'S GOING TO START HIS OWN CHURCH. WE'LL SEE WHAT THAT'S ABOUT IN JUST A MOMENT. CHAD DOLLAHITE JOINS US FOR JUST A MINUTE, AND HE'S AGAIN ENCOURAGING US TO GO BACK TO THE SOURCE. THIS TIME, IT'S FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHURCH. IN OUR FINAL SEGMENT, WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EVANGELIZING IN LOVE AND EVANGELIZING IN FIRE AND BRIMSTONE? WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO EPHESIANS 1, WHERE WE READ TOGETHER BEGINNING AT VERSE 22, AND HE PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET AND GAVE HIM TO BE HEAD OVER ALL THINGS TO THE CHURCH, WHICH IS HIS BODY, THE FULLNESS OF HIM WHO FILLS ALL IN ALL.

>> (SINGING)

>> OUR SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY COMES FROM PAUL'S INSPIRED LETTER TO THAT CHURCH IN EPHESUS. AND THIS LETTER CONTAINS A LOT OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE LORD'S CHURCH, WHERE JEWS AND GENTILES COME TOGETHER IN ONE BODY. AND HERE IN CHAPTER 1, WE'RE AT THE INTRODUCTORY DISCOURSE OF THE BOOK. IT'S ACTUALLY ONE REALLY LONG SENTENCE IN THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE. A KEY POINT HE'S TRYING TO MAKE HERE IS THAT ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS ARE FOUND IN CHRIST, EPHESIANS 1:3. AND IN GOING THROUGH THIS DISCOURSE, HE DESCRIBES THE MARVELOUS NATURE OF ALL THE DIFFERENT THINGS THAT CHRIST HAS DONE FOR US, ALL THESE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS THAT ARE INDEED IN CHRIST. AND GOD'S MARVELOUS PLAN, HE'S GOING TO TELL US IN CHAPTER 3, VERSE 11, GOD'S PLAN TO ESTABLISH HIS CHURCH HAS BEEN FULLY ACCOMPLISHED. THAT ETERNAL PLAN HAS BEEN FULFILLED. SO WE GET TO OUR TEXT HERE TOWARD THE END OF CHAPTER 1, AND IT SAYS THAT GOD HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET, UNDER CHRIST'S FEET. YOU SEE, JESUS WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY OVER EVERYTHING. MATTHEW 28:18, JESUS SAYS, ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. THAT'S A TRUE STATEMENT. THERE IS NO GREATER AUTHORITY ON EARTH TODAY THAN JESUS. THE FATHER HAS GIVEN HIM THAT AUTHORITY. HE IS ALSO THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH. KIND OF INTERESTING. ALL AUTHORITY, AND THEN HE'S FOCUSING HERE ON THE CHURCH. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ROLE, AN IMPORTANT PART OF THAT AUTHORITY. AND WE NEED TO REALIZE HE HAS THE AUTHORITY. NO MAN CAN TAKE THAT AUTHORITY AWAY. SO WE NEED TO RESPECT HIS LEADERSHIP AND

HIS COMMANDS THAT HE GIVES US THROUGH HIS WORD, THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES. THAT PATTERN, THE THINGS THAT HE SAID THERE, THAT HAS SOME SERIOUS MEANING. AND HE GOES ON TO SAY THE CHURCH IS HIS BODY, JESUS' BODY. THE TWO ARE INSEPARABLE. THE HEAD AND THE BODY GO TOGETHER. YOU DON'T GET ONE WITHOUT THE OTHER. HE GOES ON IN CHAPTER 4, VERSE 4 TO LET US KNOW THAT HE ONLY HAS ONE BODY. THERE'S ONLY ONE CHRIST AND THERE'S ONLY ONE BODY. THERE IS ONLY ONE HEAD. AND HOW DO YOU GET INTO THAT BODY? WELL, THE LORD PUTS YOU IN THERE. HE ADDS YOU TO THAT NUMBER, ACTS 2:47, WHEN YOU'RE BAPTIZED, WHEN YOU'RE SAVED. THE CHURCH, OUR PASSAGE GOES ON TO TELL US, MAKES JESUS COMPLETE. JUST LIKE A HEAD WITHOUT A BODY IS INCOMPLETE, JESUS WITHOUT HIS CHURCH IS INCOMPLETE. AND IT'S REALLY AMAZING TO ME TO THINK THAT WE CAN HAVE ANY PART IN MAKING JESUS MORE COMPLETE THAN HE ALREADY IS. SO AS WE SEEK TO APPLY THIS PASSAGE IN OUR LIVES, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE INTEGRAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH. THOSE GO TOGETHER. HE IS THE HEAD. HE IS THE ONE IN CHARGE. SO FOR US TO ATTEMPT TO TELL CHRIST HOW HIS BODY SHOULD WORK, THAT'S RATHER ARROGANT. AND IF A BODY OF PEOPLE DECIDE TO DO THINGS THEIR WAY AND NOT CHRIST'S WAY, THEY CEASE TO BE HIS BODY. HE'S NO LONGER THE HEAD; THEY'VE BECOME THE HEAD OF THEIR OWN GROUP. AND WHEN WE UNDERSTAND THE CHURCH AS GOD DESIGNED IT, WE'RE NOT JUST A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT GETS TOGETHER ONCE A WEEK TO DO OUR OWN THING. WE ARE HIS BODY. WE'VE BEEN CHARGED WITH THE GREATEST WORK IN THE WORLD BY THE GREATEST AUTHORITY POSSIBLE. SO WHEN IT COMES TO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH, WE SHOULDN'T LOOK AT THE TASK AHEAD AND SAY, WELL, THAT'S TOO BIG, WE CAN'T DO THAT, OR, THAT WON'T WORK, OR, WE TRIED THAT, IT NEVER WORKS. THAT'S NOT OUR ATTITUDE. REALIZE WHO THE HEAD IS. WHEN HE SAYS TO DO IT, WE FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO IT AND GET IT DONE. WE NEED TO REMEMBER WHO WE ARE AND WHOSE WE ARE AS THE LORD'S CHURCH. AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. NOW FREDDIE CLAYTON JOINS US FROM THE PASTIME PORCH, WHERE HE'S WALKING AND TALKING IN THE LIGHT. AND HE'S ASKING, WHO CAN BE SAVED?

>> IF YOU GET INTO A CONVERSATION ABOUT SALVATION WITH TWO RELIGIOUS FOLK TODAY, THE LIKELIHOOD IS HIGH THAT YOU WILL BE TALKING TO TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO BELIEVE, PRACTICE, AND TEACH TWO DIFFERENT THINGS ABOUT THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL OF ALL SUBJECTS, AND THAT IS SALVATION. THAT FACT IS AMAZING. IT'S ALSO FRIGHTENING AND IT'S VERY DISCOURAGING. REMARKABLY, SOME HAVE TAUGHT THAT SALVATION IS NOT EVEN AVAILABLE TO ALL MEN, FOR GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR SOME PEOPLE TO BE SAVED. THIS DOCTRINE IS KNOWN AS LIMITED ATONEMENT, AND IT'S ADVANCED BY MANY PEOPLE. IT HOLDS THAT CHRIST ONLY DIED FOR WHAT IS REFERRED TO AS THE ELECT. THUS, THE ANTONING SACRIFICE OF CHRIST WAS NOT FOR EVERYBODY, BUT JUST FOR THIS LIMITED GROUP OF PEOPLE. HOW DOES THAT DOCTRINE HOLD UP IN LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL? IS THAT WHAT THE GOSPEL TEACHES? IS THAT WHAT THE BIBLE AFFIRMS? CAN REALLY ANYBODY AND EVERYBODY BE SAVED ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURE? ACTUALLY, THE SCRIPTURE AFFIRMS THAT ALL NEED TO BE SAVED. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. PAUL WROTE IN ROMANS 3:23, ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD. IN VERSE 10 OF THIS SAME ROMANS CHAPTER 3, WE READ, THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO NOT ONE. SO SINCE GOD IS THE ONE WHO GAVE US THESE SCRIPTURES, TRULY, HE KNOWS THAT ALL NEED TO BE SAVED. WOULD A LOVING, GRACIOUS GOD ONLY OFFER SALVATION TO A LIMITED NUMBER AND

UNCONDITIONALLY CONDEMN ALL OTHERS? NO. SCRIPTURE AFFIRMS THAT GOD WANTS ALL TO BE SAVED. THE TWO APOSTLES WE KNOW THE BEST AFFIRMED THIS THROUGH INSPIRATION. GOD DESIRES ALL MEN TO BE SAVED AND COME TO A KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, 1ST TIMOTHY 2:4. PETER IN 2ND PETER 3:9 SAYS, THE LORD IS NOT SLACK CONCERNING HIS PROMISE, BUT IS LONGSUFFERING TOWARD US, NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH, BUT THAT ALL SHOULD COME TO REPENTANCE. GOD DESIRES ANYONE AND EVERYONE TO BE SAVED. NOW, THAT'S NOT TO SAY THERE ARE NOT CONDITIONS. THE SCRIPTURE ALSO AFFIRMS THAT JESUS DIED FOR ALL TO BE SAVED. IS THIS NOT APPARENT THROUGHOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT? HE DIED FOR ALL, THAT HE MIGHT TASTE DEATH FOR EVERY ONE, HEBREWS 2:9; FOR THE WHOLE WORLD, 1ST JOHN 2:2; SO THAT HE MIGHT DRAW ALL PEOPLES TO HIMSELF, JOHN 12:32; THE FREE GIFT TO ALL MEN, ROMANS 5:18. YES, FRIENDS, JESUS DIED FOR ALL MANKIND. AND SCRIPTURE ALSO AFFIRMS THAT JESUS CALLED FOR ALL TO BE SAVED. THAT'S WHY THE INVITATION WE READ IN MATTHEW CHAPTER 11 IS, COME UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I'LL GIVE YOU REST, WHICH DOESN'T CAUSE US TO BE SURPRISED WHEN WE READ IN REVELATION 22:17 THAT THE INVITATION IS FOR WHOSOEVER WILL, OR WHOSOEVER DESIRES TO BE SAVED. WHEN THE MOST IMPORTANT AND FUNDAMENTAL SUBJECT OF SCRIPTURE IS STUDIED, THAT IS, SALVATION, LET'S LAY ASIDE ALL MANMADE DOCTRINES, GO BACK TO THE BIBLE, AND FIND GOD'S WAY.

>> I COULDN'T AGREE MORE. LET'S DO THINGS GOD'S WAY. THANKS, FREDDIE. NOW GRAB SOME PAPER AND SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH, AND YOU CAN WRITE DOWN OUR CONTACT INFORMATION. IF YOU HAVEN'T ENROLLED IN OUR FREE BIBLE COURSE, CONTACT US AND GET STARTED. REMEMBER, OUR COURSE IS GIVEN FREE OF CHARGE. WE WON'T EVER TRY TO SELL YOU ANYTHING, AND WE WON'T PESTER YOU WITH SOLICITATIONS. JIM DEARMAN IS GOING TO JOIN US IN JUST A MOMENT.

>> 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 GOODNEWTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWTODAYTV@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. WE'RE PLEASED TO PARTNER WITH TRUTH.FM TO BRING YOU A 24/7 STREAM OF GOOD NEWS TODAY ON THEIR WEBSITE. IN ADDITION TO THE GOOD NEWS TODAY CHANNEL, THEY ALSO HAVE SEVERAL OTHERS THAT ALL CONTAIN EXCELLENT BIBLE LESSONS. NOW HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT CHRIST WITHOUT HIS CHURCH.

>> YOU KNOW, THERE ARE MANY IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD WHO BELIEVE THEY CAN BE CHRISTIANS WITHOUT BEING A PART OF THE CHURCH FOR WHICH CHRIST DIED. GIVE ME CHRIST BUT NOT THE CHURCH IS THEIR CRY. BUT IS THAT POSSIBLE? ONE OBSERVANT PERSON RESPONDED BY SAYING, THE POSSIBILITY OF

BEING A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT THE CHURCH IS AS POSSIBLE AS BEING A STUDENT WHO WILL NOT GO TO SCHOOL, A SOLDIER WHO WILL NOT JOIN THE ARMY, A SALESMAN WITH NO CUSTOMERS, AN EXPLORER WITH NO BASE CAMP, A SEAMAN ON BOARD SHIP WITHOUT A CREW, A BUSINESSMAN ON A DESERTED ISLAND, AN AUTHOR WITHOUT READERS, A PARENT WITHOUT A FAMILY, A POLITICIAN WHO IS A HERMIT, A BEE WITHOUT A HIVE. YOU KNOW, WHEN ONE OBEYS THE GOSPEL BY BELIEVING, REPENTING, CONFESSING CHRIST, AND BEING BURIED IN THE WATERS OF BAPTISM, THE LORD ADDS THAT OBEDIENT BELIEVER TO THE CHURCH FOR WHICH CHRIST DIED AND OVER WHICH HE REIGNS AS HEAD. YOU CANNOT SEPARATE CHRIST FROM HIS CHURCH.

>> TO SEPARATE CHRIST FROM HIS CHURCH WOULD BE TO SEPARATE THE HEAD FROM THE BODY. YOU JUST DON'T DO THAT. THANKS FOR THOSE THOUGHTS, JIM. HAVE YOU EVER MISSED AN EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY AND WISH YOU COULD WATCH IT? THERE'S A FEW WAYS YOU CAN DO THAT: ON OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE. YOU CAN ALSO DOWNLOAD OUR APP AND WATCH IT ON YOUR PHONE, TELEVISION, OR TABLET. THE PROGRAM'S THERE EVERY SUNDAY. YOU NEVER HAVE TO MISS AN EPISODE. AND THOSE APPS ARE ALWAYS FREE OF CHARGE. NOW WE HEAD BACK OVER TO THE PASTIME PORCH, WHERE JOE GUY IS WAITING FOR US. HE'S TALKING ABOUT STARTING HIS OWN CHURCH.

>> OH, HELLO. YOU KNOW, I THINK I'M GOING TO START MY OWN CHURCH. IT MAKES SENSE TO ME THAT WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO COME TO OUR BUILDING. IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHAT WE TEACH, DOES IT? WELL, NOTHING PLEASES ME MORE THAN A JUICY BACON CHEESEBURGER. SO AT MY NEW CHURCH, WE'LL HAVE A BACON CHEESEBURGER BAR WHERE BACON CHEESEBURGERS ARE GRILLED ALL DAY AND YOU CAN EAT ALL YOU WANT WITH COLD MOUNTAIN DEWS. WE WILL JUST DO AWAY WITH THOSE OLD BORING CRACKERS AND JUICE, AND OUR COMMUNION WILL BE BACON CHEESEBURGERS AND MOUNTAIN DEW. WELL, I BET THAT WOULD BRING PEOPLE IN. AND THOSE OLD PSALMS, HYMNS, AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, WELL, THEY JUST SEEM A LITTLE BORING AND SAD. SO AT OUR NEW CHURCH, WE'LL PLAY GOOD OLD EXCITING LYNYRD SKYNYRD BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT GOOD, FUN MUSIC WILL ALSO BRING IN MORE PEOPLE, BECAUSE THE BURGERS AND THE SOUTHERN ROCK, IN BETWEEN ALL THAT WE CAN TALK ABOUT GOD. WE CAN DECIDE WHAT WORSHIP IS. AND YOU KNOW, TO MAKE IT EVEN MORE CONVENIENT, WE'LL ONLY HAVE CHURCH ON NIGHTS THAT ACCOMMODATE COLLEGE AND PROFESSIONAL SPORTS ON OUR BIG SCREEN THAT WE'LL INSTALL IN OUR BIG SMOKE- AND PARTY-FILLED SANCTUARY. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THIS WILL ALSO BRING MORE PEOPLE INTO CHURCH. WON'T WE HAVE A GOOD TIME? WON'T WE LEAVE SATISFIED THAT WE WORSHIP THE WAY WE WANT TO? YES, THIS IS A SILLY AND EXTREME EXAMPLE. BUT ISN'T THIS WHAT WE SEE IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY? IN MANY PLACES, WORSHIP HAS BECOME WHAT WE THINK IS BEST. IT'S AN EXPERIENCE, SOMETHING TO EAT AND DRINK. IT'S LIGHTS AND SOUNDS, SOMETHING WE FEEL. WHAT'S TAUGHT IS AS WATERED DOWN AS THE COFFEE THEY SERVE. IN MANY PLACES, IT'S HARD TO TELL IF IT'S A CHURCH, A PARTY, A COFFEE BAR, OR A SOCIAL CLUB. THEY'RE LIKE THE PEOPLE THAT JESUS DEALT WITH IN JOHN 6:26 WHEN THEY WERE JUST THERE FOR THE FOOD AND NOT THE TRUTH. YOU SEE, I DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO START MY OWN CHURCH, NOR TO CHANGE THE ELEMENTS OF WORSHIP THAT GOD DECIDED WERE PROPER MANY, MANY YEARS AGO. THE BIBLE SAYS WE ARE TO ATTEND CHURCH AND MEET TOGETHER IN HEBREWS 10:25 AND 1ST CORINTHIANS 16:2; TO PRAY IN 1ST CORINTHIANS 14:15; TO SING SPECIFIC KINDS OF SONGS TOGETHER IN

EPHESIANS 5:19 AND COLOSSIANS 3:16. THE BIBLE AUTHORIZES US TO MEET ON A CERTAIN DAY AND BREAK THE LORD'S SUPPER TOGETHER AND HEAR A LESSON IN ACTS 20:7 AND SHARE IN THE TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE SO THAT WE MAY BE ENCOURAGED AND LEARN TOGETHER. GOD DOESN'T WANT WORSHIP CHEESEBURGERS, MOUNTAIN DEW OR COFFEE OR BIG PRODUCTIONS AND POPULAR MUSIC. THOSE THINGS ARE FOR HAVING A GOOD TIME, NOT HUMBLING AND EXAMINING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR CREATOR, AS WE'RE TOLD IN 1ST CORINTHIANS 11. WE AREN'T TOLD TO HAVE A PARTY. HE TELLS US IN MARK 16:15 TO GO OUT IN THE WORLD AND TEACH THE GOSPEL. WHEN WE WORSHIP, SHOULDN'T WE SIMPLY TRUST THE INSTRUCTIONS AND EXAMPLES IN GOD'S TIMELESS TEXT? I'M JOE GUY. THANK YOU FOR VISITING.

>> IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE BIBLICAL AUTHORITY FOR WHAT YOU DO IN THE CHURCH, THEN ANYTHING GOES, AND JOE'S IMAGINARY CHURCH IS JUST AS GOOD AS ANY OTHER. THANKS FOR GIVING US SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT, JOE. IF YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO PODCASTS, WE NOW HAVE FOUR OF THEM AVAILABLE WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS. EVERY DAY, A NEW EPISODE OF GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME GETS RELEASED. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR DAY WITH A DAILY DOSE OF GOOD NEWS. EVERY WEEK, THERE ARE NEW EPISODES OF GOOD NEWS TODAY WEEKLY, HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION, AND SOUND WORDS WITH JIM DEARMAN. NOW CHAD DOLLAHITE JOINS US FOR JUST A MINUTE AS HE ENCOURAGES US TO GO BACK TO THE SOURCE TO UNDERSTAND THE CHURCH.

>> MAY I HAVE JUST A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME? WE'VE TALKED PREVIOUSLY ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF GOING BACK TO THE SOURCE. INSTEAD OF DRINKING FROM THE MUDDY WATERS OF HUMAN WISDOM, WE NEED TO GO BACK TO THE SOURCE, WHICH IS GOD'S WORD. IN THIS SPOT, LET'S TALK ABOUT GOING BACK TO THE SOURCE WHEN IT COMES TO THE CHURCH. YOU KNOW, SO MANY CHURCHES GO BACK TO A HUMAN SOURCE; BUT WHEN WE GO BACK TO THE SOURCE, THE BIBLE, THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST ORIGINATED NOT WITH MAN, BUT WITH JESUS. HE SAYS IN MATTHEW 16:18, I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH. GOING ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE SOURCE FOR JESUS' CHURCH TAKES US TO THE FIRST DAY OF PENTECOST AFTER HIS RESURRECTION. EVERY SCRIPTURE PRIOR TO ACTS 2 MENTIONS THE KINGDOM OF GOD, THE CHURCH, AS FUTURE; BUT EVERY REFERENCE AFTER ACTS 2 REFERS TO IT AS A PRESENT REALITY. WHEN IT COMES TO THE CHURCH, DON'T ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE; ATTEND THE CHURCH OF HIS CHOICE, THE ONE YOU FIND WHEN YOU GO BACK TO THE SOURCE, THE BIBLE. I'M CHAD DOLLAHITE, AND THIS IS JUST A MINUTE.

>> THANKS, CHAD. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION TO ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY AND TROY: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EVANGELIZING IN LOVE AND EVANGELIZING IN FIRE AND BRIMSTONE?

>> WE HAVE A VERY GOOD QUESTION TODAY.

>> OKAY. WHAT'S OUR QUESTION, BROTHER?

>> WE HAVE A GOOD ONE. EVANGELIZING IN LOVE VERSUS EVANGELIZING IN FIRE AND BRIMSTONE. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE, IS THE QUESTION?

>> WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE? WELL, I MEAN, LOVE AND FIRE AND BRIMSTONE, I THINK, IF I UNDERSTAND THE HEART OF THE QUESTION, IS HOW YOU ARE GOING TO EVANGELIZE, HOW YOU'RE GOING TO PREACH. AND IN MY OPINION, I THINK THIS IS KIND OF A CULTURAL THING, BECAUSE PEOPLE RESPOND DIFFERENTLY TO THE WAY WE TALK AND STUFF IN DIFFERENT CULTURES.

>> RIGHT. SO WE BEGIN WITH MATTHEW 28, RIGHT? WE'VE BEEN GIVEN THE COMMAND TO EVANGELIZE.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> SO WE START THERE, WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE DO HAVE THE COMMAND TO EVANGELIZE. BUT HOW DO WE DO IT? OKAY, THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT THIS PERSON IS GETTING AT. I THINK THAT THE CONNOTATION SOMETIMES WHEN PEOPLE SAY FIRE AND BRIMSTONE IS THAT, OH MAN, IT OUGHT NOT TO BE HAPPENING, RIGHT? AND THAT YOU STAY AWAY FROM IT IS WHAT I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE COME TO THE CONCLUSION OF, IS THAT YOU STAY AWAY FROM IT; BUT IT'S NOT THE CASE. TAKE A LOOK AT JUDE 22 AND 23. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THOSE VERSES THERE, IT SAYS, AND SOME HAVE COMPASSION, MAKING A DIFFERENCE; AND OTHERS SAVE WITH FEAR, PULLING THEM OUT OF THE FIRE, HATING EVEN THE GARMENT SPOTTED BY THE FLESH. SO THAT LETS US KNOW THAT SOME ARE GOING TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH COMPASSION, AND YES, THEY ARE ABLE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THERE IN THOSE SITUATIONS; AND THEN OTHERS ARE GOING TO SPEAK AND BRING SOME FEAR OUT OF THE EQUATION, BUT YET STILL MAKING THE DIFFERENCE OF SAVING YOU FROM ETERNAL HELL FIRE. SO WE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT'S JUST DEPENDING UPON WHO WE'RE DEALING WITH.

>> EXACTLY. I MEAN, ECCLESIASTES TELLS US THAT. ECCLESIASTES 3 TALKS ABOUT THERE'S A TIME AND A PURPOSE FOR EVERYTHING. AND SO THERE IS TIME AND PURPOSE FOR WHEN AND HOW YOU SAY THINGS. AND LET'S THINK ABOUT JESUS. THERE ARE MANY TIMES WHENEVER WE SEE THROUGHOUT THE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS THAT HE ACTED WITH COMPASSION, WHENEVER HE WOULD BE VERY GENTLE WITH SOMEBODY; BUT THEN HE WOULD ALSO TURN AROUND AND HE WOULD BE VERY BLUNT: WOE, YOU HYPOCRITES! HE SAYS TO THE PHARISEES. SO IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE NEED. AND PEOPLE RESPOND DIFFERENTLY. SO IT COMES TO GENERATIONS, IT COMES TO CULTURES, IT COMES TO VARIOUS DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF WHY AND HOW YOU WOULD PREACH THE WAY YOU PREACH. BUT WHAT DID PAUL SAY? YOU PREACH IN SEASON AND YOU PREACH OUT OF SEASON. YOU'RE PREACHING WHEN THEY WANT TO HEAR IT AND WHEN THEY DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT.

>> YEAH. AND YOU THINK ABOUT JESUS, HE TAUGHT FIRE AND BRIMSTONE. HE PROBABLY PREACHED IT MORE THAN ANYBODY.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> AND YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT HE SAYS IN MATTHEW 18:8. HE TALKS ABOUT YOUR HANDS, YOUR FEET. OKAY, IF THOSE THINGS ARE CONFLICTING YOU, CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS, CUT THEM OFF.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> BECAUSE IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO LIVE LIFE WITHOUT THOSE MEMBERS OF YOUR BODY RATHER THAN TO GO INTO ETERNAL HELLFIRE WITH ALL OF YOUR MEMBERS TOGETHER.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> SO THE LORD DOES TEACH ON THAT; BUT YET WE HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S STILL IN LOVE.

>> THAT'S IT. ALL THINGS IN LOVE.

>> I THINK THAT'S WHERE PEOPLE GET CONFUSED. JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE PREACHING FIRE AND BRIMSTONE DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT'S NOT IN LOVE.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> SOME PEOPLE RESPOND TO THINGS DIFFERENTLY, RIGHT? AND SO SOME PEOPLE MIGHT SAY, HEY, SOME PEOPLE ARE VERY TENDERHEARTED, AND YOU NEED TO COME WITH COMPASSION FIRST, RIGHT? WE ALWAYS WANT TO SAY COMPASSION, RIGHT? YOU ALWAYS WANT TO BE COMPASSIONATE TOWARDS PEOPLE AND TRY TO APPROACH THEM IN THAT WAY IF YOU CAN. AND THEY'LL BE RECEPTIVE TO IT. BUT THEN THERE ARE OTHERS WHO ARE JUST REALLY HARDHEADED, RIGHT? AND SOMETIMES THE WAY THAT THEY'VE GROWN UP AND THE WAY THAT THEY HEAR THINGS, THEY JUST NEED A GOOD, STRONG AND FIRM REBUKING AND WARNING, REALLY, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT IT IS. WE'RE JUST TRYING TO WARN YOU OF WHAT'S AHEAD, OF WHAT LIES BEYOND THIS LIFE. AND WE DON'T WANT YOU TO FALL INTO THAT PIT. WE DON'T WANT YOU TO BE IN THAT WAY. WE WANT YOU TO BE SAVED. WE WANT YOU TO BE IN HEAVEN WITH OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST AT THE END OF THE DAY.

>> AMEN.

>> THANKS, GUYS. THERE'S A LOT OF INFORMATION IN THIS PROGRAM ABOUT THE LORD'S CHURCH. MAKE SURE WHERE YOU WORSHIP FOLLOWS THE PATTERN THAT WE SEE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. REMEMBER TO ALWAYS CHECK ALL RELIGIOUS TEACHING AGAINST THE WORD OF GOD TO SEE IF IT'S THE CASE. BE LIKE THOSE BEREANS IN ACTS 17:11. SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES, SEE IF THESE THINGS ARE SO. 1ST JOHN 4:1 TELLS US TO TEST EVERY TEACHING, WHETHER IT'S OF GOD. IF YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR OUR PROGRAM AGAIN TO CHECK US AND MAKE SURE WE'RE TELLING YOU THE TRUTH, 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