THE GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO ABRAHAM



Genesis Chapter 18 Verses 16-33

At that point, the three men set off on foot toward Sodom, and Abraham walked with them to start them on their way. Eternal One (to the other two men): 17 I wonder if I should hide from Abraham what I am about to do. 18 After all, Abraham will become the father of a great and powerful nation, and all the other nations of the earth will find their blessing in him.

19 I have chosen him for a reason, namely that he will carefully instruct his children and his household to keep themselves strong in relationship to Me and to walk in My ways by doing what is good and right in the world and by showing mercy and justice to all others. I know he will uphold his end of the covenant, so that he can ensure My promises to him will be fulfilled and upheld as well.

20 (continuing so Abraham could hear) I have heard terrible things—urgent and outraged calls for help—coming from the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and their sin has become a serious problem. 21 I must go down and see for Myself whether the outcries against them that My ears have heard are really true. If not, I will know.

22 At this point the men turned and headed toward Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Eternal One. 23 Then Abraham approached Him solemnly and pled for the city.

Abraham (to God): God, would You really sweep away the people who do what is right along with those who are wicked? 24 What if there were 50 upright people within the city? Would You still wipe the place out and not spare it on behalf of the 50 upright people who live there?

25 Surely it can't be Your nature to do something like that—to kill the right-living along with those who act wickedly, to consign the innocent to the same fate as the guilty. It is inconceivable to me that You, my God, would do anything like that! Will not the "Merciful and Loving Judge" of all the earth do what is just?

Eternal One: 26 If I find 50 good and true people in the city of Sodom, *I give you My word* I will spare the entire city on their behalf.

Abraham (emboldened): 27 Look, I know I am just a human being, scooped from the dust and ashes of the earth, but if I might implore You, Lord, a bit further: 28 What if the city lacked 5 of those 50 right-living people? What then? Would You destroy the entire city because it lacked those 5?

Eternal One: I won't destroy the city if I find 45 good and true people there.

Abraham (persisting): 29 Suppose 40 are found there.

Eternal One: I won't destroy the city for the sake of 40.

Abraham: 30 Please don't be angry, Lord, at my boldness. Let me ask this: What if You found 30 there who are good and true?

Eternal One: I will not do it, even if I find only 30 there.

Abraham: 31 Since I have implored the Lord this far, may I ask: What if there were 20?

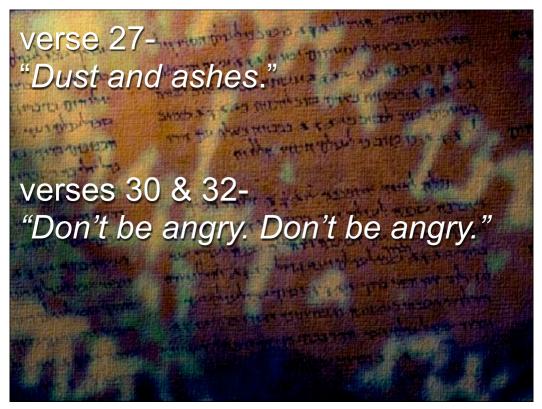
Eternal One: For the sake of 20, I will not destroy the city.

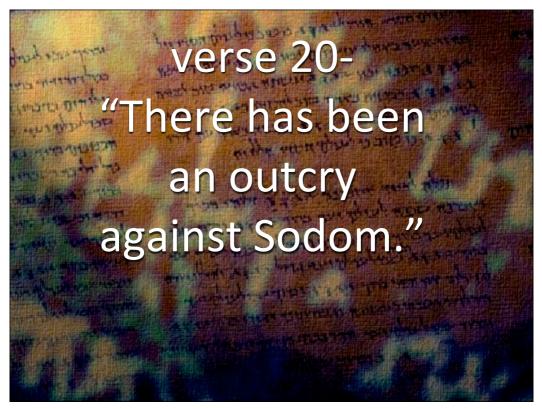
Abraham: 32 Please don't be angry, Lord, at my boldness. Let me ask this just once more: suppose only 10 are found?

Eternal One: For the sake of only 10, I still will not destroy it.

If you want greatness in life, you will need changing.

To really change, you'll need the real God, the One who pushes back. the One who can contradict you. the One who has revealed His Word that can go against the grain of your will, and that can actually tell you something you might even hate.





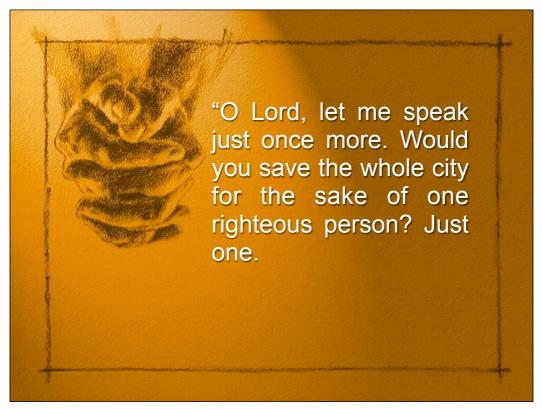
Verse 24-'Would you Spare them based on 50 righteous people living there?."

"Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9

25 Surely it can't be Your nature to do something like that—to kill the right-living along with those who act wickedly, to consign the innocent to the same fate as the guilty. It is inconceivable to me that You, my God, would do anything like that! Will not the "Merciful and Loving Judge" of all the earth do what is just?

verse 18- After all, Abraham will become the father of a great and powerful nation, and all the other nations of the earth will find their blessing in him.

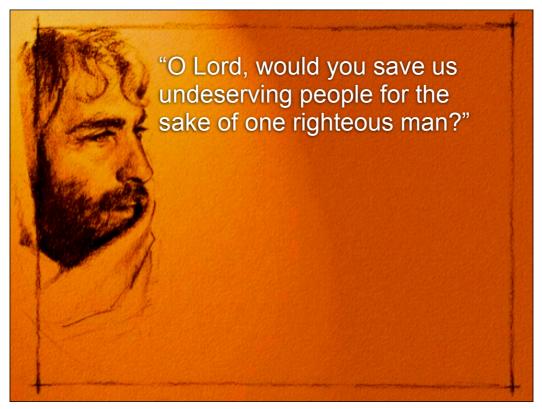
24 What if there were 50 upright people within the city? Would You still wipe the place out and not spare it on behalf of the 50 upright people who live there?

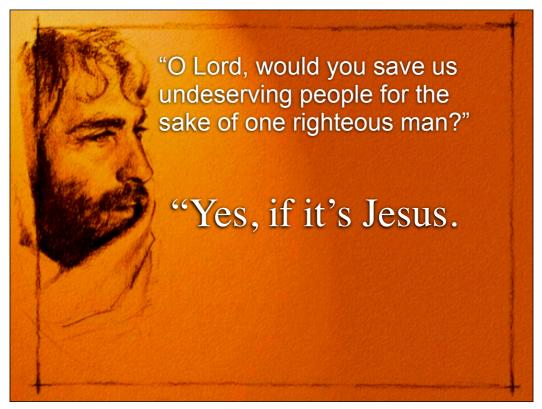




"O Lord, let me speak just once more. Would you save the whole city for the sake of one righteous person? Just one.

"Yes, Abraham. I will save the city for one righteous person."





Then Abraham approached Him solemnly and pled for the city. vs. 23

"Jesus Christ is our great High Priest. He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through him, for he ever lives to intercede for them."

Hebrews 7:24,25

you are so lost
God had to die
for you on the cross

you are so lost
God had to die
for you on the cross

you're so loved God was glad to die for you.

you are so lost
God had to die
for you on the cross

you're so loved God was glad to die for you.

you have a merciful attitude toward the world because of it

you are so lost
God had to die
for you on the cross

you're so loved God was glad to die for you.

you have a merciful attitude toward the world because of it

The gospel is not that the good are in and the bad are out.

The gospel is that the humble who admit they're evil are in and the proud who won't admit they're evil are out.