A dirt road stretches from the foreground into the distance, flanked by fields of golden wheat. The sky is filled with dramatic, grey clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

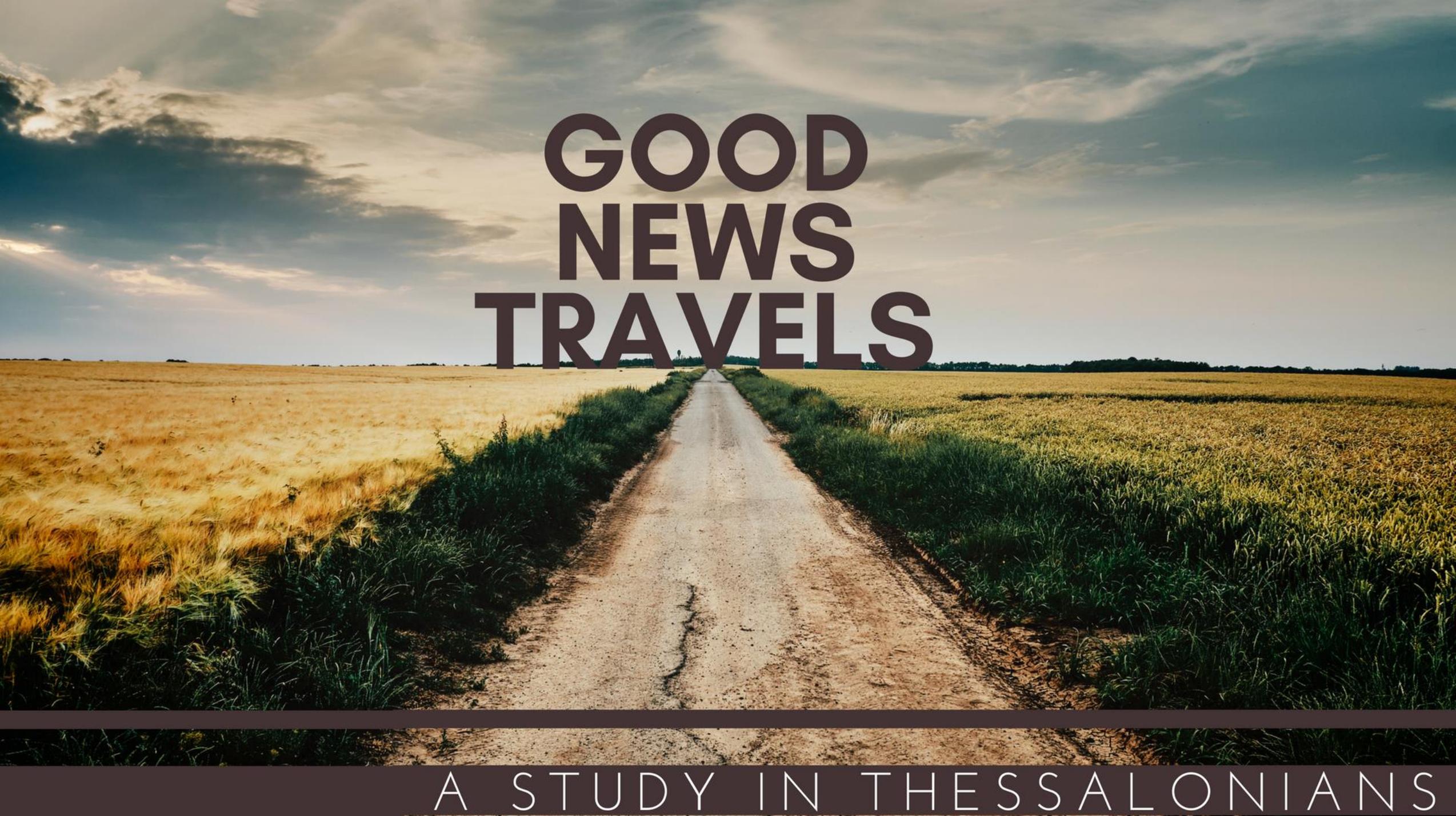
GOOD NEWS TRAVELS

A STUDY IN THESSALONIANS



A woman who does not “grieve like
the rest of men, who have no hope.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13

A dirt road stretches from the foreground into the distance, flanked by fields of golden wheat. The sky is filled with dramatic, grey clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

GOOD NEWS TRAVELS

A STUDY IN THESSALONIANS

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word... May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; 3:5

A GoodNews HOPE

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men who have no hope.

For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 4:13-14



Why can we grieve with HOPE? Because...

1. We know they're not gone.

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8



Why can we grieve with HOPE? Because...

1. We know they're not gone.
2. We know they will rise.

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16



Because I live,
you also will live.

John 14:19

For as in Adam all (mankind) die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then when He comes, those who belong to Him. 1 Corinthians 15:22-23

A GoodNews HOPE

How can we maintain our HOPE? Because...

1. We know they're not gone.
2. We know they will rise.
3. We know we'll join them.

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. 4:17



Just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory”. 1
Corinthians 15:49-54

Why can we maintain our HOPE? Because...

1. We know they're not gone.
2. We know they will rise.
3. We know we'll join them.
4. We know we'll be united with Jesus.

And so we will be with the Lord forever.
Therefore encourage each other with these
words. 5:17-18



A GoodNews HOPE

When will this happen? What can I do about it?

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. 5:1-5



A GoodNews HOPE

When will this happen? What can I do about it?

1. People in darkness are saying “Peace and Safety”.
2. People in darkness won’t escape.

For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. Matthew 24:3-12, 21-25



A GoodNews HOPE

When will this happen? What can I do about it?

1. People in darkness are saying “Peace and Safety”.
2. People in darkness won’t escape.
3. People in darkness will be surprised like a nighttime robbery.



So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 5:6-11

A GoodNews HOPE

What can I do about it?

1. People who belong to the day are alert.
2. People who belong to the day won't be surprised.
3. People who belong to the day are rescued from the coming wrath.



*Q: Are you ready to live
like you're ready to leave?*