## "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him." Nahum 1:7

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We hope that all of you had a wonderful Christmas and trust that the new year has begun with a hefty amount of our Lord's blessings upon you. As I reflect upon this past year, and as I contemplate what this new year may hold, I am encouraged by the words of this sacred promise, yea this solid truth from **Nahum 1:7**. In these dark days of COVID, and the foolishness that abounds in our governments and health care systems, it is refreshing to read God's Word and find comfort from the stormy blast of godlessness, socialism, and ruin.

<u>The Lord is good!</u> In a day when all seems bad, I rejoice in the fact that the God I serve is good. He has always been good, and he will always be good. There is very little in the world today that is good. There is very little upon which we can depend. But this one thing is for sure - - the Lord is good, and I can depend on Him.

The Lord is a strong hold! Our world is in a mess today, and we are bombarded with doom and gloom. We are saddled with anxiety from the purveyors of fear. There is not much safety anywhere, and everywhere you turn the message is clear, 'There is no hope.' That, my friend, is the finality of what the world has to offer. But I am here to proclaim to you that there is safety in the Lord, and when we run to Him and fully recognize Him as our strong tower, we are indeed safe. He is a strong hold from the storm; He is a fortress from the fear and anxiety that is hurled our way. He is a tower into Whom we can run and be safe. Proverbs 18:10 I am grateful that my trust is in Almighty God. He is my shield and my buckler, and I am hiding in Him.

<u>In the day of trouble.</u> We have never lived in such a volatile and turbulent time (at least not in my lifetime). Trouble is all around us, and there seems to be little hope. But that should not trouble us because the THE LORD IS GOOD, A STRONGHOLD <u>in the day of trouble</u>. He is in complete control, and I completely trust Him to see us through to the very end. No matter how bad it gets; no matter how much we are put to the test; and no matter what lies ahead. He is King of kings, He is good, and He is a stronghold.

He knoweth them that trust in Him. Will you join me in praising Him who reigns on high and yet has humbled Himself to make His salvation known to us? Praise God that He knows me. He knows me because I have put my trust completely in Him. He knows what I am going through; He knows what I am facing; He knows the trials that beset us on every hand. And in all of this, He is good; and He is a stronghold. I am thankful that I am saved; I am thankful that I have been adopted into the family of God; and I am thankful to be a child of Him Who knows me.

January was a good month as well as a transitional month. Most of the month was spent finishing our time with Fellowship Baptist Church. We are happy to report that on December 26, Fellowship called a new pastor. His name is Philip Boseman, and I would ask each of you to pray for him and the church during this transitional time. Because of prior speaking engagements, Brother Boseman did not officially begin his pastoral responsibilities until January 23. I continued to fill the pulpit until then. Our last service at Fellowship was January 19.

We spent the rest of the month of January helping in our home church, Trinity Baptist Church. It was good to step back, take a break, and feed on the good preaching of God's Word. In the remaining days of January we prepared ourselves to get back on the deputation trail, and concentrated on setting up meetings for the new year. We praise God that He has opened some doors, and we covet you prayers as we have meetings scheduled in February, March, April, May, and even one meeting in June. We have made some good contacts, and would ask you to pray that we would be able to set up many more meetings. Please pray that our weekends and Wednesdays would fill up and that God would give us many opportunities to continue to present our work and share our missionary burden. Please pray that our support level would increase. We praise God that during the month of January, Puzzletown Bible Church in Duncansville, PA took us on for support. We are now at 79% of our needed support.

Pray for us as this year begins. Pray that we will remain faithful. Pray for safety as we travel. May He Who is good and a stronghold in the day of trouble bless you throughout this year. THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT!!