

A large, weathered wooden anchor is the central focus, resting on a sandy beach. The anchor is made of dark wood and shows signs of use and weathering. The background is a bright, slightly overcast sky and a calm ocean. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and whites, with the dark wood of the anchor providing a strong contrast.

A Sure Anchor in the Storms of Life and Death

Revelation 1:17-18

Revelation 1:17-18

When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man.
And He placed His right hand on me, saying,
“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One; and I was dead,
and behold, I am alive forevermore,
and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

Main Point

Jesus' resurrection testifies to His person, work, and authority; and this is our only sure anchor in the storms of life and death.

A Sure Anchor in the Storms

The Person of Christ



Revelation 1:17-18a

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And He placed His right hand on me, saying,
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and the living One.”

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“Do not be afraid; **I am the first and the last,
and the living One.**”

The solution to fear is knowing Christ *as He is*
for this is the ground of what He has done in
His death and resurrection.

The Person of Christ

He is the first and the last.

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And He placed His right hand on me, saying,

“Do not be afraid; **I am the first and the last,**
and the living One.”

What does this say about the
identity of Christ?

Old Testament Background

Isaiah 44:6

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

**“I am the first and I am the last,
And there is no God besides Me.”**

Isaiah 41:4

“Who has performed and accomplished it,
Calling forth the generations from the beginning?

**I, the LORD, am the first, and with the last.
I am He.”**

Revelation 1:8

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,
“who is and who was and who is to come,
the Almighty.”

Revelation 21:6

Then He said to me, “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.”

Revelation 22:12-13

“Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Jesus Christ is identified with the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the one true God, the Almighty.

The Person of Christ

He is the first and the last.

He is the Living One.

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“Do not be afraid; **I am** the first and the last,

and **the living One.**”

What does this say about
the nature of Christ?

Psalm 42:2

My soul thirsts for God, for **the *living* God.**

Psalm 84:2

My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD;
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to **the *living* God.**

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and **the *living One*.**”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; **I am** the first and the last,
and **the *living One***.”

He is the self-existent one;
He is life itself.

John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him
nothing came into being that has come into being.

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

John 1:1-4

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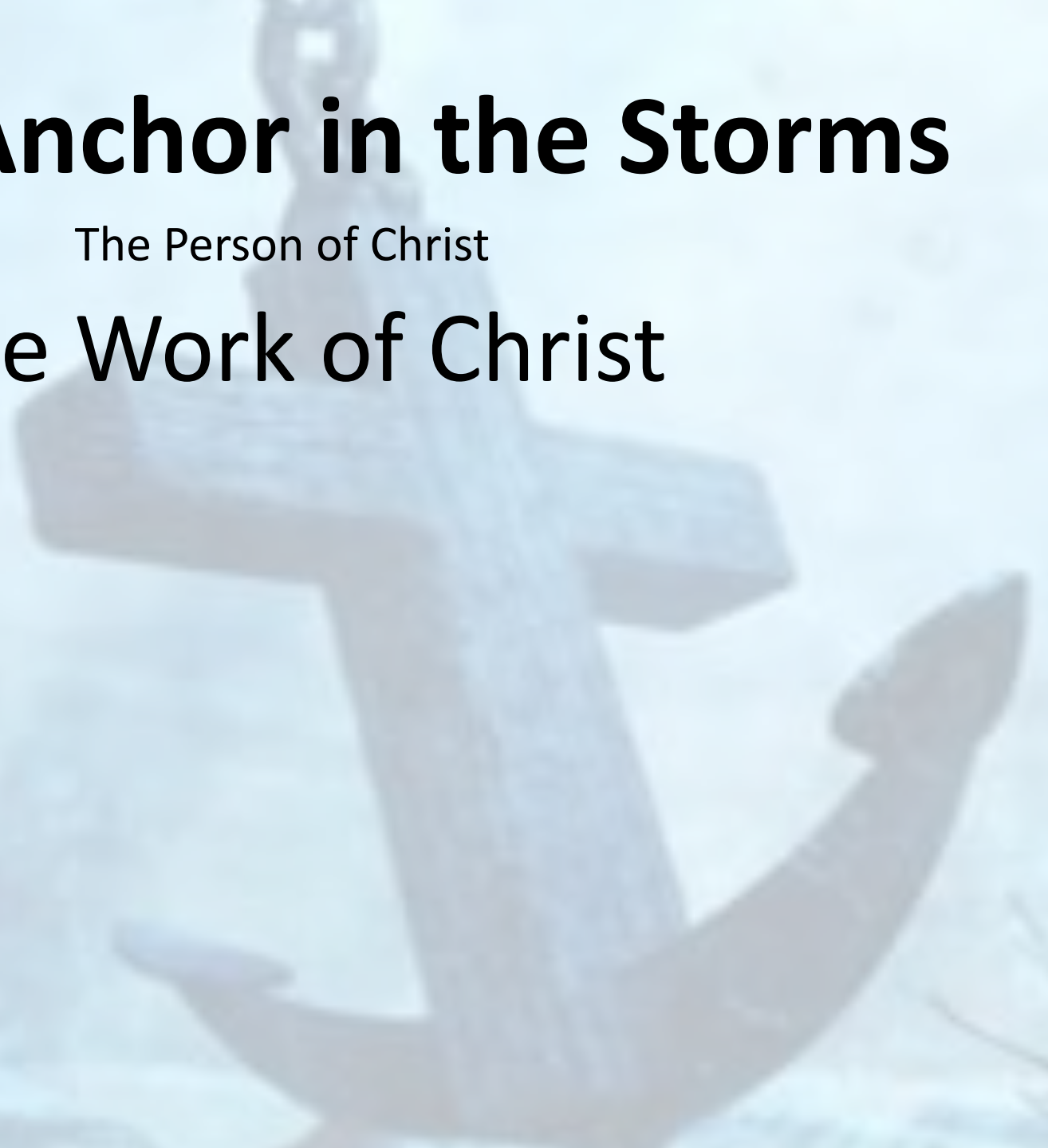
In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

If you have life in Christ, it is only because
He is life and the giver of life.

A Sure Anchor in the Storms

The Person of Christ

The Work of Christ



Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and I was dead,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and **I was dead,**
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

The Work of Christ

His death.

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and **I was dead**,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and ***I became dead***,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,

and **the living One** and I ***became* dead**,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

But why?

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us,
in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:33-34

Who will bring a charge against God's elect?
God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns?
Christ Jesus is He who died...

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But God demonstrates His own love toward us,
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The chief work of Christ's life
was His death – He lived to die!
But most importantly, He died *on our
behalf* to justify us before God.
He did this by drinking the cup of
God's wrath for you!

The Work of Christ

His death.

His resurrection.

Revelation 1:17-18

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and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and I became dead,
and **behold, I am alive forevermore.**”

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and I became dead,

and **behold, I am alive forevermore.”**

I became dead, and behold the living One I am
forevermore.

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and I became dead,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

I became dead, and **behold the living One I am**
forevermore.

Revelation 1:17-18

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I became **dead**, and **behold** the **living** One I am
forevermore.

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forevermore.

Revelation 1:17-18

“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,
and the living One and I became dead,
and behold, I am alive forevermore.”

I became dead, and behold the **living** One **I am**
unto the ages of the ages

As the Living One, the One *who is*,
death could not hold Him.

His resurrection bears witness
to His identity as the first and the
last and the Living One.

But it also bears witness to the
efficacy of His death.

Romans 6:23

For **the wages of sin is death**, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 5:10

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

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For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Romans 5:10

For if while we were enemies *we were reconciled* to God through the death of His Son, much more,

**having been reconciled, we shall
be saved by His life.**

What work was accomplished in Christ's death
and then validated by His resurrection?

Our justification

Our sanctification

Our glorification

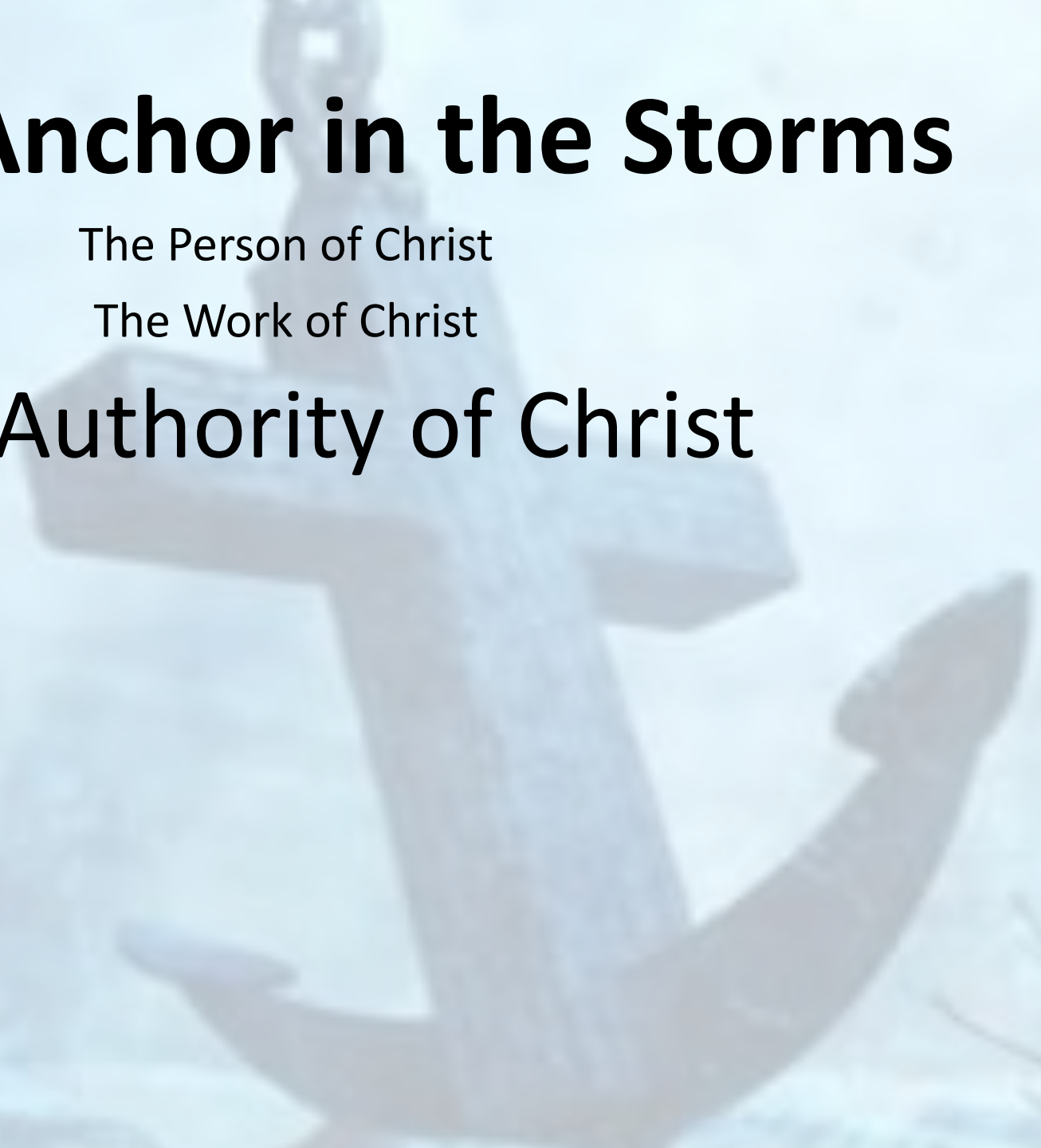
This is sure hope!

A Sure Anchor in the Storms

The Person of Christ

The Work of Christ

The Authority of Christ



Revelation 1:17-18a

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And He placed His right hand on me, saying,
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and behold, I am alive forevermore,

and **I have the keys** of death and of Hades.

Isaiah 22:22

Then I will set the key of the house of David on his shoulder,
When he opens no one will shut,
When he shuts no one will open.

Revelation 3:7

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:
He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David,
who opens and no one will shut,
and who shuts and no one opens...

Isaiah 22:22

Then I will set the key of the house of David on his shoulder,
When he opens no one will shut,
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The Authority of Christ

Over death.

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and behold, I am alive forevermore,

and **I have the keys of death** and of Hades.

Hosea 13:14

Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol?

Shall I redeem them from death?

O Death, where are your thorns?

O Sheol, where is your sting?

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O Sheol, where is your sting?

Romans 6:8-9

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.

Romans 6:8-9

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe
that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ,

having been raised from the dead, is never to die again;
death no longer is master over Him.

Christ's resurrection proves His
authority over death, which proves
His power to deliver us from it!

Do not be afraid!

The Authority of Christ

Over death.

Over Hades.

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And He placed His right hand on me, saying,

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I have the keys of death and of Hades.

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and the living One; and I was dead,

and behold, I am alive forevermore, and

I have the keys of death and **of Hades.**

What is Hades?

Hosea 13:14

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Shall I redeem them from death?

O Death, where are your thorns?

O Sheol, where is your sting?

1 Corinthians 15:55-57

“O Death, where is your victory?

O Death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;
but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hades referred to the disembodied state of death, and Jesus' bodily resurrection declared His authority to raise us bodily and to glorify us with Him for the ages to come.

This is a sure hope!

Revelation 1:17-18

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and the living One; and I was dead,
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Conclusion

The resurrection powerfully declares that Jesus Christ *is* the Living One!

The resurrection powerfully declares that your sins *have been* forgiven!

The resurrection powerfully declares that the cross *is* a sure anchor of hope in the storms of life and death!

Conclusion



Are you running to the cross?