

PART 5 LIVING WATER



¹SO PUT AWAY ALL MALICE AND ALL DECEIT AND HYPOCRISY AND ENVY AND ALL SLANDER. ²LIKE NEWBORN INFANTS, LONG FOR THE PURE SPIRITUAL MILK, THAT BY IT YOU MAY GROW UP INTO SALVATION— ³ IF INDEED YOU HAVE TASTED THAT THE LORD IS GOOD.

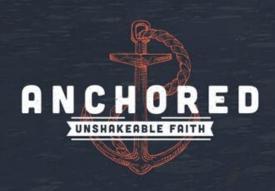


⁴AS YOU COME TO HIM, A LIVING STONE REJECTED BY MEN BUT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS, ⁵ YOU YOURSELVES LIKE LIVING STONES ARE BEING BUILT UP AS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, TO BE A HOLY PRIESTHOOD, TO OFFER SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.



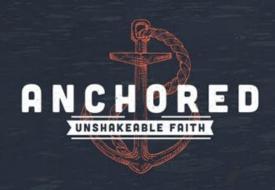
⁶ FOR IT STANDS IN SCRIPTURE:

"BEHOLD, I AM LAYING IN ZION A STONE,
A CORNERSTONE CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS,
AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO
SHAME."



⁷SO THE HONOR IS FOR YOU WHO BELIEVE, BUT FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE,

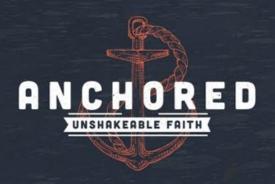
"THE STONE THAT THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE,"



8 AND

"A STONE OF STUMBLING, AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE."

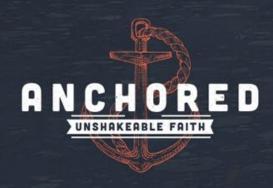
THEY STUMBLE BECAUSE THEY DISOBEY THE WORD, AS THEY WERE DESTINED TO DO.



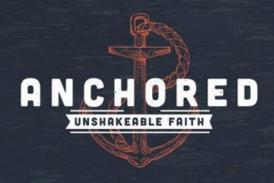
⁹ BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT. ¹⁰ ONCE YOU WERE NOT A PEOPLE, BUT NOW YOU ARE GOD'S PEOPLE; ONCE YOU HAD NOT RECEIVED MERCY, BUT NOW YOU HAVE RECEIVED MERCY.



THE WORD OF GOD



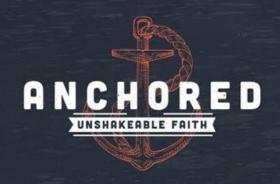
²² HAVING PURIFIED YOUR SOULS BY YOUR OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH FOR A SINCERE BROTHERLY LOVE, LOVE ONE ANOTHER EARNESTLY FROM A PURE HEART, ²³ SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN, NOT OF PERISHABLE SEED BUT OF IMPERISHABLE, THROUGH THE LIVING AND ABIDING WORD OF GOD;



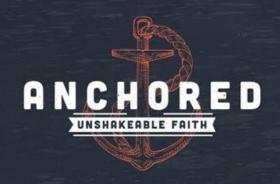
FOR
 "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS
 AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS.
 THE GRASS WITHERS,
 AND THE FLOWER FALLS,
 25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD REMAINS FOREVER."



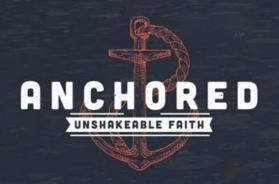
THE IDENTITY OF THE BELIEVER



THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SAINTS



THE SERVICE OF THE SAINTS



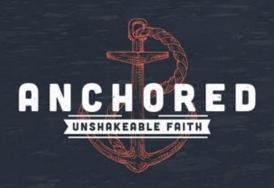
PSALM 51:17

THE SACRIFICES OF GOD ARE A BROKEN SPIRIT;
A BROKEN AND CONTRITE HEART, O GOD, YOU WILL
NOT DESPISE.



ROMANS 12:1

I APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE, BROTHERS, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, TO PRESENT YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP.



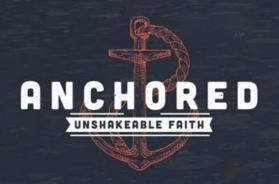
ROMANS 15

BUT ON SOME POINTS I HAVE WRITTEN TO YOU VERY BOLDLY BY WAY OF REMINDER, BECAUSE OF THE GRACE GIVEN ME BY GOD ¹⁶ TO BE A MINISTER OF CHRIST JESUS TO THE GENTILES IN THE PRIESTLY SERVICE OF THE GOSPEL OF GOD, SO THAT THE OFFERING OF THE GENTILES MAY BE ACCEPTABLE, SANCTIFIED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.



HEBREWS 13

15 THROUGH HIM THEN LET US CONTINUALLY OFFER UP A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE TO GOD, THAT IS, THE FRUIT OF LIPS THAT ACKNOWLEDGE HIS NAME. ¹⁶ DO NOT NEGLECT TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE, FOR SUCH SACRIFICES ARE PLEASING TO GOD.



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- 1) WHAT ARE SOME INDICATIONS FOR YOU THAT YOU'RE CONNECTED TO LIFE-GIVING SOURCES
- 2) NAME SOME CHANGES YOU EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU'VE BEEN IN GOD'S WORD.



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- 3) HOW DOES YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST ANCHOR YOU IN DIFFICULT SEASONS?
- 4) WHEN HAVE YOU DRAWN LIFE FROM THE SERVICE OF OTHERS AND FROM SERVING OTHERS?



