

WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD

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INTRODUCTION

A. TEXT: I John 2:12-14.

B. SETTING:

1. John is writing, maybe a half century after the establishment of church.
2. Great storms of persecution have arisen against Christianity.
3. They are being buffeted on every side.
4. The persecution that led to the writing of Revelation letter.

C. In the face of this storm John is writing to children, young men, father - to all - to encourage them to remain faithful.

1. They needed an anchor for their soul, to hold them sure and steadfast.
 2. This has been the need of all Christian of all ages and certainly is a need today.
 3. In the storms of life and death....**will your anchor hold?**
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I WRITE - HAVE WRITTEN

A. In I John 2, what he wrote, and to whom he wrote.

1. Divided into two section..or repeated twice.
2. First: I write.....Second: I have written.
 - a. Does not indicate different times.
 - b. But indicates the message he has written.

B. A THOUGHT:

1. Children: - those who have just become Christians.
 2. Young men - those who have been Christians for a time and are growing strong.
 3. Fathers: - Those experienced in the faith.
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JOHN'S MESSAGE

A. FIRST SEQUENCE:

1. "I write you little children: - *your sins are forgiven you for his names sake*". When one become a Christian.
2. Fathers: "*Because you know him who is from the beginning.*"
3. Young Men: "*because you have overcome the evil one.*"

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B. SECOND SEQUENCE:

1. Little Children: - *"Because you know the Father".*
2. Fathers: - *"you know Him who is from the beginning."*
3. Young Men: - *"Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one."*

C. John is pointing out that his readers have:

1. The forgiveness of sins.
2. The knowledge of God.
3. The word of God abiding in them.
4. And victory over the evil one.

D. WHAT AN ANCHOR, SECURITY THEY HAVE FOR THEIR SOULS.

1. What is an anchor.
 2. What is its purpose?
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AN ANCHOR

A. FACTS ABOUT AN ANCHOR.

1. What is an Anchor?
 - a. That which keeps a ship from drifting.
 - b. Specific material. Not just anything will do.
 2. What is it's purpose?
 - a. To secure.
 - b. To protect and save the ship.
 3. How does it work?
 - a. By weight and design it goes to the bottom and secures itself.
 - b. Selected very carefully because life depends on it.
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OUR ANCHOR

A. FAITH IS OUR ANCHOR.

1. What is it.
 - a. A conviction based on the evidence presented. (Heb. 11).
 - b. Romans 10:17).
2. WHAT IS IT'S PURPOSE?
 - a. To secure.
 - b. To protect and save our soul.
3. HOW DOES IT WORK?
 - a. By design. (Eph. 2:8)
 - b. Must be selected very carefully....our soul depends on it.

B. CHRIST IS OUR ANCHOR. (Heb. 6:19-20.

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QUESTION

A. WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR ANCHOR?

1. In the study of the prophets - where did Israel get their anchor?
 - a. False Teachers and leaders.
 - b. Did their anchor hold? Look what happened to them. Our example.
2. Will False Teacher and Teachings serve as a successful anchor for us
 - a. Matt. 15:9. Worship was Vain...bases on false teaching or doctrine.
 - b. Their Anchor could not hold.

B. WE SHOULD EXERCISE GREAT CARE IN CHOOSING OUR ANCHOR

1. Do we chose the CHEAPEST?
2. Do we chose one for LOOKS.
3. Would we chose one made of cork?
 - a. It would be light
 - b. It would be easy to carry.....but would it hold. NO!
 - c. When the Storm comes it would be TOTALLY USELESS!!

C. FOR MANY THE WORLD IS THEIR ANCHOR. Their faith and trust.

1. READ I John 2:16-17.
 2. II Peter 3, and Revelation 18, Tells what happens to the world in the end.
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YOUR ANCHOR

A. DOES IT WORK? Does it do what it is supposed to do?

1. A lot of souls are drifting because they do not use their anchor.
2. An Anchor is of no value to you.....If it is not used.

B. A LIFE JACKET, “ flotation device”.

1. Where do you keep it?
2. Only work if you have it on.
3. Working with fire department rescue ... in 2 years 8 bodies recovered.
4. All had one thing in common...Did not have on a life jacket.

C. IF THE ANCHOR FAILS....**the fault is not with the Anchor!**

1. The fault is how you use it...or don't use it.
 2. How terrible to have an anchor...God given (His Son) Then when the storms come...We have not used it..
 3. As times permits talk about living - or not living the Christian life.
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