

## ANCHORED

### INTRODUCTION

Why do boats and ships use anchors? What difference does the presence or absence of anchors make?

Which spiritual anchors do you have in place in your life to protect you from shipwreck?

In **Colossians 2:1-7**, Paul equips us with **3 anchors** that will protect us from being taken adrift by the deceit of false doctrine and from shipwreck in the faith.

1. Community: The Body of Christ (1-2a)
2. Conviction: The Doctrine of Christ (2b-5)
3. Conduct: Obedience to Christ (6-7)

### COMMUNITY: THE BODY OF CHRIST (1-2A)

“how great a struggle” (see 1:29)

“all those who have not personally seen my face”

“encouraged”

“**knit together in love**”

We don't protect ourselves against attacks to our faith only through teaching, understanding, and ability to make arguments. We also protect ourselves and encourage one another for the battle by valuing fellowship in the body of Christ. When we love and are loved by the church, our love for Christ and our understanding of the biblical teaching gain a new practical dimension that fixes and beautifies sound doctrine.

Illustration: What is the strategy of lions when they attack a group of animals?

## **CONVICTION: THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST (2B–5)**

“God’s mystery, Christ *Himself*” (v. 2b)

“all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (v. 3; see Job 28:1–28; Prov 8:12–31)

“persuasive arguments” vs “good discipline and...stability of...faith” (vv. 4–5)

## **CONDUCT: OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST (6–7)**

“Lord” = submission, obedience

“walk” = first imperative of the epistle

The gospel teaches us that surrendering to the lordship of Christ is not just the narrow doorway to access to God. Submission to the lordship of Christ is also the narrow pathway in which we also walk with God. The way we approach Christ is also the way we walk in Christ. We come by faith, we walk by faith. We come through grace, we walk through grace. We come in submission, we walk in submission.

“rooted...built up...established” (cf. Psalm 1; John 15:5)

“instructed...overflowing with gratitude”

## **CONCLUSION**

Check the presence and the conditions of your anchors. It is a matter of life and death!

How is your fellowship with the body of Christ?

How well do you understand sound doctrine?

How are you developing in your walk in submission to Christ?