

ROOTED & Grounded

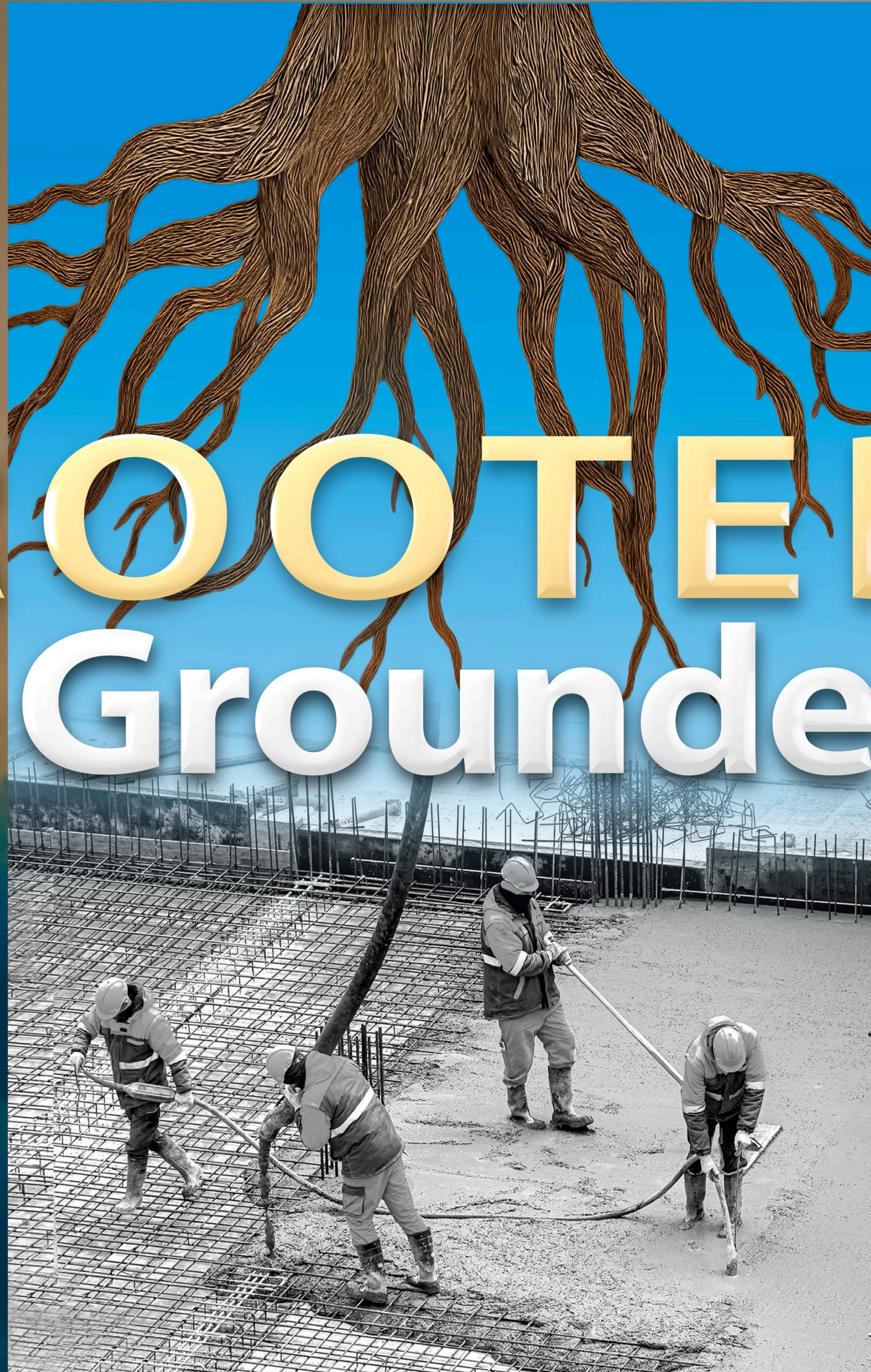
PART TWO

AGENCY: *The Power Working Within*

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

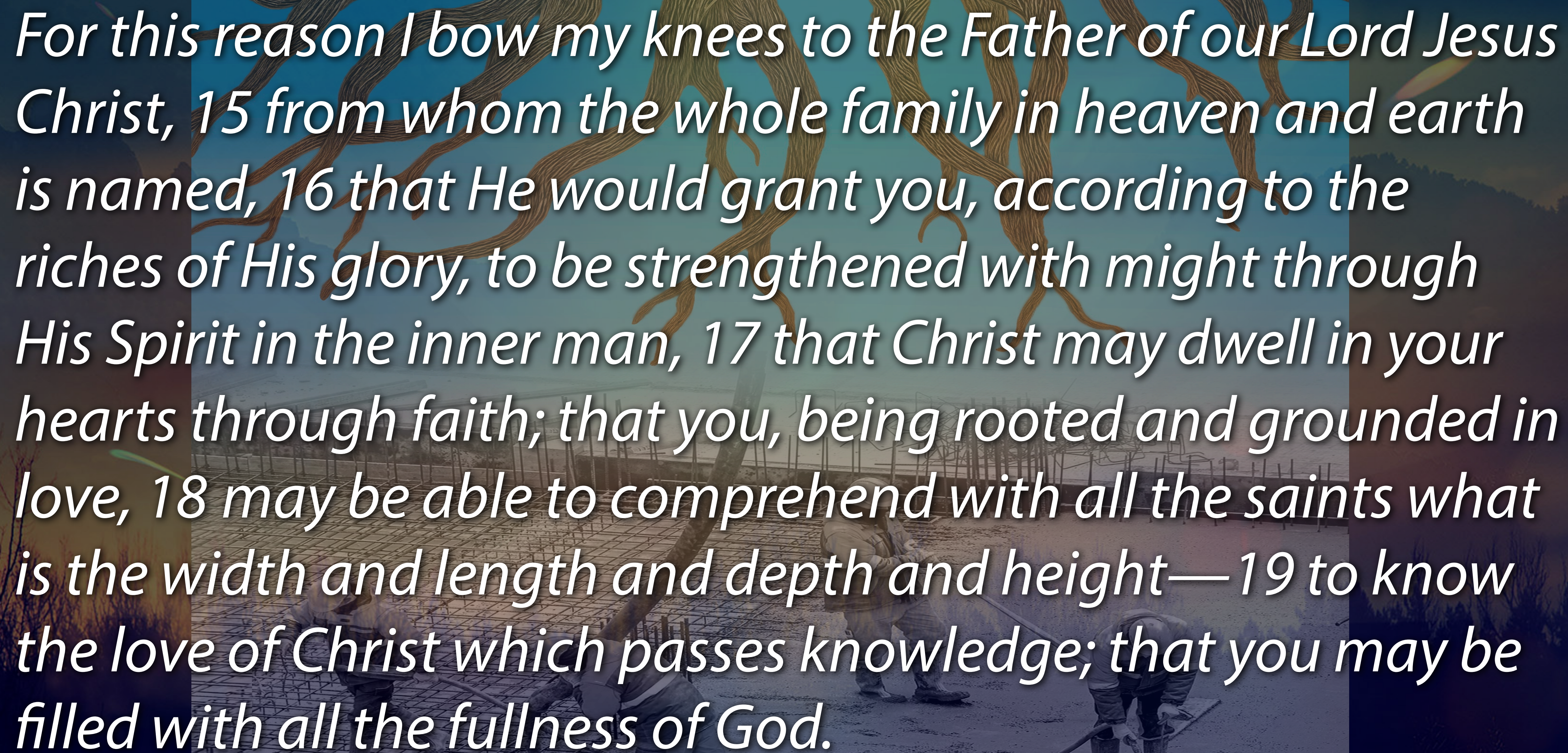
Ephesians 3:20

PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.



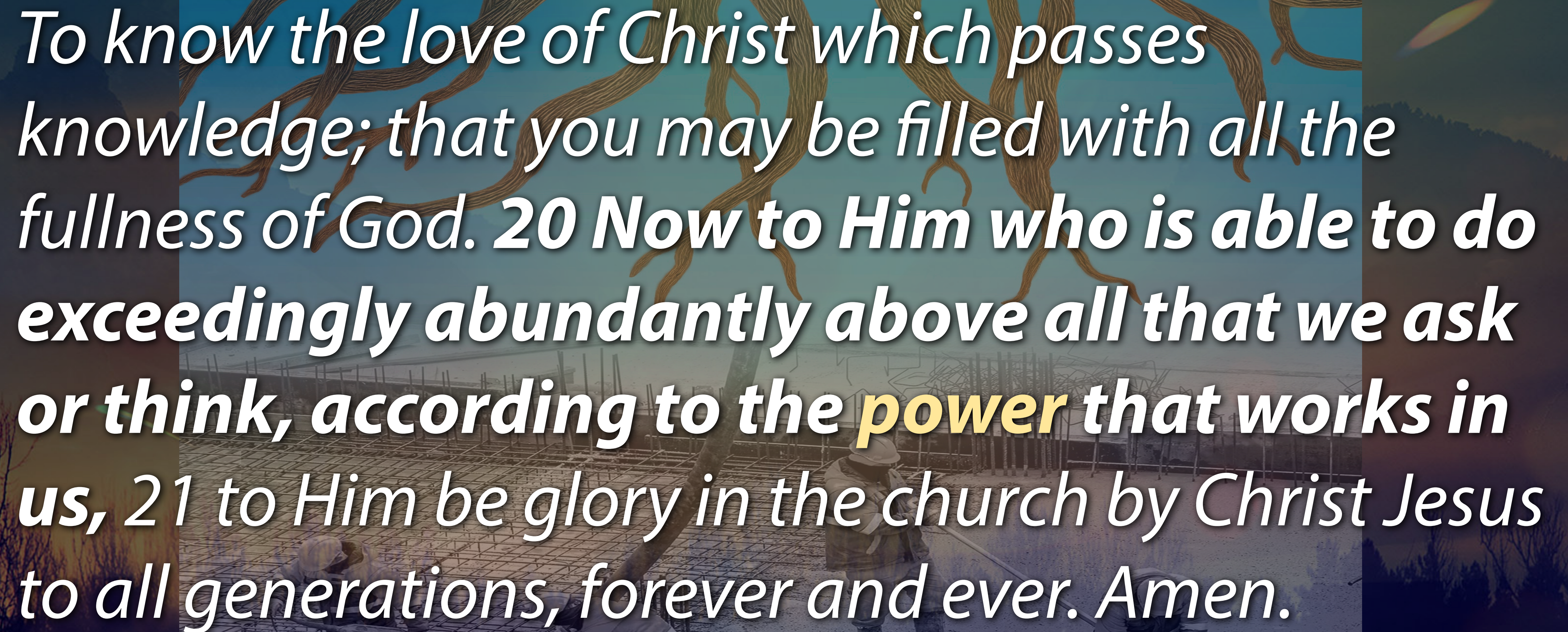
Ephesians 3:14

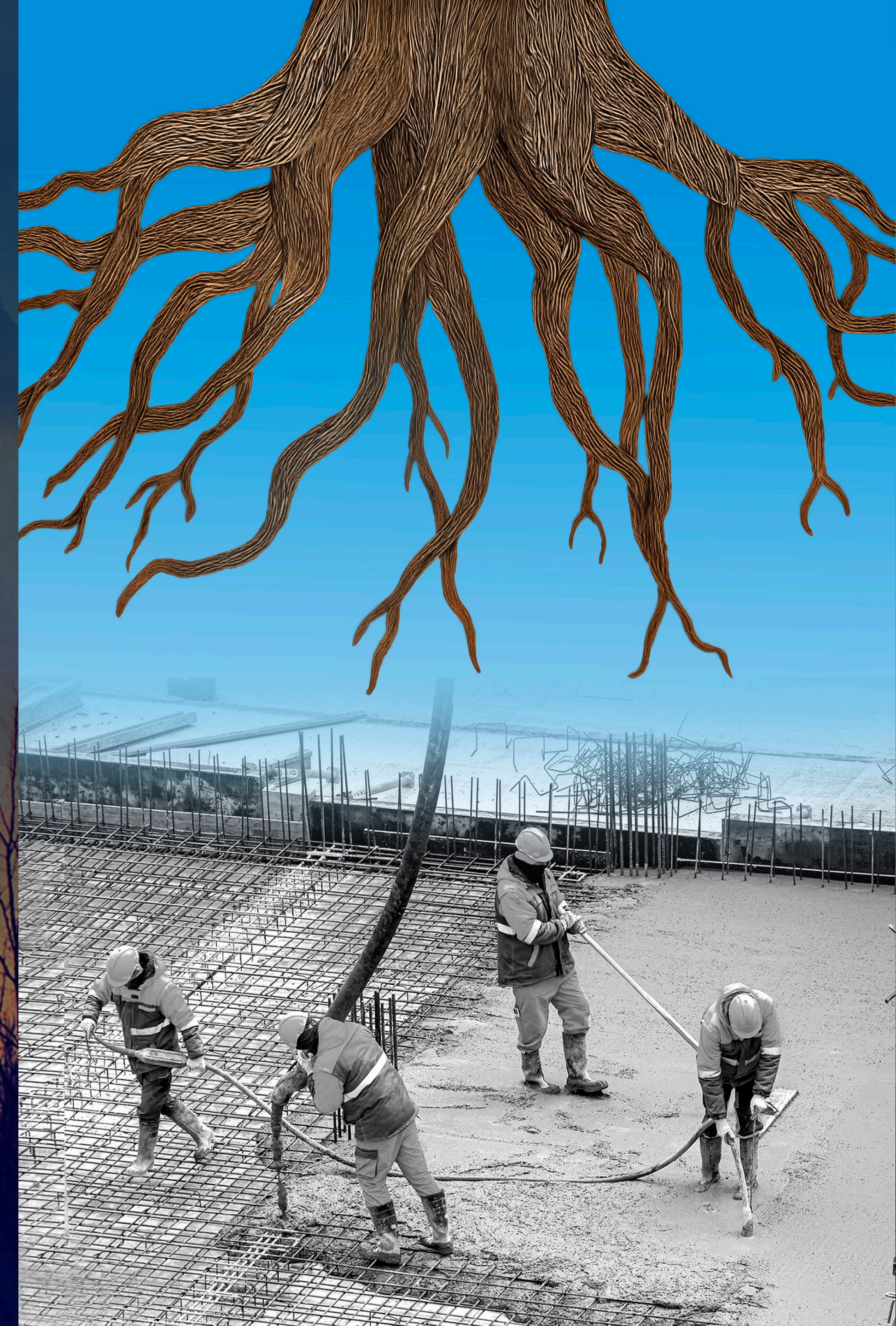
For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.



Ephesians 3:19

*To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*





“ROOTED” is an agricultural term

Like a tree, the believer’s life must have deep roots.

“GROUNDED” is an architectural term

Like a building, the believer’s life must have a solid foundation.

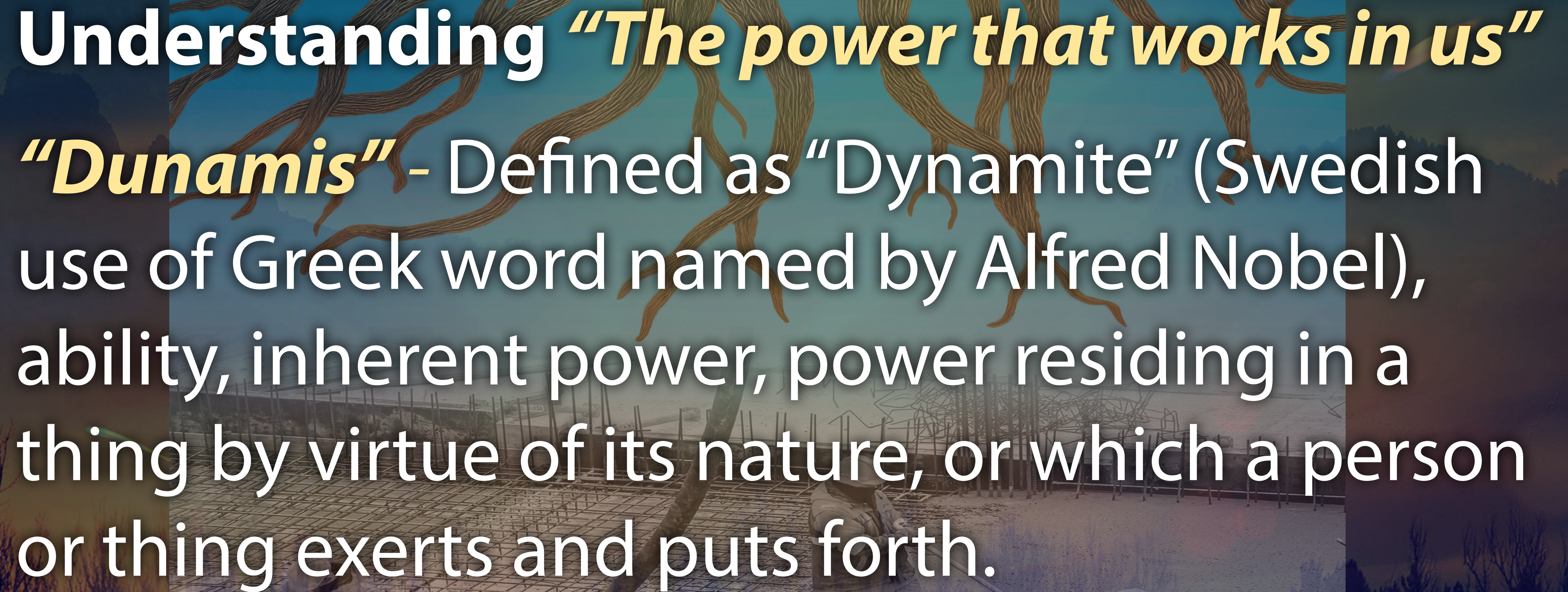
Without **roots**, there is no growth.

Without a **foundation**, there is no useful structure.



OUR FOCUS:

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...” (Eph. 3:20)



Understanding ***“The power that works in us”***
“Dunamis” - Defined as “Dynamite” (Swedish use of Greek word named by Alfred Nobel), ability, inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth.



One of the worst feelings that we can have is a feeling of powerlessness. Beware of that feeling...

2 Corinthians 2:11, *Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for **we are not ignorant of his devices.***

Satan is seeking to take advantage, so don't be ignorant. One of Satan's devices is to remove your sense of **agency.**



Agency is the ability or power to:

Act, make decisions, choose, and make things happen—to influence your own life and environment rather than being controlled by others or by circumstances.

Agency is part of the essence of being Imago Dei (made in God's image)

The background of the image is a composite. The top half features a large, gnarled tree with many roots extending downwards. The bottom half shows a construction site with several workers in hard hats and safety gear working on a concrete slab. The overall color palette is a mix of natural greens and browns from the tree, and the grey and blue tones of the construction site.

The closest word we have in the Bible
to agency is **dominion**

Genesis 1:26, Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.



During the 250th year anniversary of our nation, we are going to hear a lot of stories. Many will be fabrications and romanticized notions.

Our actual history is much more interesting than the fabrications.

Veneration is one thing, **idolatry** is another



The founding of the nation was rooted in **AGENCY** by rebelling against the repressive reign of King George III and Great Britain.

Agency is the ability or power to act, make decisions, choose, and make things happen—to influence your own life and environment rather than being controlled by others or by circumstances.



THE PREAMBLE TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

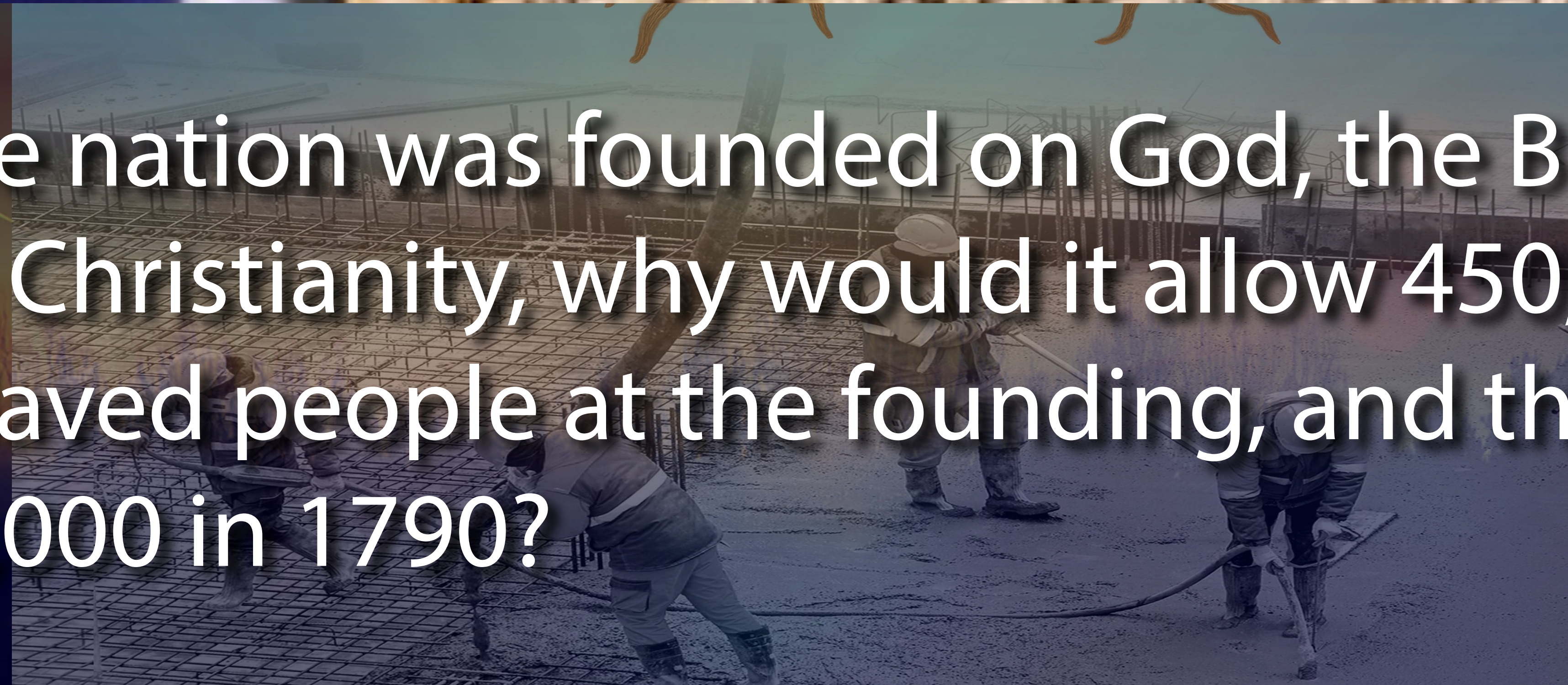
#Facts



- In 1776, there were approximately 2.5 million total population.
- In 1776, there were approximately 450,000 enslaved people among the population.
- First official U.S. Census in 1790 counted 3.9 million population.
- The same census counted approximately 700,000 enslaved people.
- That 18% of the people made in God's image and likeness were enslaved **and had no AGENCY**



If the nation was founded on God, the Bible, and Christianity, why would it allow 450,000 enslaved people at the founding, and then 700,000 in 1790?

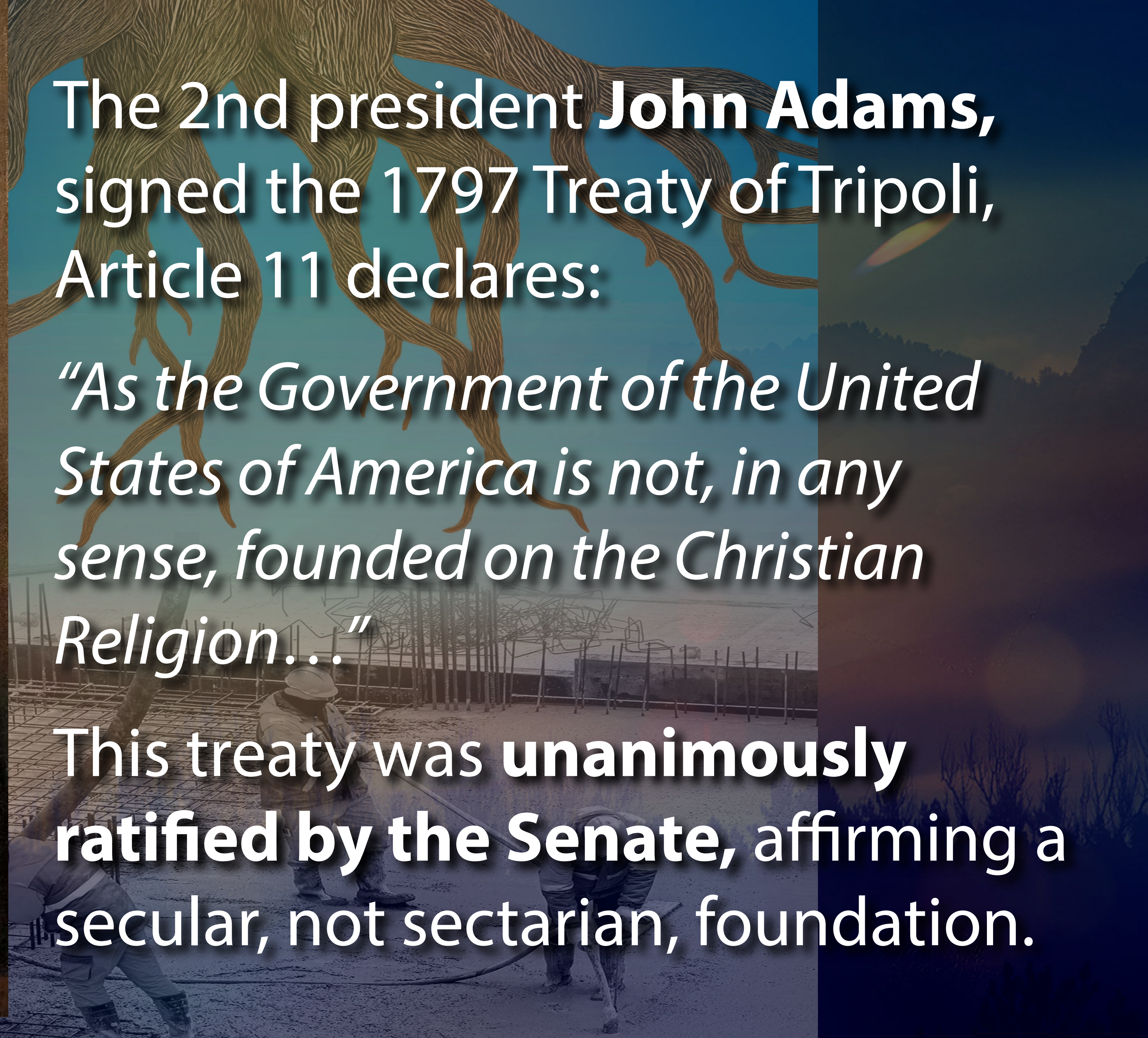




The 2nd president **John Adams**, signed the 1797 Treaty of Tripoli, Article 11 declares:

“As the Government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian Religion...”

This treaty was **unanimously ratified by the Senate**, affirming a secular, not sectarian, foundation.



AGENCY/Dominion in Action



AGENCY/Dominion in Action



“In a sense we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

~ Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 8/28/63



God's power within is **AGENCY**

Ephesians 3:20, *Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*



**We have a responsibility to use our
AGENCY to EMPOWER others**

**Jeremiah 29:7, *And seek the peace of the city
where I have caused you to be carried away
captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace
you will have peace.***

**Bible Hebrew word for “peace” is:
Completeness, soundness, welfare**



**We have a responsibility to use our
AGENCY to EMPOWER others**

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' (Acts 20:35)

And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful. (Titus 3:14)

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. (Galatians 6:10)