

The Certainty of Hope

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

Genesis 22:15-18

This was so that by two unchangeable things [His promise and His oath], in which it is impossible for God ever to prove false *or* deceive us, we who have fled [to Him] for refuge might have mighty indwelling strength *and* strong encouragement to grasp *and* hold fast the hope appointed for us *and* set before [us].

Hebrews 6:18 *Amplified Bible*

**He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge
and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."
Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.
He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.**

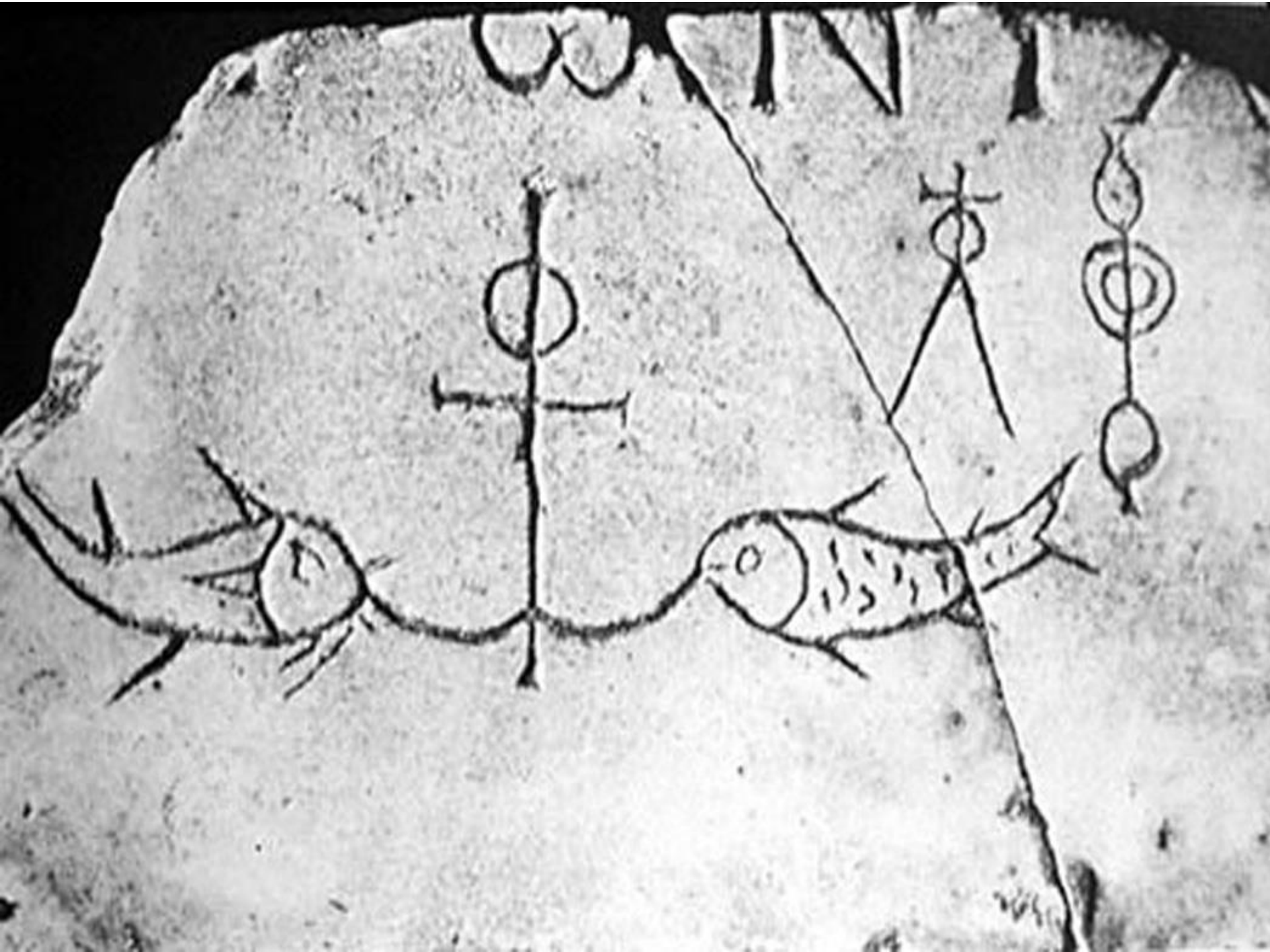
Psalms 91:1-4

[Now] we have this [hope] as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul – it cannot slip and it cannot break down under whoever steps out upon it – [a hope] that reaches farther *and* enters into [the very certainty of the Presence] within the veil, [Lev. 16:2.] Where Jesus has entered in for us [in advance], a Forerunner having become a High Priest forever after the order [with the rank] of Melchizedek. [Ps. 110:4.]

Hebrews 6:19,20 *Amplified Bible*



Epitaph for one named Antonia in the catacomb of Domitilla in Rome.





Epitaph for Atimetus from the catacombs of St. Sebastian on the Via Appia, Rome.

