

Amen! Amen!

Amen is not a translation, but a transliteration

- Originally: Hebrew word
- Declaration of affirmation: a closing exclamation of agreement to a prayer

OT: to make firm (prop up, build),
thus *confirm, so be it*

NT: usually means *truly, surely,
indeed, so is it, or let it be so*

- Amen is related to nouns 'steadiness,' 'trustworthiness,' or 'firm'

I. Amen In Response To Curses

Deut.27:15-26

Twelve times: agreed with curses

- Love shows better way. 27:5, 8, plainly, engraving well: engrave on minds of people...
- Love warns / informs. Hb.11:7. Mt.24:37-39
- Free will. Jn.7:17. Jn.8:44
 - Gn.39, Joseph
 - 1 Sm.24, 26; 2 Sm.1, David
 - Dn.1:8, Daniel
- Accountability for actions. Mt.12:36
- Admission. Mt.3:6

I. Amen In Response To Curses

II. Amen In Response To God

Neh.8:...5-6

- God teaches through His Word, 3
- Mt.24:35 – prophecy that seemed impossible... but God is
 - Great, Neh.8:6. Ex.5... Pharaoh
 - Worthy of praise, Neh.8:6. Ps.89:52. Emphatic. Amen – common in doxologies
 - Sovereign, Neh.8:10. 1 Tim.1:17, eternal, immortal, invisible
 - Saul tried to destroy the church
 - Paul had to praise God. Ps.106:48

I. Amen In Response To Curses

II. Amen In Response To God

III. Amen In Jesus' Teachings

“Amen is most commonly used in NT as Jesus’ acknowledgement of the truth and authority of His teachings, statements, or corrections of religious law” – Lexham

Mt.-Lk.: Jesus said *Amen* 54 times – each with a purpose –

- To introduce important proclamations.
Mt.5:18, 26; 6:5
- To announce grave warnings. Mt.10:...15;
24:34
- To show the advantages enjoyed by His disciples. Mt.13:...17

John alone in NT uses double: *Amen, Amen*
(25 times)

NKJV: Most assuredly

Ps.89⁵² Blessed be the LORD forevermore! Amen
and Amen

Jn.1⁵¹ Most assuredly: [Jesus] said to him, Most
assuredly [amen amen], I say to you, hereafter
you shall see heaven open, and the angels of
God ascending and descending upon the Son of
Man

Who else could make such a promise?

John 1

- a. Rabbis said amen (sg.). John, Jesus doubles it
[= **utmost certainty**]
- b. Rabbis usually said amen at end of speech;
Jesus at the beginning [**more certainty**]
- c. Nathanael, a true Israelite, receives promise
superior to Jacob's dream: Jesus [God-Man]
is the Ladder connecting heaven and earth

Jn.3:3,5, *Most assuredly* (**amen amen**) –
importance of being born again. Modern indiff-
erence thinks God owes us heaven no matter
how we live

Rv.3:14, to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God'

1. God of truth = *Amen, divine title*: implies Deity and Assurance
2. At beginning of sentence, Amen = adverb (*verily, truly*) . . .
 - ...at end = a wish (so be it; may it be so)
 - ...as name of Christ, implies assurance

Martyrs would not die without certainty;
Laodiceans would not live with it

I. Amen In Response To Curses

II. Amen In Response To God

III. Amen In Jesus Teachings

IV. Amen In Worship

1 Cor.14:16, ...Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say?

A. Assemblies in Corinth were factious

- Amen shows unity and agreement
- If everyone cannot say Amen (at least inwardly), something is wrong
- Error played a part. 1 Co.15

1 Cor.14:16, ...Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say?

B. Assemblies in Corinth were frenzied

- Amen shows order
- If several speak at once, confusion reigns; no one can say Amen
- If one speaks at a time, order reigns. V.40

1 Cor.14:16, ...Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say?

C. Assemblies in Corinth were led by a few

- Amen shows participation
- Man cannot carry a tune... All must sing
- Man cannot teach... There are other things we can do...

I. Amen In Response To Curses

II. Amen In Response To God

III. Amen In Jesus Teachings

IV. Amen In Worship

V. Amen To Promises of God

2 Co.1:15-20

A. Context: 1 Co.16:5-7

- Paul expressed his hope to visit
- He did not come
- They were disappointed with him – thought he had lied

2 Co.1:15-20

A. Context: 1 Co.16:5-7

B. **Charge:** 2 Co.1:15-16, *Paul is fickle* – changed travel plans

- Paul says Yes, but he means No
- Paul talks out of both sides of his mouth
- How can we trust him as an apostle?

2 Co.1:15-20

A. Context: 1 Co.16:5-7

B. Charge: 2 Co.1:15-16, Paul is fickle

C. **Comeback**: explanation for a non-visit

- 17-18: his plans are subject to change
 - Lord has last word (Ja.4:13-15)
 - What Paul actually said: 1 Co.16:6-7

6: *it may be*

7: *I hope*

7: *if Lord permits*

- God does not use liars to confirm His word / proclaim Christ (v.19)

2 Co.1:15-20

A. Context: 1 Co.16:5-7

B. Charge: 2 Co.1:15-16, Paul is fickle

C. Comeback: explanation for a non-visit

D. **Conclusion:** 20, Amen: faithfulness; His promises are eternal and unchangeable; God always keeps His word. [Yes: true in themselves.]

Amen: faithfully fulfilled in His people

Amen: the word that expresses confidence in His great promises

2 Co.1:15-20

- A. Context: 1 Co.16:5-7
- B. Charge: 2 Co.1:15-16, Paul is fickle
- C. Comeback: explanation for a non-visit
- D. Conclusion: 20, Amen: faithfulness
- E. **Caution:** If Corinthians allow a false lapse of Paul to discourage their service to God, they make the biggest mistake of their lives

- Rv.22²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming quickly.' Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.
 - Final assurance: everything in Book is true
- Jd.²⁵ To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.