

DAY THREE**Amen** [*amen*]

1 firm. 1A metaph. faithful.

2 verily, amen.

2A at the beginning of a discourse—surely, truly, of a truth.

2B at the end—so it is, so be it, may it be fulfilled. It was a custom, which passed over from the synagogues to the Christian assemblies, that when he who had read or discoursed, had offered up solemn prayer to God, the others responded Amen, and thus made the substance of what was uttered their own.

Additional Information: The word “amen” is a most remarkable word. It was transliterated directly from the Hebrew into the Greek of the New Testament, then into Latin and into English and many other languages, so that it is practically a universal word. It has been called the best known word in human speech. The word is directly related—in fact, almost identical—to the Hebrew word for “believe” (amam), or faithful. Thus, it came to mean “sure” or “truly”, an expression of absolute trust and confidence.—HMM.¹

Witness [*martus*]

1 a witness.

1A in a legal sense.

1B an historical sense.

1B1 one who is a spectator of anything, e.g. of a contest.

1C in an ethical sense.

1c1 those who after his example have proved the strength and genuineness of their faith in Christ by undergoing a violent death.¹

John 1:18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.

John 14:8-12

8 Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”

9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

10 “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.

11 “Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.

12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

John 8:28-29

28 So Jesus said, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.

29 “And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.”

John 5:19 Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless *it is* something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.

Revelation 19:9, 11

- 9 Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' " And he said to me, "These are true words of God."
- 11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

Revelation 21:5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

Revelation 22:6, 16, 18 -see appendix

Beginning [*arche*]

- 1 beginning, origin.
- 2 the person or thing that commences, the first person or thing in a series, the leader.
- 3 that by which anything begins to be, the origin, the active cause.
- 4 the extremity of a thing. 4A of the corners of a sail.
- 5 the first place, principality, rule, magistracy. 5A of angels and demons.¹

Colossians 4:12-16

- 12 Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.
- 13 For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis.
- 14 Luke, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and *also* Demas.
- 15 Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that is in her house.
- 16 When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter *that is coming* from Laodicea.

Colossians 1:15-23

- 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
- 16 For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.
- 17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.
- 18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.
- 19 For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him,
- 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven.
- 21 And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds,
- 22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach—
- 23 if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

Colossians 2:1-5

- 1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face,
- 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and *attaining* to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, *resulting* in a true knowledge of God's mystery, *that is*, Christ *Himself*,
- 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
- 4 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.
- 5 For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

2 Corinthians 13:5 Test yourselves *to see* if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?

1 John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.

Matthew 7:15-23

- 15 “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.
- 16 “You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn *bushes* nor figs from thistles, are they?
- 17 “So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.
- 18 “A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.
- 19 “Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- 20 “So then, you will know them by their fruits.
- 21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.
- 22 “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’
- 23 “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’

DAYS FOUR AND FIVE

Romans 7:24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

1 Corinthians 15:19 If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

Poor [*ptochos*]

1 reduced to beggary, begging, asking alms.

2 destitute of wealth, influence, position, honor.

2A lowly, afflicted, destitute of the Christian virtues and eternal riches.

2B helpless, powerless to accomplish an end.

2C poor, needy.

3 lacking in anything.

3A as respects their spirit.

3A1 destitute of wealth of learning and intellectual culture which the schools afford (men of this class most readily give themselves up to Christ’s teaching and proved them selves

fitted to lay hold of the heavenly treasure).¹

1 Peter 1:6-9

- 6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,
7 so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,
9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Psalms 66:8-12

- 8 Bless our God, O peoples,
And sound His praise abroad,
9 Who keeps us in life
And does not allow our feet to slip.
10 For You have tried us, O God;
You have refined us as silver is refined.
11 You brought us into the net;
You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.
12 You made men ride over our heads;
We went through fire and through water,
Yet You brought us out into *a place of* abundance.

Isaiah 55:1-3

- 1 “Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters;
And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
Come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without cost.
2 “Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
And your wages for what does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
And delight yourself in abundance.
3 “Incline your ear and come to Me.
Listen, that you may live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
According to the faithful mercies shown to David.

Matthew 23:16-19

- 16 “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, *that* is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.’
17 “You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?
18 “And, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, *that* is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated.’
19 “You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering?

¹ Strong, J. (2001). *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon*. Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

- 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
- 4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- 5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond servants for Jesus' sake.
- 6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

John 9:1, 6-7, 17-31, 39

- 1 As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.
- 2 And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"
- 3 Jesus answered, "*It was neither that* this man sinned, nor his parents; but *it was* so that the works of God might be displayed in him.
- 4 "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.
- 5 "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world."
- 6 When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,
- 7 and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went away and washed, and came *back* seeing.
- 17 So they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet."
- 18 The Jews then did not believe *it* of him, that he had been blind and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,
- 19 and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?"
- 20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;
- 21 but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself."
- 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.
- 23 For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."
- 24 So a second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God; we know that this man is a sinner."
- 25 He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."
- 26 So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"
- 27 He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear *it* again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?"
- 28 They reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.
- 29 "We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He is from."
- 30 The man answered and said to them, "Well, here is an amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and *yet* He opened my eyes.
- 31 "We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.

- 39 And Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.”

Revelation 6:11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

Revelation 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches *were* in their hands;

Revelation 19:8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Revelation 16:15 (“Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.”)

Matthew 22:1-14

- 1 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying,
- 2 “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.
- 3 “And he sent out his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they were unwilling to come.
- 4 “Again he sent out other slaves saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited, “Behold, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and my fattened livestock are *all* butchered and everything is ready; come to the wedding feast.” ’
- 5 “But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business,
- 6 and the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them.
- 7 “But the king was enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire.
- 8 “Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.
- 9 ‘Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find *there*, invite to the wedding feast.’
- 10 “Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests.
- 11 “But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes,
- 12 and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?’ And the man was speechless.
- 13 “Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’
- 14 “For many are called, but few *are* chosen.”