

## INTRODUCTION

At the end of prayers, we often say, “Amen.” This must be correct, because our Lord Jesus taught us to say, “Amen” in the conclusion of The Lord’s Prayer or The Model Prayer.

But what does amen mean? We are not to repeat prayers, or any other words, mindlessly. Thoughtlessly repeating things, thinking God will be pleased with many words, is a pagan way of worshiping, and it is not acceptable to God.

So, what does amen mean?

Many times we have taken it to mean, “now church is finally over,” or “now we finally can eat.”

But what does amen really mean? And why are we to say it in conclusion to our prayers?

## TEXT

Matthew 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## BODY

- I. What “Amen” Means
  - A. Hebrew OT, retained untranslated in Greek NT (G281)
  - B. Literally “firm”
  - C. Used to mean “true” or “truth” or “truly” or “verily”
  - D. So, the word “amen” is used to express something regarding truth

## II. How “Amen” Is About Our Lord Jesus Christ

- A. He is the Amen - Revelation 3:14 "And 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. see this meaning “faithful and true”
  2. so much is Jesus Christ our source of knowledge of the truth, that He calls Himself “the truth” - John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
  3. likewise, so much is He the ultimate witness to the truth, that He calls Himself “the Amen”
  4. He is the very Word of God, so He is the truth and He is the Amen
- B. The promises of God are in Him amen - 2 Corinthians 1:18-20 But as God is faithful, our word to you was not Yes and No. 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us--by me, Silvanus, and Timothy--was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. 20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.
1. Are all the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ? Yes
  2. Jesus Christ is the man who was put into a deep sleep, and his side opened, and a bride made for him out of His side, which was presented to Him when He awoke from His sleep. Amen!
  3. Jesus Christ is the ark in which we are saved from the flood of God’s wrath. Amen!
  4. Jesus Christ is the Joseph whose brothers hated him and meant Him harm, but God meant it for good, to save many people. Amen!
  5. Jesus Christ is the passover lamb, whose blood smeared on the door saves us from the destroyer. Amen!
  6. Jesus Christ is the son of King David, who has come to take the throne of the kingdom that will never end. Amen!
  7. All the promises of God are in Jesus Christ yes and in Him Amen!

Amen means “truth.”

Jesus Christ, being the Word of God, is the truth, and is Himself the Amen.

### III. Some Biblical Uses of Amen

- A. [All of our religion is to be from the scriptures. We want nothing in religion to be man-made inventions. We want to make no use of “amen” that is not taught in the Bible.]
- B. To express our wish for the true thing that has been said actually to be done
  1. thus sometimes translated, “so be it”
  2. kinds
    - a) penalties prescribed by God to be carried out
    - b) prophecies from God to come true
    - c) gospel promises to be fulfilled
  3. Deuteronomy 27:14-15 "And the Levites shall speak with a loud voice and say to all the men of Israel: 15 'Cursed is the one who makes a carved or molded image, an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in secret.' "And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen!'
  4. Revelation 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!
- C. To draw attention to truth
  1. John 5:24-25 ~~Most assuredly~~, Amen, amen: I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. 25 ~~Most assuredly~~, Amen, amen: I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.
  2. in our English translations, the words ‘amen, amen’ are not used, in favor of the translation “truly” or “verily”
    - a) VUL amen amen
    - b) WYC truly, truly
    - c) TYN, GEN, KJV Verily, verily...
    - d) recent translations have gone back to “truly” ESV truly, truly
    - e) I do not know why the NKJV has “assuredly”
  3. our Lord Jesus, before He spoke, often said, “Amen” or “Amen, amen”
  4. I find this glorious! He can say Amen, amen before He even speaks
- D. To express agreement with the truth
  1. 1 Corinthians 14:15-17 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. 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? 17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

E. To conclude statements of the truth

1. examples

- a) Luke 24:51-53 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.
- b) John 21:25 And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.
- c) 1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.
- d) 2 John 1:13 The children of your elect sister greet you. Amen.
- e) Revelation 22:21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

2. concept: the truth has been told; now the matter is concluded

F. To solemnize the ascribing glory forever to God

- 1. it is so profound a thing to ascribe glory to God forever, that saying it isn't enough; when a person ascribes glory to God forever, there needs to be a further expression of it, so profound is it; the speaker or author might add "amen" to his ascription of praise, whether there is a congregation to join him in it or not
- 2. this is one of the most frequent uses of amen in the New Testament; it appears in many of the letters, from several of the authors
  - a) Philippians 4:20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.
  - b) 1 Peter 5:11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
  - c) Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.
  - d) Revelation 7:12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.
- 3. this is part of the role of amen in The Lord's Prayer

#### IV. APPLICATION: Our Use of Amen in Worship Generally

- A. To express agreement with the truth of something that is spoken or sung, we say, “Amen”
  - 1. thus the “amen” at the end of our songs
  - 2. thus the “amen” at the end of our prayers
  - 3. thus the “amen” at what the pastors or one of the other men reads or says
- B. To express our wish for that true thing that has been said actually to be done, we say, “Amen”
  - 1. something that has been pronounced as a gospel promise
  - 2. something that has been prayed for according to the truth
- C. To conclude something
  - 1. a prayer
  - 2. a scripture reading
  - 3. a sermon or lesson
  - 4. a song
  - 5. the observance of one of the ordinances: baptism or The Lord’s Supper
  - 6. a worship service

#### V. APPLICATION: Our use of Amen in the Lord’s Prayer

- A. We express agreement with the truth of what was prayed
- B. We express our confidence that what was prayed for actually will be done by God
- C. We solemnize the ascribing of glory to God forever
- D. We recognize the conclusion of the prayer

#### CONCLUSION

He says, “Amen”

Then He who, is the Amen, and in whom all the promises of God are Amen, speaks

Then we say, “Amen”

Jeremiah - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Psalm 72:18-19

Stephen - Scripture Reading - 1 Chronicles 16:7-36

Roel - Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Allison - Prelude

Allison - Trinity 699 “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” - Andrew lead

Rita - Trinity 50 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Rita - Trinity 423 “Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat”

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Mat 6:13

1689 - preface - Conclusion

We shall conclude with our earnest prayer that the God of all grace will pour out those measures of His Holy Spirit upon us, that the profession of truth may be accompanied with the sound belief and diligent practice of it by us, that His name may in all things be glorified through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

-conclude

-prayer

-profession of **truth** be accompanied with sound belief and diligent practice of it

-His name be glorified

-through Jesus Christ our Lord

1689.32.3 Of the Last Judgment

...may ever be prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus; come quickly. **Amen.**

Revelation 22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 22:20-21 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.

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1689.32.3 Of the Last Judgment

...may ever be prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus; come quickly. Amen.

Larger Catechism: ...that he will fulfill our requests. And, to testify this our desire and assurance, we say, Amen.

Baptist Catechism: And in testimony of our desire and assurance to be heard, we say, Amen.

1 Corinthians 14:15-16 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. 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?

Revelation 3:14 "And 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:

When people heard what they perceived to be true, they would reply

-by saying, "Amen" Nehemiah 5:13 Then I shook out the fold of my garment and said, "So may God shake out each man from his house, and from his property, who does not perform this promise. Even thus may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the assembly said, "Amen!" and praised the LORD. Then the people did according to this promise.

-by saying, "Amen" twice Nehemiah 8:5-6 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

When Jesus came, He would say, "Amen" once or twice before He spoke.  
When He speaks, those who hear can confidently say, "Amen."

In Geneva Bible, "Amen" is "so be it," except Number 5:22, Nehemiah 5:13, 8:6.

see “amen” used similarly

Romans 11:36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

Gill: so be it, assenting to it, wishing for it, and believing of it

Clarke: so be it! Let this be established for ever!

Galatians 1:5 to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Philippians 4:20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 6:16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 7:12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.



