

# יְהוָה “The Amen”

## Introduction

Rev 3:14

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. NIV

*This is where we left off last time, Jesus, the Amen, the ruler of God's creation. The title of the Amen is also applied to the Father.*

Isa 65:16

So [it shall be] that he who invokes a blessing on himself in the land shall do so by saying, **May the God of truth and fidelity [the Amen]** bless me; and he who takes an oath in the land shall swear by the God of truth and faithfulness to His promises [the Amen], because the former troubles are forgotten and because they are hidden from My eyes. [2 Cor 1:20; Rev 3:14.] AMP

*The King James version translates both uses as “the God of truth.” The Hebrew word for “truth” is amen. Our God is the God of Amen!*

*Keil & Delitzsch Commentary-*

God is called Elohee 'âmeen, "the God of Amen," i.e., the God who turns what He promises into Yea and Amen (2 Cor 1:20).

2 Cor 1:19-20 KJV

19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, even by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in him was yea.

20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

*All of God's promises are “Yes!” in Jesus. But all that God has promised may not be interpreted subjectively as good. God hasn't only promised those things which we consider blessings. He has also promised justice and judgment.*

*It may surprise you to learn that the word “Amen” only appears 30 times in the Old Testament. Of these uses, two are used in title (Is 65:16), two are used in response to a human declaration, and 10 times it is used in worship. The remaining 16 times it appears in the Old Testament (over half of its uses), it is in the context of a curse.*

## I. The Amen to the Curse

### A. Curse – The Result of Sin.

#### i. The definition of curse

*Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament:*

“arar – the antonym of barak, to bless. To bind (with a spell), hem in with obstacles, render powerless to resist. Banned from enjoying [the blessing].”

*Etymology-*

To curse means to exacrate. From *ex-* opposing; *sacrare-* to be sacred. In other words, to make unholy.

Execration means that which is abhorred.

ii. The curse on the serpent.

Gen 3:14-15 NIV

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

iii. The curse on the ground.

Gen 3:17-19

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.

18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." NIV

*The curse is an instrument of God's justice against the sin of His creatures. The concept originates with Him.*

B. The Curse on the Bride

i. The jealous husband – Numb. 5:11-15

*We discussed this in 'YHWH-Qanna', which see.*

ii. The curse formula

Num 5:18-22

18 After the priest has had the woman stand before the LORD, he shall loosen her hair and place in her hands the reminder offering, the grain offering for jealousy, while he himself holds the bitter water that brings a curse.

19 Then the priest shall put the woman under oath and say to her, "If no other man has slept with you and you have not gone astray and become impure while married to your husband, may this bitter water that brings a curse not harm you.

20 But if you have gone astray while married to your husband and you have defiled yourself by sleeping with a man other than your husband"--

21 here the priest is to put the woman under this curse of the oath--"may the LORD cause your people to curse and denounce you when he causes your thigh to waste away and your abdomen to swell.

22a May this water that brings a curse enter your body so that your abdomen swells and your thigh wastes away." NIV

- iii. The acceptance of the terms  
Num 5:22b Then the woman is to say, "Amen. So be it." NIV

*In the Hebrew, this is "Amen, amen." It is the **first** (and second) use of this word. As a matter of fact, the first 14 times this word appears in Scripture, it appears as a response to the curse.*

### C. The Curse of the Law

- i. Sacrifice and proclamation on Mt. Ebal  
Deut 27:11-16, 26  
11 On the same day Moses commanded the people:  
12 When you have crossed the Jordan, these tribes shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph and Benjamin.  
13 And these tribes shall stand on Mount Ebal to pronounce curses: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan and Naphtali.  
14 The Levites shall recite to all the people of Israel in a loud voice:  
15 "Cursed is the man who carves an image or casts an idol--a thing detestable to the LORD, the work of the craftsman's hands--and sets it up in secret."  
Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"  
16 "Cursed is the man who dishonors his father or his mother." Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"  
26 "Cursed is the man who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out." Then all the people shall say, "Amen!" NIV

*Twelve total curses were spoken from Mt. Ebal to correspond to the twelve tribes. Nearly all of the Ten Commandments are alluded to, but they are certainly encapsulated in verse 26.*

Josh 8:30-35

- 30 Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel,  
31 as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses--an altar of uncut stones, on which no iron tool had been used. On it they offered to the LORD burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings.  
32 There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua copied on stones the law of Moses, which he had written.  
33 All Israel, aliens and citizens alike, with their elders, officials and judges, were standing on both sides of the ark of the covenant of the LORD, facing those who carried it--the priests, who were Levites. Half of the people stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD had formerly commanded when he gave instructions to bless the people of Israel.

34 Afterward, Joshua read all the words of the law-the blessings and the curses-just as it is written in the Book of the Law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read to the whole assembly of Israel, including the women and children, and the aliens who lived among them. NIV

*The curses (which are defined in Deut. 28:15-68) and the sacrifices were done on Mt. Ebal.*

*Keil & Delitzsch Commentary-*

The spot selected for the setting up of the stones with the law written upon it, as well as for the altar and the offering of sacrifice, was Ebal, the mountain upon which the curses were to be proclaimed . . . as the Berleburger Bible expresses it, "to show how the law and economy of the Old Testament would denounce the curse which rests upon the whole human race because of sin, to awaken a desire for the Messiah, who was to take away the curse and bring the true blessing instead."

ii. The curse of death

Rom 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. NIV

Rev 20:6

Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years. NIV

Rev 20:14-15

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. NIV

iii. Jesus, a curse for us.

Gal 3:13-14

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. NIV

Deut 21:22-23

22 If a man guilty of a capital offense is put to death and his body is hung on a tree,

23 you must not leave his body on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse. You must not desecrate the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance. NIV

Luke 22:41-44

41 He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed,  
42 "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.

44 And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. NIV

Matt 27:28-31

28 They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,

29 and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said.

30 They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again.

31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. NIV

2 Cor 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. NIV

Isa 53:4-6, 10-12

4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

11 After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. NIV

*We can never forget that the only reason we can receive anything from God and declare in faith "Amen" after a prayer is because Jesus said "Amen" to the curse and took our punishment upon Himself.*

## **II. The Amen to the Promise in the Name**

- A. By Names – Table 1
- B. By Groups – Table 2

## **III. The Amen in Prayer, Praise and Worship**

### **A. Predicated on Knowledge and Understanding**

1 Cor 14:16

If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? NIV

Eph 1:16-19

16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;  
17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:  
18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,  
19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, KJV

Eph 3:14-21

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
15 Of 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 by his Spirit in the inner man;  
17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,  
18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;  
19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.  
20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,  
21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. KJV

### **B. His Promise to Respond**

John 16:22-28

22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

- 23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.
- 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.
- 25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.
- 26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:
- 27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.
- 28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. KJV

*“Verily, verily” is “amen, amen.” Jesus is recorded as saying “Amen,” more than anyone else in Scripture (nearly 100 times!).*

*When we say “Amen,” we are saying “So be it. Yes, I agree. Yes, let it come to pass.” When He says, “I am the Amen,” He is saying, “It has been, it is, it will be because I was, and I AM, and I will be!” (Heb 13:8).*

#### C. Worship the King Forever

Ps 72:17-19

- 17 His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.
- 18 Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.
- 19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen. KJV

1 Tim 1:17

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. KJV

#### **Conclusion**

Rev 22:20-21

- 20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.
- 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. KJV

*Amen!*