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## And Amen

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## AND AMEN!

I. How many times we've heard the word, used it, and perhaps felt a prayer was incomplete without it. Know of no church that doesn't use it.

A. Yet do you know what it means?

B. Why is it used?

C. Is it any body's name?

D. What N. T. man used it the most?

E. Is it a word for the preacher or the people?

F. Did the early church use it?

G. Does it have more than one meaning?

H. Was it used in both Old and New Testaments?

I. Does it signify "the end"?

J. Does your saying amen involve you in any way?

1. If these and other questions are hazy for you they won't be 30 minutes from now.

2. Shall we study the word.

II. Define Amen.

A. The word has these meanings.

1. The Heb. root=surely, to be firm, steady

2. In Gk. usage it means firm, established, to prop, foundation.

a. It has been translated in N. T. as truly, verily (Jn. 3:3)(idiom).

3. Literally it means "true" *God of truth*  
Isaiah 65:16 "That he who blesseth himself"

4. Thus it is not equated with "finis".

a. Does mean finally.

2 Tim. 4:18 "And the Lord shall deliver n

B. Does it have various usages?

1. It is used as an interjection, so be it, may it be.

Matt. 6:13 "And lead us not into temptation

Deut. 27:16-26 *q yee, & in him Amen*

2 Cor. 1:20 "For all the promises of God i

2. It's used for emphasis.

Nu. 5:22 "And this water that causeth the c

3. It was used to welcome an announcement.

I Kings 1:36 "And Benaiah the son of Jehoia

Jer. 28:6 "Even the prophet Jer. said, Ame

4. Strong asseveration, fixing stamp of approval on the assertion.

a. We take what was said and make it our own.

b. It's like signing your name.

c. Responsively shows listener acknowledges validity of oath and is willing to accept consequence.

I Chron. 16:36 "Blessed be the Lord God

Gal. 6:18 "Brethren, the grace of our Lo

d. Deut. 27:11-26.

(1) When the law was read to the people they were expected to enter a glorious league with God. They'd think as He thought.

C. Did the early church use it?

I Cor. 14:16 "Else when thou shalt bless wi

1. Justin Martyr 138 A.D. said "Chr. said Amen after prayers and thanksgiving."

2. Jerome 331 A.D. said Roman Cong. thundered it.

D. Why use it today?

1. In common worship can't all actually be part of voice and act--yet all may be in sympathy.

a. Like David bringing the ark.

2. It is a solemn sealing, acknowledging, accepting what's done.

I Chron. 16:36 "Blessed be the Lord God

3. God desires our response.

4. The listless, inattentive or indifferent won't use it?

5. It puts heart and head together else our words a falsehood if head not in it.

6. Men used to head wills with it. It was a declaration of truth and sincerety--we rejoice in what follows.

7. It's the people's word--odd for preacher to take over.

E. It's the word for Jesus.

1. He constantly used it--"verily".

a. Used 77x in the gospels by all.

2. It's His name.

Rev. 7:12 "Saying, Amen: Blessing, and g

Rev. 3:14 "And unto the angel of the church

a. He is eternal--we can trust him!

b. He is our avowal of hope.

c. He is our endorsement!

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