# **How to Decode the Bible/Christ incarnate**

## **Part 1**

 The best way to truly understand any book you have ever read is to know the Author. They are the ones that know the true meaning of what they have written.

 When we look at the Bible, we see it referenced with several different titles. Some call it the Scripture, some the Word of God, some the Holy Bible.

 The first thing we must understand is that The Word is a Person and not a book. We will look at the importance of the Scripture later, the inspired words, history and accounts that are written on pages for us. Too many people get this backward, thinking that the scripture is Jesus and do not understand that all scripture testifies of Christ. It reveals Him and shows us who He is. Everything always comes back to the Living Word, which is Christ; He is the Word of God. We do not worship the Bible; we worship the Living Word who is Christ Jesus.

The Key verses of the Bible that all true interpretations come from are these:

1. 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. NKJV

Jesus is not a truth, but The Truth. He tells us that He is the way and the Life and that no one can come to the Father except through Him. This is a revelation that Peter first received when Jesus asked His disciples “Who do men say that I am?” Jesus told Peter that flesh and blood did not reveal this to Him, but His Father who is in Heaven revealed it. He later states in John 6:44 “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him” NKJV

1. John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. NKJV

The Greek word used here is logos, here is its meaning:

NT:3056 Word

logos (log'-os); from NT:3004; something said (**including the thought**); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also **reasoning** (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specifically (with the article in John**) the Divine Expression** (i.e. Christ)

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew

This is further exemplified by Heb 1:1-3

 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 **has in these last days spoken to us by His Son**, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 **who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person** NKJV

Christ Jesus was and is the full expression of His Father. If you want to know what the Father is like, look at Jesus, the Word made flesh. He fully represents and shows us His Father.

In comparison to the word Logos, another Greek word used for word is Rhema. It was used when Jesus referred to the words He spoke.

John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. NKJV

NT:4487 Word

rhema (hray'-mah); from NT:4483; **an utterance** (individually, collectively or specifically); by implication, a matter or topic (especially of narration, command or dispute)

Matt 4:4

4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (Rhema) that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" NKJV

Jesus quoted Deut. 8:3

1. John 1:14

 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. NKJV

The word begotten here refers to when Jesus rose from the dead, see Acts 13:33 and Col 1:18

18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**, that in all things He may have the preeminence. NKJV.

Further explained in this verse:

 Phil 2:5-9

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. NKJV

Christ, who was with the Father before He became a man, is God. He came to this earth as a man (Jesus), born in a manger. He humbled himself; He took upon Himself a lowly form and became human. Many ask, why would God become a man? There are several reasons that we will see. One of the primary reasons was to fulfill the law of God. The only way sinful man could enter a relationship with a holy God was by Gods holy requirements being met. Because His law was given to men, it had to be met by a man. The only man who could fulfill this holy law was a sinless man, Christ Jesus. God Himself became a man so He could fulfill the law and make a new way of having a relationship with a loving Father.

1. John 1:17-18

17 For the law was given through Moses, but **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ**. NKJV

In the next section we will look more fully into what this verse is telling us and how it impacts our entire relationship with God. It is the precursor to reveal a new covenant that the Father was going to make with mankind.

1. 1 John 2:20-21

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. 21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. NKJV

John is talking here about the Spirit of Christ that lives in a believer. When you asked Jesus to come into your heart by confessing Him as your Lord and believing that He rose from the dead, you were born again, and His Spirit came to live inside of you.

 Rom 8:9-11 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, he is not His. 10 **And if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. NKJV

Rom 8:14-17

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

NKJV

1 Cor 6:17

 17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. NKJV

We need to understand a new way of learning, not from an external source, but from an internal reality. **Christ who IS the Truth**, lives on the inside of us. We have His mind in our spirit man.

1 Cor 2:13-16

13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ. NKJV

If Christ is in us, then we also have His mind. This is referring to our spirit man. His mind, thoughts, will and understanding abide in our spirit. See the meaning of this Greek word below:

NT:3563 Mind

nous (nooce); probably from the base of NT:1097; the intellect, i.e. mind (divine or human; in thought, feeling, or will); by implication meaning:

KJV - mind, understanding.

NT:1097

ginosko (ghin-oce'-ko); a prolonged form of a primary verb; to "know" (absolutely) in a great variety of applications and with many implications (as follow, with others not thus clearly expressed):

KJV - allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) know (-ledge), perceived, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand.

So, this changes the way that we learn things. In the natural we must go to school or college or seminary to learn things. This is a natural knowledge that goes into our brain. Then depending on how good of a student we are and how well we can recall the knowledge we have gained we can use what we learned in our everyday lives. The process goes from an outside source into our human cognition. Or simply from out to in. We gain external knowledge and put it into our mind.

 However, when it comes to spiritual learning there is a different process. When Jesus came to live on the inside of us, He brought all His knowledge and understanding with Him.

1. 1 John 2:26-27 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. 27 But the anointing which you have received from Him **abides in you**, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just **as it has taught you, you will abide in Him**. NKJV

This verse is one of the most profound verses in the bible. Why? Because it tells us how all true spiritual growth occurs. All spiritual life flows out of Him, therefore we must abide in Him to have true spiritual life. Jesus said it this way: John 15:5-6 "I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. NKJV

We fail to comprehend the way we learn and live-in spiritual realities. We have been trained from birth to process everything we learn from our minds to our life. By this process alone we limit our learning and experiences in life to our own abilities. Some people are blessed with exceptional minds and therefore have the ability to do great things in the world. However, this type of learning does not translate to spiritual growth. Spiritual growth is seen by fruit. **It is seen by more fully living a life that shows Jesus to those around us.** Jesus did the same thing by showing the Father:

John 14:9-11

9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that **I am in the Father, and the Father in Me**? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father **who dwells in Me does the works**. 11 Believe Me **that I am in the Father and the Father in Me**, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. NKJV

This is the same thing Jesus will say of us when He prays for us in John 17.

John 17:20-23

20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also **for those who will believe in Me** through their word; 21 that **they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And **the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:** **23 I in them, and You in Me**; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. NKJV

So, what are we missing, why are we not doing the things that Jesus did? Let’s look at the last part of this verse, 1 John 2:27 … and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. If we are not learning from Him, the anointing, the person living inside of us, the spirit of Christ, then we are not receiving the truth. The true spiritual food, the only word that will transform us into His image. **As It is has taught us** – we will **Abide in Him**. This word abide is key, here is what it means:

NT:3306

GREEK> meno (men'-o); a primary verb; **to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy**):

KJV - abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry (for), thine own.

Jesus never did anything outside of His relationship to the Father. Do we think that we can do anything outside of our relationship with Him? You see the anointing that John is referring to is true revelation of the living Word of God. Until the word has become alive on the inside of us, it will never be lived out on the outside.

 This is the reason Paul wrote in Romans 12:

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. NKJV

The word transformed comes from the following Greek words:

NT:3339 metamorphoo (met-am-or-fo'-o); from NT:3326 and NT:3445; **to transform** (literally or figuratively, "metamorphose"): KJV - change, transfigure, transform.

NT:3326 meta (met-ah'); a primary preposition (often used adverbially); properly, denoting accompaniment; "amid" (local or causal); modified variously according to the case (genitive case association, or accusative case succession) **with which it is joined**.

NT:3445 morphoo (mor-fo'-o); from the same as NT:3444; **to fashion** (figuratively):

KJV - form.

NT:3444 morphe (mor-fay'); (through the idea of adjustment of parts); shape; figuratively**, nature**:

KJV - form.

 I realize that is a lot of information to take in. The crux of what Paul was saying is, if you want to be like Jesus you must do this. We all know that information that is stored in our brain does not change our **nature. It does not change who we are**. That is why just reading the scripture, or any book does not change us. There is a learning process that we must go through with the anointing that abides in us. Christ the anointed one who is living in our spirit is the only one who can release the true revelation of who He is **and who we are** when He is living through us. Then we must take the things He shows us and renew our way of thinking to line up with Him. That is what transforms us and changes our very nature. This is learning from the inside out. Then we will not only know what our Fathers will is, we will prove it.

 We need to know how important the way we think is, in relation to living out the realities of the Kingdom. Paul was very clear on what he taught about the way we are to think.

 We know from the prayer model that Jesus gave us that it is His desire to see Heaven on Earth. As it is in Heaven, He desires His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth. It is unfortunate that many try to tell people what Gods will is without going through this process. We are supposed to do what Jesus did. He showed the Fathers will through the works He did. We need to do the same.

 Not only do we have Christ living in us, we also have the Holy Spirit here to empower and help us.

1. John 14:26-27

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you** all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. NKJV

1. John 15:26-27

26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. NKJV

This is an amazing promise that Jesus gave us. The Holy Spirit will teach us, the very one who inspired the words that were written in the Scriptures, **will teach us**. Now wouldn’t you love to see what the author meant when He gave us those words?

1. John 5:39-40

 39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. NKJV

They all testify of Christ Jesus. When we look at Jesus, we see the totality of scripture explained. If we think that the Father has a different meaning than what we saw in Jesus, we are misled. We have missed the true meaning of what was written. We do not have life until we come to Christ. Regardless of what we think we know; it will do nothing for us until we do.

Paul the apostle who wrote most of the New Testament learned this way.

Gal 1:11-12

11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 **For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.** NKJV

Eph 3:1-6

3 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles — 2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how **that by revelation He made known to me the mystery** (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men**, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets**: NKJV

You may ask, well is it only for the apostles and prophets? Absolutely not, this will explain why Paul prayed for all believers this way:

Eph 1:15-21

15 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 do not cease 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 to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him**, 18 **the eyes of your understanding being enlightened**; that **you may know** what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what **is the exceeding greatness of His power** **toward us who believe**, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. NKJV

This is not some pie in the sky prayer that maybe someday we will begin to walk in this reality. NO this is available to us who believe, NOW. If we do not understand the past tense of Gods promises, then we will be like the older brother in the parable of the prodigal son. He thought his works were what gave him the Fathers promises. He said “Luke 15:13 Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; …. And what did the Father say: Luke 15:31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.’ Do we know what the Father has given us?

Ok, so what does this look like. How do we enter this process? The good news is we already have. When we accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit gave us a revelation that Christ Jesus was God in the flesh, that He paid for our sin, that we could be forgiven, and we were born again of His Spirit. The way we receive revelation knowledge is the same way. We ask the Holy Spirit to teach us. We ask Him to reveal who Christ is on the inside of us. I call these life bursts, where all of sudden I hear what the Spirit is telling me, and I agree and receive what He said. One way to test what you’re hearing is 1) do you see this in the scripture? And 2) do you see this in the life of Jesus when He was on the earth? This is what Paul told the Philippians - Phil 4:8-9

8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy **— meditate on these things**. 9 **The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me,** these do, and the God of peace will be with you. NKJV

Here Paul used himself as the example to look to. But rest assured, he knew who it was that was living through him. Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; NKJV

This brings us to the second part of this process mentioned in this verse, Meditate (Think) on these things. After we receive revelation, we must renew our minds, our way of thinking to line up with the truth we received. This is the only way to bring agreement and unity into your heart. I think of it this way: in your spirit you know what is true and immediately agree with it. However, in your soul, your mind will and emotions you have to receive and agree with the truth. We must change our world view to the truth that the Holy Spirit has taught us. When your spirit and your soul agree then your heart is perfect before the Lord. Faith is a spiritual force that comes from our spirit man, belief comes from our soul. You only believe what you think is true. When we believe a lie then our heart is not true, **but when our spirit and our soul agree our very nature is changed and we become the truth that we have believed**.

You might be asking yourself, well if this is the way we learn why do I need to go to church or listen to any person teach me? The answer is simple. Because the Holy Spirit uses people to help us draw out the truths that are in our spirit man. When we listen to anyone teach, we are supposed to be tuned into the Holy Spirit. He uses the one speaking and anoints our hearing to hear His Voice. The reason that God set Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers in the Body was because He anointed them with abilities to release what is in us. When I teach, I can always tell when someone is receiving something from the Holy Spirit. There is a flow of Spirit Life. The same way Jesus could tell that someone touched Him in the crowd of people. The woman with the issue of blood used a special touch, the touch of faith. Jesus immediately felt virtue flow out of Him. These 5-fold ministry gifts, if they are in subjection to Jesus and not just coming up with their own good ideas, are vessels that the Holy Spirit uses in this process. Teaching also helps us renew our minds to the truth that is in us. Some people get so convinced of half-truths or lies; it takes the anointing of the Holy Spirit that is on someone else to break through the strongholds that are in their mind. Every believer is teaching those around them something. If what we are living is birthed in the Spirit, then it is releasing the kingdom of God everywhere we go to the degree that we abide in Christ Jesus, who is the Way the Truth and the Life, some 30 fold, some 60 fold and some 100 fold.

# **Decoding the Bible**

## **Part 2**

# **A New Covenant**

 The Next thing we must understand is covenantal standing. What covenant do we operate under? The old? Or the New? For they are entirely different and lay the foundation for how we interpret everything pertaining to our relationship with the Father.

 The Old covenant ends with the Fulfillment of the Law, which takes place at the end of the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John’s gospels are the fulfillment of the Old covenant. The New Covenant starts with Jesus’ resurrection and is recorded in the book of Acts and includes all the epistles written to the New covenant church.

Matt 5:17-19 17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets**. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill**. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law **till all is fulfilled**. NKJV

Jesus was sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Many of the things He said and did were in harmony with the Law and according to the Jewish understanding of scripture. Many of the parables He used to confound the wise among the religious leaders of the day. We can glean an understanding of the kingdom and spiritual principles that apply to us. However, some of the things He said only pertained to the Jews. He pushed the law to its outer limits to show the nation of Israel its sin and need for a Savior.

Matt 15:24

24 But He answered and said, "**I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."**

NKJV

Jesus sent His disciples out

Matt 10:5-6

"Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. 6 **But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.** NKJV

It was only after the nation of Israel rejected Jesus that the gospel was sent to the gentiles. God always had a way of salvation for all people, but it was through the Israelites. They were called proselytes, Gentiles who converted to the Jewish faith.

Rom 11:11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. NKJV

When salvation came to the Gentiles it came with a new Covenant.

John 17:3-5

3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 I have glorified You on the earth**. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.** NKJV

John 19:29-30

 30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, **He said, "It is finished!"** And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. NKJV

 When Jesus made this declaration from the cross, He knew that he had fulfilled all things from the law and the scripture. He had met the Fathers justice that had to be met. Sin, the state of separation from God that started with Adam and had been passed down through all generations to the sons and daughters of men was now defeated. When He rose from the dead, He established the only way to come into right standing with God. A new birth was now available that would unite the spirit of man with the Spirit of Christ that would make us righteous in the sight of God and give us unlimited access to the throne room. A relationship that was no longer based on the laws of God but given by Grace through Faith based on what Jesus did for us.

## A New Covenant is established

The following verses show us the foundation of a New and Better covenant that is available to us.

Heb 7:14

22 by so much more **Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant**. NKJV

Heb 7:18-19

18 For on the one hand there is an **annulling of the former commandment** because of its weakness and unprofitableness, 19 **for the law made nothing perfect**; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. NKJV

Heb 8:5

 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant, which was established on better promises**. NKJV

Heb 8:13

13 In that He says, "A new covenant," **He has made the first obsolete**. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. NKJV

Heb 9:11-15

11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. 12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, 14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? 15 And **for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance**. NKJV

Heb 10:8-10 Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them"(which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God**." He takes away the first that He may establish the second.** 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. NKJV

Heb 10:19-23

19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us**, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 **let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.** NKJV

All these verses show us the amazing things that Jesus has accomplished for us. He has dealt sin and death its final blow. Sin has no authority over our lives any longer. Our very conscience should be cleansed from dead works. What are these dead works? They are the acts that lead to death, sin. We are no longer controlled by the sin nature. The writer of Hebrews mentioned them in chapter 6 verse 1: Heb 6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works … NKJV

If all we think about are dead works, we will never achieve the perfection that we have in Christ. Think about the power of His blood, how spotless and perfect was the sacrifice made for us. We are complete in Him. If we do not know who we are in Him and that the Father only sees us in Him, we will not receive the inheritance He has given us to live in Now. We are seated with Him in heavenly places. We are heaven on earth, just as Jesus was when He walked the earth.

How do we receive this divine nature?

2 Peter 1:2-4 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us **exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these** **you may be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. NKJV

We receive it by believing the promise! The Old Covenant was based on keeping the law. The New Covenant is based on believing a promise. So, the only question is, do you believe and trust the Goodness of your Father to receive His promise? He withheld nothing to enter into a relationship with you. He has freely given you everything, including His Kingdom. So, will you allow Him to reveal to you who He is and let Him live His life through you. That is the very reason He has come to live in you, and one of the reasons the Holy Spirit is here to teach us and release His life in and through us to reconcile a lost world to Himself.

May these words build you up and encourage you to enter into the only process designed by the Father to release His life through us, to give us the abiding presence and power that our good works will never produce, that He alone can reveal in us to release His Kingdom everywhere we go. To Him be all the Glory forever and ever, amen.