

# Other Greek Words For Trust, Committing And Entrusting

## Other New Testament words for trust

Another Greek word related to trusting in God is the word “pistos” which means “trusting, believing”.<sup>1</sup> “Pistos” or forms of it are used in John 20:27, Acts 16:1, 2 Corinthians 6:15, Galatians 3:9, 1 Timothy 4:10, 4:12, 5:16 and 1 Peter 1:21.

In the New Testament, there are two other Greek words for “**trust**” used in relation to the heart attitudes of true believers in the Lord. These two Greek words are “peitho” and “pepoithesis”. Vine says the word “peitho” means “to have confidence, trust”.<sup>2</sup> Various forms of the word “peitho” are used in Matthew 27:43, 2 Corinthians 1:9, Philippians 2:24, 2 Thessalonians 3:4 and Hebrews 2:13 to mean “depend on, trust in, put one’s confidence in”.<sup>3</sup> Philippians 2:24 says: “***But I trust in the Lord...***” 2 Corinthians 1:9 states: “***...we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead.***”

The Greek word “pepoithesis” is defined as “trust, confidence”.<sup>4</sup> Forms of the word “pepoithesis” are used by Paul in 2 Corinthians 3:4 and Ephesians 3:12 in relation to trust or confidence in God and/or Jesus Christ. Ephesians 3:12 refers to the confident boldness believers can have to enter God’s Presence: “***In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.***”

## Other Greek words for committing or entrusting ourselves

The New Testament Greek words “paratheke”, “paradidomi” and “paratithemi” also relate to commitment, surrender and trust. A form of the word “paratheke” is used in 2 Timothy 1:12 and means “property entrusted to another”.<sup>5</sup>

2 Timothy 1:12 in the New King James translates “paratheke” as “***committed***”: “***...for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that day.***” Note this verse also uses the word “***believed***” which in Greek is a form of the word “pisteuo”. 2 Timothy 1:12 shows the close association between faith, trust and commitment in relation to God.

The Greek word “paradidomi” is used in the context of 1 Peter 2:23 to mean “give up...commit”.<sup>6</sup> 1 Peter 2:23 reveals how Jesus surrendered, entrusted or committed Himself to God the Father: “***...when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed himself to Him who judges righteously.***” 1 Peter 2:21 says we should follow Jesus’ example above. 1 Peter 2:23

---

<sup>1</sup> Colin Brown, page 593.

<sup>2</sup> Vine, page 646.

<sup>3</sup> Bauer, page 639.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, page 643 and Kittel, Volume 6, page 7.

<sup>5</sup> Bauer, page 616.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, page 615.

shows Jesus handed over to the Father the *rights* or *authority* to Himself. All *God-given rights* and *authority* in our lives must be *continually handed over* to God.

1 Peter 4:19 says: ***“Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.”*** In Greek, the expression ***“let those commit”*** is a form of the word “paratithemi” which in the context of 1 Peter 4:19 means “entrust someone to the care or protection of someone”<sup>7</sup> or “to entrust, to commit to one’s charge”.<sup>8</sup> True faith in Jesus Christ includes commitment to Him.

#### Word Bible Study Questions

1. List the verses in the New Testament that use other Greek words which refer to trusting in God or in Christ.

---

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, page 623.

<sup>8</sup> Vine, page 113.