

Luke 23:43—“Verily, I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise,” as in the KJV, or “Verily I say unto thee to day, Thou shalt be with me in paradise,” as the Watchtower Society, Seventh Day Adventism, and other annihilationists teach?

1.) The SDA/Watchtower argument is that the original text did not have any punctuation, so the comma can be placed wherever one likes; therefore this passage does not teach that the thief was indeed in Paradise with the Lord Jesus that very day, only that the Lord Jesus was saying on that day that, at some point in the future after he died and ceased to exist as a conscious being, he would be resurrected and enter Paradise. The Watchtower/SDA argument is erroneous for the following reasons.

a.) We don't have the original, and so we don't know that it didn't have punctuation; that is an assumption.

b.) Even granting that assumption, there is overwhelming evidence that the pause in the verse comes after “thee,” not after “today.” Every time this construction occurs in the New Testament, there is always a complete thought, and thus a comma required after “thee” in translation<sup>1</sup>:

Matt. 5:26 ἄμην λέγω σοι, οὐ μὴ ἐξέλθῃς ἐκεῖθεν, ἕως ἂν ἀποδῶς τὸν ἔσχατον κοδράντην.

Matt. 5:26 **Verily I say unto thee**, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

Matt. 26:34 ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἄμην λέγω σοι ὅτι ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ νυκτί, πρὶν ἀλέκτορα φωνῆσαι, τρὶς ἀπαρνήσῃ με.

Matt. 26:34 Jesus said unto him, **Verily I say unto thee**, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

Mark 14:30 καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἄμην λέγω σοι, ὅτι σήμερον ἐν τῇ νυκτί ταύτῃ, πρὶν ἢ δις ἀλέκτορα φωνῆσαι, τρὶς ἀπαρνήσῃ με.

Mark 14:30 And Jesus saith unto him, **Verily I say unto thee**, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice.

---

<sup>1</sup> One notes that in a few of the verses below, when the *soi/humin* is followed by the *hoti* indicating direct discourse, the comma found in the English is left out of the Greek. Of course, the reason for this is the very fact of the (usually untranslated) *hoti* of direct discourse. This does not at all change the fact that the *amen lego humin* is the end of its thought, and a new and distinct thought follows with the *hoti*. A pause is still indicated in these verses, and commas are correctly found universally in the King James Version. Anyone who attempted to support the idea that a clause does not end, and a pause is not indicated, in Luke 23:43, or anywhere else in the New Testament, after the *amen lego soi/humin* structure because of these verses with a *hoti* of direct discourse, evidences either abysmal ignorance of Greek or deliberate disingenuousness.

It should also be noted that in Luke 23:43 the Ἄμην λέγω σοι of the *Textus Receptus* receives support from 99.5% of Greek MSS, while the textual corruption ἀμὴν σοι λέγω follows fewer manuscripts than one has fingers on his hand and is syntactically unparalleled anywhere in the NT or LXX.

Luke 23:43 καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἄμην λέγω σοι, σήμερον μετ' ἐμοῦ ἔσῃ ἐν τῷ παραδείσῳ.

Luke 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, **Verily I say unto thee**, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

John 3:3 ἀπεκρίθη ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ἄμην ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῆ ἄνωθεν, οὐ δύναται ἰδεῖν τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, **verily, I say unto thee**, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:5 ἀπεκρίθη ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἄμην ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῆ ἐξ ὕδατος καὶ Πνεύματος, οὐ δύναται εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, **verily, I say unto thee**, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3:11 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι ὅτι ὃ οἶδαμεν λαλοῦμεν, καὶ ὃ ἐώρακαμεν μαρτυροῦμεν· καὶ τὴν μαρτυρίαν ἡμῶν οὐ λαμβάνετε.

John 3:11 Verily, **verily, I say unto thee**, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

John 13:38 ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Τὴν ψυχὴν σου ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ θήσεις; ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, οὐ μὴ ἀλέκτωρ φωνήσῃ ἕως οὗ ἀπαρνήσῃ με τρίς.

John 13:38 Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, **verily, I say unto thee**, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

John 21:18 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ὅτε ἦς νεώτερος, ἐζώννυες σεαυτόν, καὶ περιεπάτεις ὅπου ἤθελες· ὅταν δὲ γηράσῃς, ἐκτενεῖς τὰς χεῖράς σου, καὶ ἄλλος σε ζώσῃ, καὶ οἴσει ὅπου οὐ θέλεις.

John 21:18 Verily, **verily, I say unto thee**, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry *thee* whither thou wouldest not.

Furthermore, “Verily I say unto you,” the construction found in Luke 23:43 with a second person plural pronoun in the Greek dative case, instead of the second person singular, also always has a pause after the “unto/to you,” rather than a word later, in all 61 verses where the construction appears in the New Testament. There is no instance of this construction taking the word after the “to you” and including it within the “verily I say unto” clause. The idea is always a complete idea with “verily I say unto you,” followed by the content of what is being said.

Matt. 6:2 Ὅταν οὖν ποιῆς ἐλεημοσύνην, μὴ σαλπίσσης ἔμπροσθέν σου, ὥσπερ οἱ ὑποκριταὶ ποιοῦσιν ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς καὶ ἐν ταῖς ῥύμαις, ὅπως δοξασθῶσιν ὑπὸ τῶν ἀνθρώπων· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀπέχουσι τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν.

Matt. 6:2 Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. **Verily I say unto you**, They have their reward.

Matt. 6:5 Καὶ ὅταν προσεύχη, οὐκ ἔσῃ ὥσπερ οἱ ὑποκριταί, ὅτι φιλοῦσιν ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς καὶ ἐν ταῖς γωνίαις τῶν πλατειῶν ἐστῶτες προσεύχεσθαι, ὅπως ἂν φανῶσι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἀπέχουσι τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν.

Matt. 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. **Verily I say unto you**, They have their reward.

Matt. 6:16 Ὅταν δὲ νηστεύητε, μὴ γίνεσθε ὡς περ οἱ ὑποκριταὶ σκυθρωποὶ ἀφανίζουσι γὰρ τὰ πρόσωπα αὐτῶν, ὅπως φανῶσι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις νηστεύοντες· **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν** ὅτι ἀπέχουσι τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν.

Matt. 6:16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. **Verily I say unto you**, They have their reward.

Matt. 8:10 ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐθαύμασε, καὶ εἶπε τοῖς ἀκολουθοῦσιν, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐδὲ ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοσαύτην πίστιν εὑρον.

Matt. 8:10 When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, **Verily I say unto you**, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

Matt. 10:15 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἀνεκτότερον ἔσται γῆ Σοδόμων καὶ Γομόρρων ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κρίσεως, ἢ τῇ πόλει ἐκείνῃ.

Matt. 10:15 **Verily I say unto you**, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Matt. 10:42 καὶ ὃς ἐὰν ποτίσῃ ἓνα τῶν μικρῶν τούτων ποτήριον ψυχροῦ μόνον εἰς ὄνομα μαθητοῦ, **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐ μὴ ἀπολέσῃ τὸν μισθὸν αὐτοῦ.

Matt. 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, **verily I say unto you**, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Matt. 11:11 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐκ ἐγήγερται ἐν γεννητοῖς γυναικῶν μείζων Ἰωάννου τοῦ βαπτιστοῦ· ὁ δὲ μικρότερος ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν μείζων αὐτοῦ ἔστιν.

Matt. 11:11 **Verily I say unto you**, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matt. 16:28 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, εἰσὶν τινες τῶν ὧδε ἑστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου, ἕως ἄν ἴδωσι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐρχόμενον ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ.

Matt. 16:28 **Verily I say unto you**, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

Matt. 18:3 καὶ εἶπεν, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἐὰν μὴ στραφῆτε καὶ γέννησθε ὡς τὰ παιδιά, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθητε εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Matt. 18:3 And said, **Verily I say unto you**, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 18:13 καὶ ἐὰν γένηται εὐρεῖν αὐτό, **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν** ὅτι χαίρει ἐπ' αὐτῷ μᾶλλον, ἢ ἐπὶ τοῖς ἑννενηκονταεννέα τοῖς μὴ πεπλανημένοις.

Matt. 18:13 And if so be that he find it, **verily I say unto you**, he rejoiceth more of that *sheep*, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

Matt. 18:18 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅσα ἐὰν δήσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἔσται δεδεμένα ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ· καὶ ὅσα ἐὰν λύσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἔσται λελυμένα ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ.

Matt. 18:18 **Verily I say unto you**, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matt. 19:23 Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν** ὅτι δυσκόλως πλούσιος εἰσελεύσεται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Matt. 19:23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 19:28 ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν** ὅτι ὑμεῖς οἱ ἀκολουθήσαντές μοι, ἐν τῇ παλιγγενεσίᾳ ὅταν καθίσῃ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ, καθήσεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐπὶ δώδεκα θρόνους, κρίνοντες τὰς δώδεκα φυλάς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ.

Matt. 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matt. 21:21 ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἐὰν ἔχητε πίστιν, καὶ μὴ διακριθῆτε, οὐ μόνον τὸ τῆς συκῆς ποιήσετε, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ εἴπητε, Ἄρθητι καὶ βλήθητι εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν, γενήσεται.

Matt. 21:21 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this *which is done* to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

Matt. 21:31 τίς ἐκ τῶν δύο ἐποίησε τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πατρὸς; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ, Ὁ πρῶτος. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅτι οἱ τελῶναι καὶ αἱ πόρνοι προάγουσιν ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Matt. 21:31 Whether of them twain did the will of *his* father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

Matt. 23:36 **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἤξει ταῦτα πάντα ἐπὶ τὴν γενεὰν ταύτην.

Matt. 23:36 **Verily I say unto you**, All these things shall come upon this generation.

Matt. 24:2 ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Οὐ βλέπετε πάντα ταῦτα; **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐ μὴ ἀφεθῇ ὧδε λίθος ἐπὶ λίθον, ὃς οὐ μὴ καταλυθήσεται.

Matt. 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? **verily I say unto you**, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Matt. 24:34 **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἡ γενεὰ αὕτη, ἕως ἂν πάντα ταῦτα γένηται.

Matt. 24:34 **Verily I say unto you**, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

Matt. 24:47 **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅτι ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ὑπάρχουσιν αὐτοῦ καταστήσει αὐτόν.

Matt. 24:47 **Verily I say unto you**, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Matt. 25:12 ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐκ οἶδα ὑμᾶς.

Matt. 25:12 But he answered and said, **Verily I say unto you**, I know you not.

Matt. 25:40 καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐρεῖ αὐτοῖς, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἐφ' ὅσον ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου τῶν ἐλαχίστων, ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε.

Matt. 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

Matt. 25:45 τότε ἀποκριθήσεται αὐτοῖς, λέγων, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἐφ' ὅσον οὐκ ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων, οὐδὲ ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε.

Matt. 25:45 Then shall he answer them, saying, **Verily I say unto you**, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me.

Matt. 26:13 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅπου ἐὰν κηρυχθῆ τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τοῦτο ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ, λαληθήσεται καὶ ὃ ἐποίησεν αὕτη, εἰς μνημόσυνον αὐτῆς.

Matt. 26:13 **Verily I say unto you**, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, *there* shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

Matt. 26:21 καὶ ἐσθιόντων αὐτῶν εἶπεν, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν** ὅτι εἷς ἐξ ὑμῶν παραδώσει με.

Matt. 26:21 And as they did eat, he said, **Verily I say unto you**, that one of you shall betray me.

Mark 3:28 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅτι πάντα ἀφεθήσεται τὰ ἀμαρτήματα τοῖς υἱοῖς τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ βλασφημίαι ὅσας ἂν βλασφημήσωσιν·

Mark 3:28 **Verily I say unto you**, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

Mark 6:11 καὶ ὅσοι ἂν μὴ δέξωνται ὑμᾶς, μηδὲ ἀκούσωσιν ὑμῶν, ἐκπορευόμενοι ἐκεῖθεν, ἐκτινάξατε τὸν χοῦν τὸν ὑποκάτω τῶν ποδῶν ὑμῶν εἰς μαρτύριον αὐτοῖς. **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ἀνεκτότερον ἔσται Σοδόμοις ἢ Γομόρροις ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κρίσεως, ἢ τῇ πόλει ἐκείνῃ.

Mark 6:11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. **Verily I say unto you**, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Mark 8:12 καὶ ἀναστενάξας τῷ πνεύματι αὐτοῦ λέγει, Τί ἡ γενεὰ αὕτη σημεῖον ἐπιζητεῖ; **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, εἰ δοθήσεται τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ σημεῖον.

Mark 8:12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? **verily I say unto you**, There shall no sign be given unto this generation.

Mark 9:1 καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσωνται θανάτου, ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

Mark 9:1 And he said unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.

Mark 9:41 ὃς γὰρ ἂν ποτίσῃ ὑμᾶς ποτήριον ὕδατος ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι μου, ὅτι Χριστοῦ ἐστέ, **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐ μὴ ἀπολέσῃ τὸν μισθὸν αὐτοῦ.

Mark 9:41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, **verily I say unto you**, he shall not lose his reward.

Mark 10:15 **ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, ὃς ἐὰν μὴ δέξηται τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ὡς παιδίον, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθῃ εἰς αὐτήν.

Mark 10:15 **Verily I say unto you**, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

Mark 10:29 ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν, **Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν**, οὐδεὶς ἐστὶν ὃς ἀφῆκεν οἰκίαν, ἢ ἀδελφούς, ἢ ἀδελφάς, ἢ πατέρα, ἢ μητέρα, ἢ γυναῖκα, ἢ τέκνα, ἢ ἀγρούς, ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου,

Mark 10:29 And Jesus answered and said, **Verily I say unto you**, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's,

Mark 12:43 καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ, λέγει αὐτοῖς, Ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἡ χήρα αὕτη ἢ πτωχὴ πλείον πάντων βέβληκε τῶν βαλόντων εἰς τὸ γαζοφυλάκιον

Mark 12:43 And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

Mark 13:30 ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἡ γενεὰ αὕτη, μέχρις οὗ πάντα ταῦτα γένηται.

Mark 13:30 **Verily I say unto you**, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.

Mark 14:9 ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν, ὅπου ἂν κηρυχθῇ τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τοῦτο εἰς ὅλον τὸν κόσμον, καὶ ὃ ἐποίησεν αὕτη λαληθήσεται εἰς μνημόσυνον αὐτῆς.

Mark 14:9 **Verily I say unto you**, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, *this* also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

Mark 14:18 καὶ ἀνακειμένων αὐτῶν καὶ ἐσθιόντων, εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν, ὅτι εἷς ἐξ ὑμῶν παραδώσει με, ὃ ἐσθίων μετ' ἐμοῦ.

Mark 14:18 And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, **Verily I say unto you**, One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.

Mark 14:25 ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐκέτι οὐ μὴ πίω ἐκ τοῦ γεννήματος τῆς ἀμπέλου, ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ἐκείνης ὅταν αὐτὸ πίνω καινὸν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Mark 14:25 **Verily I say unto you**, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Luke 4:24 εἶπε δέ, Ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς προφήτης δεκτός ἐστιν ἐν τῇ πατρίδι αὐτοῦ.

Luke 4:24 And he said, **Verily I say unto you**, No prophet is accepted in his own country.

Luke 12:37 μακάριοι οἱ δούλοι ἐκεῖνοι, οὓς ἐλθὼν ὁ κύριος εὕρησει γρηγοροῦντας· ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι περιζώσεται καὶ ἀνακλινεῖ αὐτούς, καὶ παρελθὼν διακονήσει αὐτοῖς.

Luke 12:37 Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: **verily I say unto you**, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Luke 18:17 ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν, ὃς ἐὰν μὴ δέξηται τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ὡς παιδίον, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθῃ εἰς αὐτήν.

Luke 18:17 **Verily I say unto you**, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

Luke 18:29 ὃ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς ἐστιν ὃς ἀφήκεν οἰκίαν, ἢ γονεῖς, ἢ ἀδελφούς, ἢ γυναῖκα, ἢ τέκνα, ἕνεκεν τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ,

Luke 18:29 And he said unto them, **Verily I say unto you**, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake,

Luke 21:32 ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἡ γενεὰ αὕτη, ἕως ἂν πάντα γένηται.

Luke 21:32 **Verily I say unto you**, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.

John 1:51 καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀπ' ἄρτι ὄψεσθε τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγῶτα, καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀναβαίνοντας καὶ καταβαίνοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

John 1:51 And he saith unto him, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.

John 5:19 Ἀπεκρίνατο οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐ δύναται ὁ υἱὸς ποιεῖν ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ οὐδέν, ἐὰν μὴ τι βλέπῃ τὸν πατέρα ποιοῦντα· ἃ γὰρ ἂν ἐκεῖνος ποιῇ, ταῦτα καὶ ὁ υἱὸς ὁμοίως ποιεῖ.

John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

John 5:24 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὁ τὸν λόγον μου ἀκούων, καὶ πιστεύων τῷ πέμψαντί με, ἔχει ζωὴν αἰώνιον καὶ εἰς κρίσιν οὐκ ἔρχεται, ἀλλὰ μεταβέβηκεν ἐκ τοῦ θανάτου εἰς τὴν ζωὴν.

John 5:24 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 5:25 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἔρχεται ὥρα καὶ νῦν ἐστίν, ὅτε οἱ νεκροὶ ἀκούσονται τῆς φωνῆς τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ οἱ ἀκούσαντες ζήσονται.

John 5:25 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

John 6:26 ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ζητεῖτέ με, οὐχ ὅτι εἶδετε σημεῖα, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐφάγετε ἐκ τῶν ἄρτων καὶ ἐχορτάσθητε.

John 6:26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

John 6:32 εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, Οὐ Μωσῆς δέδωκεν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ· ἀλλ' ὁ πατήρ μου δίδωσιν ὑμῖν τὸν ἄρτον ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τὸν ἀληθινόν.

John 6:32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

John 6:47 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, ἔχει ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

John 6:47 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

John 6:53 εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ φάγητε τὴν σάρκα τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ πίητε αὐτοῦ τὸ αἶμα, οὐκ ἔχετε ζωὴν ἐν ἑαυτοῖς.

John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

John 8:34 ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ποιῶν τὴν ἁμαρτίαν δοῦλός ἐστι τῆς ἁμαρτίας.

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

John 8:51 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν τις τὸν λόγον τὸν ἐμὸν τηρήσῃ, θάνατον οὐ μὴ θεωρήσῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

John 8:51 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

John 8:58 εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, πρὶν Ἀβραάμ γενέσθαι, ἐγὼ εἰμι.

John 8:58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Before Abraham was, I am.

John 10:1 Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὁ μὴ εἰσερχόμενος διὰ τῆς θύρας εἰς τὴν αὐλὴν τῶν προβάτων, ἀλλὰ ἀναβαίνων ἀλλαχόθεν, ἐκεῖνος κλέπτης ἐστὶ καὶ ληστής.

John 10:1 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

John 10:7 Εἶπεν οὖν πάλιν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι Ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ θύρα τῶν προβάτων.

John 10:7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, I am the door of the sheep.

John 12:24 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ ὁ κόκκος τοῦ σίτου πεσὼν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἀποθάνῃ, αὐτὸς μόνος μένει· ἐὰν δὲ ἀποθάνῃ, πολὺν καρπὸν φέρει.

John 12:24 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

John 13:16 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, Οὐκ ἔστι δούλος μείζων τοῦ κυρίου αὐτοῦ, οὐδὲ ἀπόστολος μείζων τοῦ πέμψαντος αὐτόν.

John 13:16 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

John 13:20 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, Ὁ λαμβάνων ἐὰν τινα πέμψω, ἐμὲ λαμβάνει· ὁ δὲ ἐμὲ λαμβάνων, λαμβάνει τὸν πέμψαντά με.

John 13:20 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

John 13:21 Ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐταράχθη τῷ πνεύματι, καὶ ἐμαρτύρησε καὶ εἶπεν, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἷς ἐξ ὑμῶν παραδώσει με.

John 13:21 When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, that one of you shall betray me.

John 14:12 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ κάκεῖνος ποιήσει, καὶ μείζονα τούτων ποιήσει· ὅτι ἐγὼ πρὸς τὸν πατέρα μου πορεύομαι.

John 14:12 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

John 16:20 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι κλαύσετε καὶ θρηνήσετε ὑμεῖς, ὁ δὲ κόσμος χαρήσεται· ὑμεῖς δὲ λυπηθήσεσθε, ἀλλ' ἡ λύπη ὑμῶν εἰς χαρὰν γενήσεται.

John 16:20 Verily, **verily, I say unto you**, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

John 16:23 καὶ ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἐρωτήσετε οὐδέν· ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὅσα ἂν αἰτήσητε τὸν πατέρα ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί μου, δώσει ὑμῖν.

John 16:23 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.

Conclusion:



The annihilationist contention that the comma is misplaced in Luke 23:43 in the King James Version—and every other available English translation<sup>2</sup> on the face of the earth—is impossible. To affirm that the comma needs to be moved to after the word “today” is simply a product of theological bias against the Biblical truth that New Testament believers are immediately in conscious bliss when they die. To move the comma requires a rejection of all seventy examples of the “Verily I say unto thee/you” construction in the New Testament. The annihilationist contention that Luke 23:43 should be changed (to “Verily I say unto thee today,”) is not consistent with the Greek syntax of Luke 23:43.

Annihilationists who argue that Luke 23:43 does not say “Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise,” are either ignorant of the evidence or have chosen to reject the evidence. Luke 23:43 stands as a clear text in favor of the entrance of the saved dead into immediate conscious happiness. One who denies this truth rejects the Word of the Lord Jesus Christ. Such a course is very dangerous, for the Son of God, who never lies, has said, “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:48).

---

<sup>2</sup> The *New World Translation* of the Watchtower Society (so-called “Jehovah’s Witnesses”) does not put the comma where the Greek requires it. However, the *New World Translation* is not a translation. The combined coursework in New Testament Greek for the entire Watchtower “translation” committee consisted of a single two credit hour course (and no “translator” had ever taken any courses in Hebrew—not to mention Aramaic—at all!). Thus, their “Bible” does not deserve to be called a translation. Two credit hours of New Testament Greek, by one of seven “translators,” the other six of which had taken as much New Testament Greek as one’s pet dog, cat, or goldfish, does not get the “translation” committee even near to the linguistic capability required to translate the Word of God. This is apart from other evidences of abysmal ignorance by the “translators,” such as the fact that the majority of them were high school dropouts and not even one had even an undergraduate college degree. The Watchtower Society attempts to hide the names and the (lack of) qualifications of its “translators” from the public, but information about them can be obtained: for more details on the New World “Translation,” its gross and despicable corruptions, and its “translators,” see *Are You Worshipping Jehovah?* available at <http://faithsaves.net/are-you-worshipping-Jehovah/>