

Bible Words For Endlessness

The Greek language uses prefixes meaning "not," "no," or "un" in words that describe conditions that never end. So in the New Testament when the idea of something lasting forever is expressed, it normally uses a negative particle before a Greek word to denote this.

Un-ending, in-corruptible, un-fading, in-destructible are a few examples of using a prefix to make a word express endlessness or not being exposed to the corruption of death.

In the following Scriptures, the words in bold are the KJV translation of the words being examined.

Athanasia

Athanasia (Strong's #110) means literally "no death." It is the state of death-less-ness or being incapable of death.

Here are the verses where athanasia is used, always translated as immortality.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:53-54 KJV

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on **immortality**.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on **immortality**, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

1 TIMOTHY 6:16 KJV

16 Who only hath **immortality**, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Aphthartos

Aphthartos (Strong's #862) is an adjective translated as incorruptible, uncorruptible, immortal, and not corruptible. It means literally "no corruption," or "im-perishable." It is the state of being incapable of corruption, of being incapable of perishing.

ROMANS 1:23 KJV

23 And changed the glory of the **uncorruptible** God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:25 KJV

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an **incorruptible**.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:52 KJV

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised **incorruptible**, and we shall be changed.

Aphtharsia

Aphtharsia (Strong's #861) is the noun form of apthartos (Strong's #862) which we just examined.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:42 KJV

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in **incorruption**:

2 TIMOTHY 1:10 KJV

10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and **immortality** to light through the gospel:

Amarantos

Amarantos (Strong's #263) is an adjective meaning "not fading" or "un-fading." It is used once in the New Testament.

1 PETER 1:4 KJV

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and **that fadeth not away**, reserved in heaven for you,

Akatalutos

The thought of permanence is also expressed by akatalutos (Strong's #179), which literally means "not destroyed" or "in-destructible." It is used one time, translated as endless.

HEBREWS 7:16 KJV

16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an **endless** life.

All the above passages describe conditions of endlessness or incorruptibility in the Bible. Yet none of them use aion or its adjective aionios. Each of them is a word starting with the particle "a" which means "not" when placed in front of Greek words.

From these verses you can see that the Bible promise of believers living forever with Jesus does not depend at all on the word aion being used.

Ouk Telos

LUKE 1:33 KJV

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be **no end**.

This verse uses two words: ouk (Strong's #3756), and telos (Strong's #5056), meaning literally "no end" or "never finished."

This verse does use the word aion, translated as for ever (which we have shown is an improper translation.) A possible meaning of this verse is that Jesus will reign over the house of Jacob for the whole age, that is the Messianic age. But that will not be the end of His kingdom. For His kingdom will never have an end. Ruling over the house of Jacob for the Messianic age to come is only the beginning of His kingdom.