

Study of the Book of Acts

Word Study of Acts 16:31

KJV

“And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”

ESV

“And they said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’”

NASB

“They said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’”

YLT

“and they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved--thou and thy house;’”

Tyndale

“And they sayde: beleve on the Lorde Iesus and thou shalt be saved and thy housholde.”

Greek

οι δε ειπον πιστευσον επι τον κυριον ιησουν χριστον και σωθηση συ και ο οικος σου

	Greek Text	Morphology	Definition	Literal Rendering
1	οι	art. - nominative, plural, masculine	“hoy” – the definite article	“the”, “they”
2	δε	conjunction	“deh” – a primary particle (adversative or continuative)	“but” or “and”
3	ειπον	v. – indicative, aorist, active, 3 rd person plural	“eye-pon” – to speak or say (by answer or response)	“answered”, “responded”
4	πιστευσον	v. – imperative, aorist, active, 2 nd person singular	“pis-tyoo-son” – to have faith, to entrust	“believe”
5	επι	preposition	“ep-ee” – primary preposition meaning a superimposition of time, place, order, etc; depends on case of object. ¹	“upon”
6	τον	art. – accusative, singular, masculine	“ton” – the definite article	“the”
7	κυριον	n. – accusative, singular, masculine	“kyou-ree-on” – supreme in authority.	“master”, “lord”
8	ιησουν	n. – accusative, singular, masculine	“ee-ay-sown” – Greek transliteration of “Yeshuah”, or “Joshua”, meaning “Jehovah saves!”	“Jesus”
9	χριστον	n. – accusative, singular, masculine	“kree-ston” – anointed one, “christened” one.	“Christ”, “Messiah”
10	και	conjunction	“ka-ee” – a primary particle having a copulative and sometimes also a cumulative force.	“and”, “also”, “then”
11	σωθηση	v. – indicative, future, passive, 2 nd person, singular	“soh-thay-say” – to save, deliver, or protect	“shall be saved”
12	συ	pronoun – nominative case, singular	“soo” – personal pronoun, 2 nd person.	“you”

13	καί	conjunction	“ka-ee” – a primary particle having a copulative and sometimes also a cumulative force.	“and”, “also”, “then”
14	ο	art. - nominative, singular, masculine	“ho” – the definite article	“the”
15	οἶκος	n. – nominative, singular, masculine	“oy-kos” – a dwelling; by extension those who live within that dwelling; by implication, a family.	“household”
16	σου	pronoun – genitive ² , 2 nd person, singular	“sow” – personal pronoun, 2 nd person	“of you”, “your”

¹ In this instance, the object is “Lord Jesus Christ”, which is in the accusative case, so the preposition describes a superimposition of direction. The command is for the jailer to put his faith towards (in the direction of) or upon Jesus.

² A noun in the genitive case either limits in scope or shows possession with regard to the object being modified. In English this is shown by preceding the noun with “of”, or changing the word to a possessive form.

Literal rendering:

“And they responded, ‘(if you) Believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ, and (then) you and your household shall be saved.’”