

All / Always

(πάντα = 'buntah')

All, always, at all times, at all seasons, all the days, every time.

Luke 21:1-4, *And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.*" It is very interesting to note that the word used and translated "all" is the Greek word πάντα ('buntah'), and in the modern Greek this means 'always'. It also appears in Matthew 7:12, "**Always** (πάντα) therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets." Hence, the literal translation of our opening text reads, "...For all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty **always** put in the livelihood that she had." Implying that the widow always put in all that she had. Notice that it wasn't the first time she had made such a great sacrifice. Jesus must have seen this woman before. While the rich poured out their offerings with great bravado, the Lord noticed a widow who was giving out of her poverty. But more than that, she was doing this every time she visited the temple. To this woman, giving everything she had to God was a lifestyle!

In Matthew 19:16 the same word translated "all" appears... "**With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.**" If we were to apply the expounded translation of πάντα to this verse, it would read, "**With men this is impossible, but with God (always) all things are possible,**" or, "**With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible at all times.**" Implying that there is never a time or place when God is unable to do the impossible. Yes, with God all things are possible always! The aforementioned rendition of the word πάντα can also be used in Matthew 6:33, "**But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and (always) all these things shall be added to you.**" It is very comforting to know that when we seek God's kingdom first, all the necessary blessings will always be added to our lives (at all times).

In Acts 24:3 πάντα appears three times and in different forms, "**We accept it always and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.**" If Felix was in fact such a noble governor, it would be fair that they should accept his good role with all thankfulness "at all times" (always). The benefits that we enjoy by being governed, especially through the administration of wise and praiseworthy leaders, should cause us to be thankful "at all times," both to God and man. This is part of the honour due to good leaders - to acknowledge the peace we enjoy under their protection, and the worthy deeds done by their prudence. Elsewhere, there are two phrases rendered "always" that are in fact "in every season" (Luke 21:36) and "at all seasons" or literally "all the days" (Ephesians 6:18). However, the same root word πάς (the root of πάντα) is present.