

Abide / Endure

(μένω = 'meno') (ὑπομένω = 'iepomeno')

*To remain, abide, dwell, tarry, not to depart, to continue to be present,
to continue to be, not to perish, to last, to endure.*

1 John 4:15, “Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in Him, and he in God.” In the Modern Greek “μένω” (‘meno’) means ‘to stay’ or ‘remain’. However, in the New Testament it is usually translated ‘abide’ or ‘dwell’. With regards this verse the modern Greek translation is probably better because it indicates a permanent state, “God stays (or remains) in Him, and he in God.” In its strengthened form ἐπιμένω (‘eipimeno’) implies a perseverance or tolerance in ‘continuing’ or ‘remaining’. That being the case, God has chosen to persevere and be tolerant in order to remain (continue to be present) in us, and us in Him!

Hebrews 12:2-3, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” The word ὑπομένω (‘iepomeno’) translated ‘endure’ has the same root as μένω (‘to remain’). It literally means ‘to stay or remain in one place and not leave it’. This is why the term ‘to endure bravely’ is often used when translating ὑπομένω; which suggests endurance under pressure.

Notice how this meaning brings our scripture to life, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him ‘remained steadfast and endured bravely’ the cross...” However, the same word can also be translated “survive,” which provides another interesting adaptation of our text, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him **remained steadfast, endured bravely and survived** the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”