

## The “Musts” of God: What He Wants from You

Study Handout by Pastor Melissa Scott, Ph.D.

The Greek word translated “must” is *dei*, spelled using English letters.

In Greek, it is δεῖ

The *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*\* says, “This word expresses the ‘character of necessity or compulsion’ in an event . . . . In most cases the word bears a weakened sense derived from everyday processes. It thus denotes that which in a given moment seems to be necessary or inevitable to a man or group of men.”

There are 102 occurrences of *dei* or *deon esti*, which would be the equivalent of “one must” or “you must.” Of the 102 occurrences, 41 are found in Luke’s writing.

Luke 2:49 “Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”

John 3:14 “Even so must the Son of man be lifted up”

Luke 9:22 “The Son of man must suffer many things”

Luke 24:44 “All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

Luke 9:22 “The Son of man must . . . be slain, and be raised up the third day”

John 9:4 “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day”

John 10:16 “Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring...and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd”

John 20:9 “He must rise again from the dead”

Luke 19:5 “Make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house”

\* *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, Volume 2*. Ed. Gerhard Kittel (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1964.)

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- John 3:7 “Ye must be born again” (“You must be born from above”)
- Acts 5:29 “We ought to **[must]** obey God rather than men”
- Acts 16:30 “What must I do to be saved?”
- Hebrews 11:6 “He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
- 1 Corinthians 15:25 “He must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet”
- John 4:24 “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth”
- John 3:30 “He must increase, but I must decrease”
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 “We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ”
- 1 Corinthians 15:53 “This corruptible must put on incorruption”
- Acts 21:22 “The multitude must needs come together”
- Romans 8:26 “We know not what we should pray for as we ought **[must]**”
- 2 Timothy 2:24 “The servant of the Lord must not strive”
- Revelation 1:1 “The Revelation of Jesus Christ . . . which must shortly come to pass”