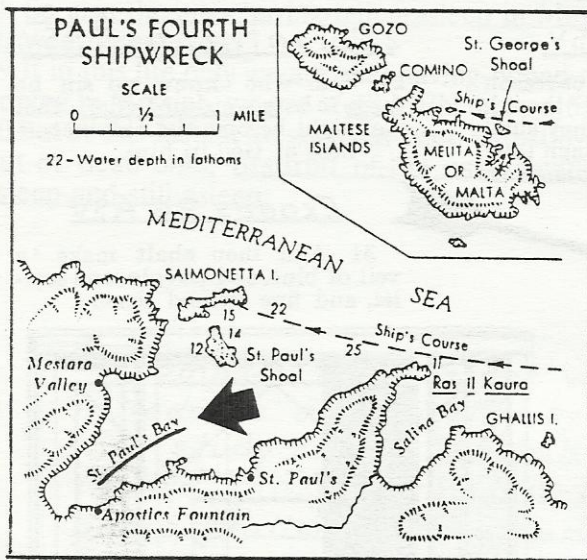


File under: κόλπος or kolpos

English: "bosom" (once "bay", nautical, Acts 27:39)

This masculine noun only occurs 6x in the NT, four of which are in a figurative sense. Consider first the nautical use.



ACTS 27 CT

39 But when it-became day, they-were not coming-to-know-thoroughly the land, but they-were-taking-note-of a certain bay having a shore into which they-were-resolving if they-may-be-being-able to-push-out the vessel.

40 And having-lifted the anchors from-around they-were allowing them into the sea, at-the-same-time having-dropped the bands of-the rudders, and having-elevated the foresail to-the blowing they-were-holding-fast into the shore.

➔ This map shows how "bosom" comes to mean "bay". The bay was a protection from the storm as well as having a "bosom" shape.

JOHN 13 CT

23 But one of-his disciples was lying-back in the bosom of-the Jesus, whom the Jesus was-cherishing.

24 Simon Peter therefore is-nodding to-this one to-inquire who it-may-be concerning whom he-is-saying.

➔ The only literal use of "bosom" is concerning John the apostle "lying-back in the bosom of-the Jesus" at the passover.



Isaiah 40 KJ

11 He shall *feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

➔ Perhaps the best understanding of the figurative meaning can be learned from the OT, and the very famous artist's representation.

As the encyclopdia says; it shows tender care and watchfulness. Note the statement by Jesus during his ministry.

MATTHEW 15 CT

24 But the-one having-answered said, I-was not dispatched unless with-reference-to the sheep, namely-the-ones having-been-and-still-being-destroyed of-the-household of-Israel.

Consider the first NT figurative use.

κόλπος KJ

LUKE 6 CT

Lu. 6:38. shall men give into your bosom.

16:22. by the angels into Abraham's bosom :

23. and Lazarus in his bosom.

Joh. 1:18. which is in the bosom of the Father,

13:23. leaning on Jesus' bosom

Acts 27:39. a certain creek with a shore,

38 YOU-be-giving, and it-will-be-given to-YOU, fine measure having-been-and-still-pressed-down and having-been-and-still-stirred and overflowing they-will-give into YOUR bosom; for with-the same measure with-which YOU-are-measuring, it-will-be-measured-in-return to-YOU.

Remember Luke 6:38 is spoken to Jews not Gentiles. Jesus indicated that those who gave generously to Jews in need would in turn receive in like proportion. Note, "they will give into YOUR bosom". This expression is often used in the O.T.

Proverbs 21 ASV

14 A 'gift in secret' pacifieth anger;
And a present in the bosom, strong wrath.

Psalms 79 ASV

12 And render unto our neighbors 'sevenfold' into their bosom Their 'reproach, wherewith they have reproached thee, O Lord.

The next use of "bosom" to consider is John 1:18.

JOHN 1 CT

17 Because the law was-given through Moses; the favor and the truth came-to-be through Jesus Messiah.
18 And-not-one has-seen-and-still-sees God at-any-time; the only-begotten son, the one being with-reference-to the bosom of the Father, that one explicated him.

LUKE 16 CT

22 But it-came-to-pass the destitute-one to-die-off, and he-to-be-brought-off by the angels into the bosom of the Abraham. But the rich-one also died-off, and he-was-buried.
23 And having-elevated his eyes in the Hades, existing in torments, he-is-seeing the Abraham from a-distance, and Lazarus in his bosoms.

Since God is not seen, for "the God (is) spirit" (John 4:24) and Jesus "is (the) image of the God, namely-the invisible" (Col.1:15); "bosom" must be figurative of the tender care and watchfulness of the Father for the son. John 1:18 also shows "bosom" to be an expression of the intimacy between Father and son.

↳ We come now to the most difficult figurative uses. Note "bosom of the Abraham" in vs. 22 and "bosoms" (plu.) vs. 23. It is an interesting fact that the altar described in Ezk. 43 (vs. 13-17) has "bosom" (vs. 13, 14, 17) not "bottom" as KJ. Compare also Rev. 6:9. Note the following on Luke 16 in Scofield Ref Bible. "The representative man of the lost who are now in hades is the rich man of Luke 16:19-31." This is not possible as Jesus had not yet died. The Lord permitting, I will endeavor to cover this parable in a later Apologetic. I believe Abraham is presently under the altar.

