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mis·cre·ant  (mĭs krē-ənt)

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n.

1. One who behaves badly, often by breaking rules of conduct or the law.
2. *Archaic* One who does not believe in a certain religion; an infidel or heretic.

[Middle English *miscreaunt*, heretic, from Old French *mescreant*, present participle of *mescroire*, to disbelieve : *mes-*, wrongly, not; see [MIS](#)¹ + *croire*, to believe (from Latin *crēdere*; see **kerd-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

mis cre·ant *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

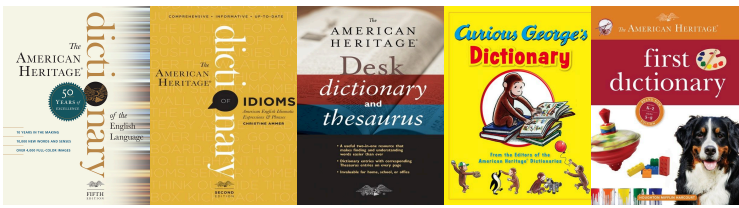
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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