

Beginning Greek I
Session 7: Putting It All Together

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We have looked at the Greek verb over the past few weeks. We started with an overview and then went back and looked at the different parts of a Greek verb. Now we are going to return to a more wholistic approach.

First a quick review.

1. What part of the Greek verb gives the basic meaning?

2. What did the Greeks change in a verb to change the mood?

3. What did the Greeks do to indicate tense? (2 answers)

4. What is indicated in Greek verb endings? (3 answers)

5. What is another way besides the ending did the Greeks indicate passive voice?

6. How did the Greeks indicate that something happened in past time?

We also talked about the process of language learning.

- Understand the concept.
- Learn the patterns.
- Familiarize yourself with the patterns.

Conceptually, Greek verbs are very similar to English verbs. They have stems that give meaning, and they are modified in some way to indicate tense, voice, mood, person, and number.

The modifications are where the real differences lie. The Greeks modified the stems differently from how we do, but they followed a consistent system and patterns, just as we do. If we know the patterns, we can identify most of the verbs and know how to understand or translate the verb.

Familiarization is the final step. It comes from using the language so much that you understand before analysis or translation. This is how we communicate in English. We hear and understand instantaneously – unless someone is using words we do not know or communicates with convoluted sentences.

Few people get to that level with biblical Greek, partly because there is so little opportunity to converse in Greek. We can still get there partially by reading the Greek New Testament consistently. Most people at first cannot help but convert Greek to English and then understand. The goal is to understand Greek in Greek and then convert it to English.

You all have progressed in understanding and familiarization with just about 12 hours of instruction. Let's look at 1 John 1 and see. Without checking your notes or any charts, circle all the verbs you see.

^{1.1} Ὃ ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, ὃ ἀκηκόαμεν, ὃ ἐωράκαμεν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν, ὃ ἐθεασάμεθα καὶ αἱ χεῖρες ἡμῶν ἐψηλάφησαν, περὶ τοῦ λόγου τῆς ζωῆς— ² καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἐφανερώθη, καὶ ἐωράκαμεν καὶ μαρτυροῦμεν καὶ ἀπαγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν τὴν ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον ἣτις ἦν πρὸς τὸν πατέρα καὶ ἐφανερώθη ἡμῖν— ³ ὃ ἐωράκαμεν καὶ ἀκηκόαμεν ἀπαγγέλλομεν καὶ ὑμῖν, ἵνα καὶ ὑμεῖς κοινωνίαν ἔχητε μεθ' ἡμῶν· καὶ ἡ κοινωνία δὲ ἡ ἡμετέρα μετὰ τοῦ πατρὸς καὶ μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· ⁴ καὶ ταῦτα γράφομεν ἡμεῖς ἵνα ἡ χαρὰ ἡμῶν ᾗ πεπληρωμένη.

⁵ Καὶ ἔστιν αὕτη ἡ ἀγγελία ἣν ἀκηκόαμεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀναγγέλλομεν ὑμῖν, ὅτι ὁ θεὸς φῶς ἐστὶν καὶ σκοτία ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδεμία. ⁶ ἐὰν εἴπωμεν ὅτι κοινωνίαν ἔχομεν μετ' αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐν τῷ σκότει περιπατῶμεν, ψευδόμεθα καὶ οὐ ποιοῦμεν τὴν ἀλήθειαν· ⁷ ἐὰν δὲ ἐν τῷ φωτὶ περιπατῶμεν ὡς αὐτός ἐστιν ἐν τῷ φωτὶ, κοινωνίαν ἔχομεν μετ' ἀλλήλων καὶ τὸ αἷμα Ἰησοῦ τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ καθαρίζει ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας. ⁸ ἐὰν εἴπωμεν ὅτι ἁμαρτίαν οὐκ ἔχομεν, ἑαυτοὺς πλανῶμεν καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν ἡμῖν. ⁹ ἐὰν ὁμολογῶμεν τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν, πιστός ἐστιν καὶ δίκαιος ἵνα ἀφῆ ἡμῖν τὰς ἁμαρτίας καὶ καθάριση ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ πάσης ἀδικίας. ¹⁰ ἐὰν εἴπωμεν ὅτι οὐχ ἡμαρτήκαμεν, ψεύστην ποιοῦμεν αὐτὸν καὶ ὁ λόγος αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν ἡμῖν.

As you were circling them, did you have some idea of who was doing the action, the tense, or the mood? If so, you are demonstrating familiarity.

Let's do the same thing with the first half of chapter two. Circle all the verbs.

^{2.1} Τεκνία μου, ταῦτα γράφω ὑμῖν ἵνα μὴ ἀμάρτητε. καὶ ἐάν τις ἀμάρτη, παράκλητον ἔχομεν πρὸς τὸν πατέρα Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν δίκαιον, ² καὶ αὐτὸς ἰλασμός ἐστιν περὶ τῶν ἀμαρτιῶν ἡμῶν, οὐ περὶ τῶν ἡμετέρων δὲ μόνον ἀλλὰ καὶ περὶ ὅλου τοῦ κόσμου.

³ Καὶ ἐν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν ὅτι ἐγνώκαμεν αὐτόν, ἐάν τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ τηρῶμεν. ⁴ ὁ λέγων ὅτι Ἔγνωκα αὐτόν καὶ τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ μὴ τηρῶν ψεύστης ἐστίν, καὶ ἐν τούτῳ ἡ ἀλήθεια οὐκ ἔστιν. ⁵ ὃς δ' ἂν τηρῇ αὐτοῦ τὸν λόγον, ἀληθῶς ἐν τούτῳ ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ θεοῦ τετελείωται. ἐν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐσμεν. ⁶ ὁ λέγων ἐν αὐτῷ μένειν ὀφείλει καθὼς ἐκεῖνος περιεπάτησεν καὶ αὐτὸς περιπατεῖν.

⁷ Ἀγαπητοί, οὐκ ἐντολὴν καινὴν γράφω ὑμῖν, ἀλλ' ἐντολὴν παλαιὰν ἣν εἶχετε ἀπ' ἀρχῆς· ἡ ἐντολὴ ἡ παλαιὰ ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος ὃν ἠκούσατε. ⁸ πάλιν ἐντολὴν καινὴν γράφω ὑμῖν, ὃ ἐστὶν ἀληθὲς ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ ἐν ὑμῖν, ὅτι ἡ σκοτία παράγεται καὶ τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινὸν ἤδη φαίνει. ⁹ ὁ λέγων ἐν τῷ φωτὶ εἶναι καὶ τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ μισῶν ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ ἐστὶν ἕως ἄρτι. ¹⁰ ὁ ἀγαπῶν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ φωτὶ μένει, καὶ σκάνδαλον ἐν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν. ¹¹ ὁ δὲ μισῶν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ ἐστὶν καὶ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ περιπατεῖ, καὶ οὐκ οἶδεν ποῦ ὑπάγει, ὅτι ἡ σκοτία ἐτύφλωσεν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ.

We will now go through each of these and see what we can recognize about them.

We have not covered everything there is to know about the Greek verbs. Here are some things that can be looked at later.

- Infinitives – “to run” “to be” Greek forms this by adding an ending like $-\epsilon\iota\nu$ to a stem. Not all tenses have infinitives.
- Participles – These are verbal adjectives. We will cover them in the nouns-adjectives course.
- $-\mu\iota$ verbs – These verbs end in $-\mu\iota$ rather than an w in the first person singular. There are some differences in endings, but they still follow the basic pattern. We have looked at one of these verbs already. Do you know which one?

Endings

PRIMARY

Active

1st person, singular	λυ – ω	I loosen.
2nd person, singular	λυ – εις	You loosen.
3rd person, singular	λυ – ει	He/she/it loosens.
1st person, plural	λυ – ο – μεν	We loosen.
2nd person, plural	λυ – ε – τε	You (plural) loosen.
3rd person, plural	λυ – ουσι	They loosen. ⁸

8

Middle/passive

1st person, singular	λυ – ο – μαί	I am loosened. OR I loosen myself.
2nd person, singular	λυ – η (σαι)	You are loosened. OR You loosen yourself.
3rd person, singular	λυ – ε – ται	He/she/it is loosened. OR He/she/it loosens he/she/itself.
1st person, plural	λυ – ο – μεθα	We are loosened. OR We loosen ourselves.
2nd person, plural	λυ – ε – σθε	You (pl) are loosened. OR You (pl) loosen yourselves.
3rd person, plural	λυ – ο – νται	They are loosened. OR They loosen themselves.

SECONDARY

Active

1st person, singular	ἔλυ-ο-ν	I was loosening.
2nd person, singular	ἔλυ – ε-ς	You were loosening.
3rd person, singular	ἔλυ – ε	He/she/it was loosening.
1st person, plural	ἔλύ – ο – μεν	We were loosening.
2nd person, plural	ἔλύ – ε – τε	You (plural) were loosening.
3rd person, plural	ἔλυ – ο-ν	They were loosening.

Middle/passive

1st person, singular	ἐλυ – ο – μην	I am loosened. OR I loosen myself.
2nd person, singular	ἐλυ – ου (σο)	You are loosened. OR You loosen yourself.
3rd person, singular	ἐλύ – ε – το	He/she/it is loosened. OR He/she/it loosens he/she/itself.
1st person, plural	ἐλύ – ο – μεθα	We are loosened. OR We loosen ourselves.
2nd person, plural	ἐλύ – ε – σθε	You (pl) are loosened. OR You (pl) loosen yourselves.
3rd person, plural	ἐλύ – ο – ντο	They are loosened. OR They loosen themselves.