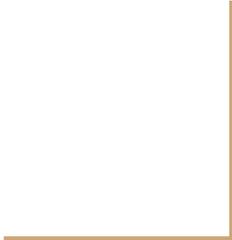




Greek for Ministry

Week 4



| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| alpha <i>a</i> α A | zeta <i>z</i> ζ Z | iota <i>i</i> ι I | omicron <i>o</i> ο O | phi <i>ph</i> φ Φ |
| beta <i>b</i> β B | eta <i>ē</i> η H | kappa <i>k</i> κ K | pi <i>p</i> π Π | chi <i>ch</i> χ X |
| gamma <i>g</i> γ Γ | theta <i>th</i> θ Θ | lambda <i>l</i> λ Λ | rho <i>r</i> ρ P | psi <i>ps</i> ψ Ψ |
| delta <i>d</i> δ Δ | | mu <i>m</i> μ M | sigma <i>s</i> σ ς Σ | omega <i>ō</i> ω Ω |
| epsilon <i>e</i> ε E | | nu <i>n</i> ν N | tau <i>t</i> τ T | |
| | | xi <i>x</i> ξ Ξ | upsilon <i>u/y</i> υ Υ | |

Greek Grammar: Verbs

Parsing - breaking the word or sentence into syntax.

There is no such thing as case or gender in verbs. These belong to nouns.

Person and number: Like English, Greek verbs have person (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) and number (singular and plural). Greek verbs indicate their person and number by adding different suffixes to the end of the word. These endings are called personal endings.

Agreement: A Greek verb must agree with its subject in person and number. This means that if the subject is singular, the verb must be singular. If the subject is first, second, or third person, then so must the verb. For example, if the subject is "you," the verb would use a second person singular personal ending such as *εις*. *Λέγεις* means "You say." If the subject is "we," the verb could end in *ομεν*. *Λεγομεν* means "We say."

Greek Grammar Verbs

| Person & Number | Greek | Translation |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| First person singular | ἀκούώ | I hear |
| Second person singular | ἀκούεις | You hear |
| Third person singular | ἀκούει | he/she/it hears |
| First person plural | ἀκούομεν | We hear |
| Second person plural | ἀκούετε | You hear |
| Third person plural | ἀκούουσι | They hear |

Greek Grammar: Verbs

Aspect: Probably the most difficult concept to grasp in Greek verbs, and yet it is the most important and most misunderstood. The basic genius of the Greek verb is not its ability to indicate *when* the action of the verb occurs (time), but what *type of action* it describes.

For example, what is the difference between saying “I studied last night” and “I was studying last night?”

Galatians 2:12 King James Version (KJV)

For before that certain came from James, he *did eat* with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

Greek Grammar: Verbs

Mark 8:34 King James Version (KJV)

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him *deny* himself, and *take up* his cross, and *follow* me.

Continuous aspect: verb is thought of as an ongoing process.

Undefined aspect: the action of the verb is a simple event with no comment on whether it is or not is a process.

Perfect aspect: action was brought to completion and has effects carrying into the present.

Greek Grammar: Verbs

Tense: In Greek, a tense carries two connotations: aspect and time. For example, the aorist tense describes an undefined action (aspect) that normally occurs in the past (time).

Lexical form: The lexical form of a verb is the first person singular, present indicative. This is what you will see in many tools called “lexicons” and commentations. They are the simplest way to write out the word but do not show the full inflection that was used in the original writings.

Voice: Greek verbs have active and passive voice, just like English. However, they also have deponent and middle voice.

Greek Grammar: Verbs

| Person | Active | Translation | Passive | Translation |
|--------|--------|------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 1 sg | λύω | I loose | λύομαι | I am loosed |
| 2 sg | λύεις | You loose | λύή | You are loosed |
| 3 sg | λύει | He/she/it looses | λύεται | He/she/it are loosed |
| 1 pl | λύομεν | We loose | λύόμθα | We are loosed |
| 2 pl | λύετε | You loose | λύεσθε | You are loosed |
| 3pl | λύουσι | They loose | λύονται | They are loosed |

Greek Grammar: Verbs

A Greek sentence does not require an expressed subject. A verb by itself can be a complete sentence. Both *ἐγὼ λέγο* and *λέγο* mean "I say."

Indicatives: state the facts

Present indicative: generally describes an actions occurring in the present.

Future Indicative: describes an action that will occur in the future. To form the future you add a helping verb (will/shall) to the present tense stem of the verb.

Two past tenses (as opposed to simple ones in english, “-ed, or was”).

Imperfect - describes a continuous action that normally occurs in the past.

Aorist - describes an undefined action that normally occurs in the past.

Perfect Indicative - describes an action that was brought to completion and whose effects are felt in the present - the present, of course, from the time frame of the writer.

Exercise for parsing verbs

Matthew 27:30

And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.

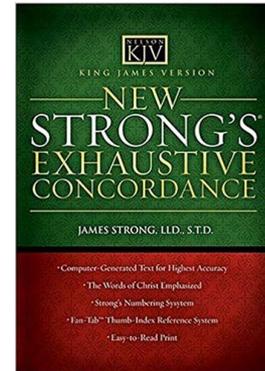
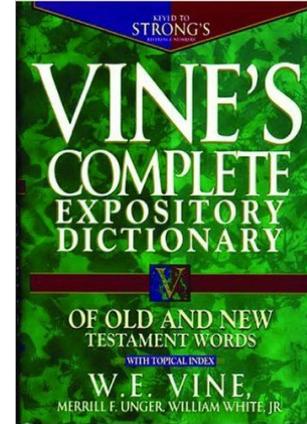
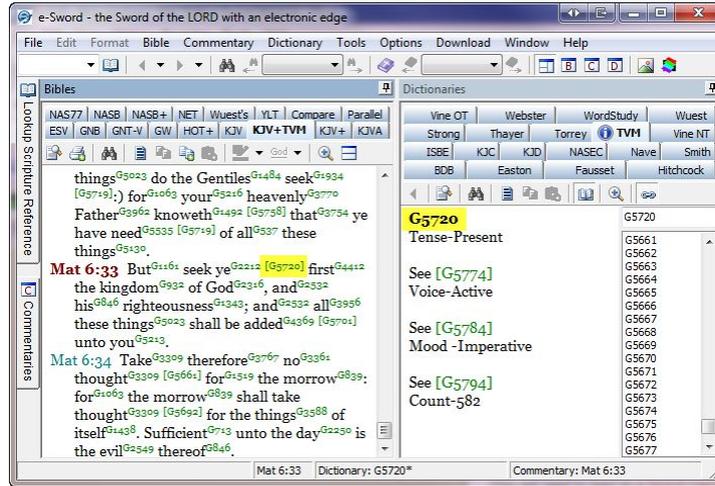
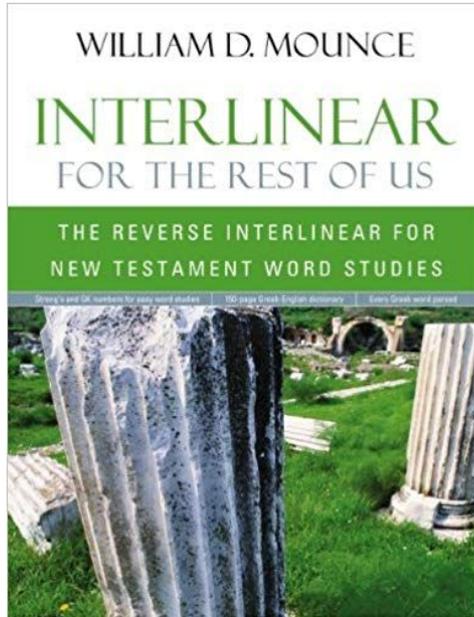
Luke 3:9

And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Acts 9:34

And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he **arose immediately**.

How to use the paper and electronic tools.



How to read a commentary.

The role of a commentary.

- The best exegesis is begun with you and your Bible.
 - Pray, Phrase, Pray, Think, Pray, Commentary, Pray, Interpret, Pray, Apply, Pray, Repeat.
- The role of commentaries is first to tell if you are wrong. If you look at a handful of major commentaries and none agree, the problem may lay in your interpretation.
 - However, don't trust every commentary as a final authority. You have a pastor, congregation, and denomination with resources.
- Commentaries are best at giving you other information not provided in the text, for example, outside history and unaddressed culture.

Phrasing to Hermeneutics

Hermeneutics is the art of bringing what the author “meant” to his original audience and a faithful application of what is “means” to us today.

Bible Study in three steps

- 1. Observation - phrasing**
- 2. Interpretation - meant**
- 3. Application - means**

Bible Study Tools - Categories

- Exegetical - Dictionaries & Critical commentaries (phrasing)
- Hermeneutics - Most commentaries will fall into this category (Interpretation)
- Homiletics - Again, most commentaries will also help here, but also books with illustrations, and listening to sermons will help (application).