

Introduction to Biblical Greek

Miscellanea 1

Voeltz Ch. 13

Devotion – Galatians 4:21-22

Λέγετέ μοι, οἱ ὑπὸ νόμον θέλοντες
εἶναι, τὸν νόμον οὐκ ἀκούετε;
γέγραπται γὰρ ὅτι Ἀβραὰμ δύο
υἱοὺς ἔσχεν, ἓνα ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης
καὶ ἓνα ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας.

Demonstrative Pronouns

- οὗτος = this/these; ἐκεῖνος = that/those
- See paradigms on p.81f; note that these are similar to adjectives
- When modifying a noun, always in predicate position
- οὗτος ὁ δοῦλος ἀγαθός ἐστιν = this slave is good
- Demonstrative alone (did you see what I did there?) conveys a noun of the appropriate gender
- οὗτος ἡγόρασε πλοῖον = This man bought a boat

Prepositions with Two Cases

- The meaning of the proposition is set by the case of the word it governs
- The 8 case system shows itself many times here, as the meaning isn't limited to the 5 cases (e.g. locative or temporal)
- Example:
 - περὶ τοῦ ἱεροῦ = concerning the temple
 - περὶ τὸ ἱερόν = around the temple

Making Adverbs

- Greek can make adverbs from adjectives. English does the same.
- Swift => swiftly
- Greek takes the genitive masculine plural and replaces ν with ς
- τυφλῶν (τυφλόϛ) => τυφλῶϛ

Neuter Plural Subjects

- As Classical Greek does, Koine often uses a singular verb with a neuter plural subject.
- τὰ πλοῖα ἐν τῇ κώμῃ ἐστίν = the boats are in the village
- There are times the plural verb is used though.

Article with Abstractions or Concepts

- The article is often used with abstractions or concepts. English usually omits the article.
- ἡ ἀγάπη σώζει ἡμᾶς = love is saving us

But Not Always Article with Prepositional Phrases

- Often Koine omits the definite article with a definite noun in a prepositional phrase.
- ἐν ἀρχῇ οἱ πορνηροὶ μαθηταὶ ἔπραξαν καλὰ = in the beginning the evil disciples did noble things

μεν and δε

- When offsetting or comparing two balancing things, μεν and δε can be used.
- Can be rendered “X” ..., but “Y”
- If they clauses are longer, the following construction may be used:
On the one hand “Long X”, and on the other (hand) “Long Y”

Homework

- Vocabulary
- Section M: Practice Sentences, both Greek to English & English to Greek
- Section N: Bible Passages