LEARN NEW TESTAMENT
GREEK
3rd Edition, with Accents

John H. Dobson
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preface</th>
<th>ix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. αβγ – Learning the Letters  1
2. ἐν ἀρχῇ – In the beginning  4
3. ἐστὶν – is ἦν – was  8

### Introduction to Lessons 4–6  12

4. λέγω – I am saying, I say  13
5. λέγομεν – we are saying, we say  17
6. λόγος – a word ὁ λόγος – the word  22

7. αὐτός – he ὁτός – this  27
8. λέγων – saying ὁ λέγων – the person saying  34
9. καρδία – a heart ἡ καρδία – the heart  41
10. ἡμείς – we ὑμεῖς – you ὁς – who  49
11. ὃς ἂν λέγῃ – whoever says ἐὰν λέγῃ – if he says ἵνα λέγῃ – so that he may say λέγομεν – let us say  56
12. ἔργον – a work ὁ ἔργον – the work ὁ, ἡ, τὸ – the  63
13. ποιεῖ (ποιῶ) – I do, I make  71
14. ἔλεγεν – he was saying, he used to say  78
15. ἔποιεῖ – he was doing, he used to do  85
16. Α to Ω – Alpha to Omega  91
17. πρὸς, εἰς, ἐν, ἕκ, ἀπὸ ἔρχεται – he comes, he goes  97
18. λέγειν – to say, to be saying  101
19. λέγων, λέγουσα, λέγων – saying  104

### Introduction to Lessons 20–25  111

20. ποιήσας – having done  113
21. ἐποίησα – I did, I made ἐγραψα – I wrote, I did write  120

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John H. Dobson, Learn New Testament Greek, 3rd edition
22. βαλλων – having thrown  ἐλθών – having gone
23. ἐβαλον – I threw  ἦμα – I picked up
24. ἔσθω – I am eating  ἐφαγον – I ate  λέγειν – to be saying  εἴπειν – to say
25. καταβαίνοντος αὐτοῦ – while he was coming down  καταβάντος αὐτοῦ – when he had come down
26. ἀκούσω – I will hear  βαλω – I will throw
28. άνθρωπος ἄγαθος – a good man  οἱ ἁγιοί – the saints
29. γίνομαι – I become, I happen  γίνεσθαι – having become  γεν
30. ποιήσω – to do •  ἐκβαλλείν – to throw out •
31. βαπτίζομαι – I am being baptized  εὐβαπτίζομαι – I was being baptized
32. ἐβαπτίσθην – I was baptized  βαπτίσθην – having been baptized
33. πεπίστευκα – I have trusted, I trust  ἔγραφα – it has been written, it is written  ἐγράφη – I know  ἔγραψα – I have written
34. τίθημι – I am putting  δίδωμι – I am giving  τίθην – having put  δοῦσ– having given
35. καλός – good  καλῶς – well  εἰς, δό, τρές – one, two, three
36. ίναι – so that, that  ίναι ποιήσῃ – so that he may do •  ίναι δῶμεν – so that we may give •
37. ὁ Κύριος – the Lord  τὸν λόγον, τῇν καρδίαν: the accusative case
38. ὡστε – with the result that
39. τοῦ λόγου, τῇς καρδίας: the genitive case
40. τοῦτο ποίησον – do this!
41. μὴ κλέψης – do not steal •  μὴ κλαίε – do not weep, stop crying
42. τῷ λόγῳ, τῇ καρδία: the dative case

Introduction to Lessons 35–52
35. καλός – good  καλῶς – well  εἰς, δό, τρές – one, two, three
36. ίναι – so that, that  ίναι ποιήσῃ – so that he may do •  ίναι δῶμεν – so that we may give •
37. ὁ Κύριος – the Lord  τὸν λόγον, τῇν καρδίαν: the accusative case
38. ὡστε – with the result that
39. τοῦ λόγου, τῇς καρδίας: the genitive case
40. τοῦτο ποίησον – do this!
41. μὴ κλέψης – do not steal •  μὴ κλαίε – do not weep, stop crying
42. τῷ λόγῳ, τῇ καρδία: the dative case
Symbols

— continuing action

→ completed action

| time line

— continued or repeated action in past time

→→ action in past time, with a result that continues in present time; e.g. I have written.

→→| past action, that had a result in past time; e.g. I had written.

Abbreviations

GNB Good News Bible
LXX Septuagint (Greek Translation of Hebrew Scriptures)
NEB New English Bible
NIV New International Version
NJB New Jerusalem Bible
NRSV New Revised Standard Version
NLT New Living Translation
REB Revised English Bible
JBP J B Phillips
PREFACE

The enormous world-wide sales of the second edition of *Learn New Testament Greek* have shown that it is a book that students and tutors are delighted to use. Translations into Portuguese, Korean, Czech, French and Indonesian, and planned translations into Chinese and Urdu illustrate its universal appeal. So why is a third edition needed?

Since I worked on the second edition, I have had 12 years more experience of teaching, and my book *Learn Biblical Hebrew* has been published. In this third edition I have included teaching material that I find brings insight and delight to those who learn. My growing knowledge of Hebrew has enabled me to appreciate the literary skill of the NT writers in a new way. I have also discovered that often a word or passage in the New Testament that is perplexing becomes clear when it is translated back into Hebrew. In this third edition I have tried to share some of the new things I am learning.

I have also found that in the UK and the USA people are pleased to have help in comparing and assessing Bible translations. So I have included some Bible translation assessment exercises. These exercises will at the same time assist tutors using the book for distance learning. They will be able to test progress not only by setting NT texts for translation but also by asking for comments on the variety of translations of a particular passage offered in the exercises.

The greatest delight of my own students comes from reading and understanding biblical passages. I have increased the amount of reading material – especially the amount from the Gospel of St John.

The tape which was available with the first and second editions covered only lessons 2–14. Now with an audio CD-ROM we can include material from lessons 1–21.

Many tutors have asked that the text should be clearer to read and be accented. This edition has an accented text and is easier to read. In the appendix there is a short section with guidelines and suggestions for those who teach. I am always glad to answer questions about teaching methods and to listen to suggestions for improving the book. Please let me know if you find any errors.
To those of you who want to understand better the Hebraic background to the New Testament I commend the companion volume *Learn Biblical Hebrew* – see page 385 for more information.

Enjoy your learning and teaching,

*John H Dobson*

**Publisher’s note:** Previous printings of *Learn New Testament Greek* included a CD-ROM containing audio files to enhance the learning experience. This paperback edition no longer includes a CD-ROM. The audio files are now available online at http://bakeracademic.com/LearnGreek/esources. References to the CD remain in the book. Readers are advised to substitute “website” whenever they see “audio CD-ROM” in the book.
INTRODUCTION

The New Testament is a remarkable collection of writings. No book has had a more profound influence on the world’s history.

If you wish to study the New Testament, it helps greatly if you are able to read it in the original language. With this course it is possible to Learn New Testament Greek quickly, even if you have never attempted to learn a language before. In the first hour you will begin to read and reflect on some New Testament text. After seventeen short lessons you will begin to read longer passages. By the end of the course you will have been helped to read about fifty passages from the New Testament. You will also have a grasp of the structure of the Greek language and its grammar, an ability to use commentaries that refer to the Greek text, and a growing skill as a translator. Because a lot of Greek will be fixed in your long-term memory you will be able to read much of the New Testament without constant reference to a dictionary.

The principles and methods used in Learn New Testament Greek ensure that you will make rapid progress with your studies. New information is introduced in small bits, which makes it easy to take in. It is frequently repeated, which makes it easy to remember. You learn words and forms before grammatical descriptions, which is the natural sequence – a child learns ‘mouse’ and ‘mice’ before it learns that ‘mouse’ is a noun and that ‘mice’ is plural. But because you can work through the course quickly, you can also learn the main grammatical forms and terms quickly, and you will learn how to parse Greek words.

In Learn New Testament Greek you will not be asked to memorize long lists of words or grammatical forms. You will rather learn the principles and pointers which enable you to recognize the meaning and function of words which are new to you. This will equip you to tackle even unfamiliar passages of the New Testament with confidence.

Learning New Testament Greek

You can use these lessons for study on your own or with a teacher. Most of the Greek sentences and passages are printed with an English translation on the right-hand side of the page. This means that you can start without
any fear of making serious mistakes. We now know that looking at short sentences and phrases in a new language with a translation beside them is an excellent way to start learning a language. You are not cheating when you look at the translation, you are helping yourself learn. And, when you read the Greek with the translation covered, you can uncover it stage by stage to check whether you have understood it.

If you have a CD-player you will find the Learn New Testament Greek audio CD a useful aid. You can hear Greek sentences and passages from the first 21 lessons read aloud. Follow the text as you listen: your ears and eyes will work together to fix ideas in your mind.

Use the audio CD to get a general idea of the lessons you are going to study. Use it to review lessons you have done.

**Instructions and suggestions**

1. When you begin a new lesson, first read through it quickly, looking at the English and the Greek. Then work through it carefully, reading and translating the passages given.

2. The ‘Translate’ section has a line down the middle. Cover the right-hand column, using a plain piece of card or paper.

3. When you have read a line or a group of lines in Greek, move your piece of card a little way down the page and check that you have understood what the Greek means. If you made a mistake, mark that line and learn from it.

   If you do not know and cannot guess the meaning of a word, do not spend a long time looking at it. Use the check-column to find out what it means. Underline it or highlight it.

4. If you find that something in a lesson is not quite clear:
   (a) See if the English translation can help you to understand it
   (b) Continue to the end of the lesson
   (c) Do the next two or three lessons, because what you start to learn in any lesson is confirmed in the lessons that follow
   (d) Review earlier lessons in case there is something you have missed
   (e) Do not feel that you need to learn things the first time you see them.

   When you learned your own language you did not learn the word for ‘Mummy’ the first time you heard it. In Greek when you first see
5. Work at your own speed, but go as fast as you can. At the end of each short section, pause for a moment of relaxation: take a few deep breaths, stretch your body, stand up, then start the next section refreshed. If you do two lessons a day, six days a week, you will complete the course in one month. If you do only one lesson a week, you will still finish in a year. Before you start each new session of study, read through the list of contents up to that point. It is a way to review rapidly the major forms you have learned.

6. From lesson 17 onwards you will need a copy of the Greek New Testament (see lesson 52.3 for more details).

7. If you are learning Greek because you wish to read the New Testament, you need not worry about how you pronounce it. The Greek language has changed as time has passed, and there is no single way that can be called the ‘right’ way to pronounce Greek words. Lessons 1 and 2 give guidelines, but they are not rules. Listen carefully to the audio CD. If your teacher has a different way of pronouncing Greek, listen carefully to your teacher.

8. Words are best learned by being seen in meaningful contexts. Words are flexible symbols. Their meanings vary according to the context in which they are used. So read and re-read the text of the lesson, but above all re-read the New Testament verses and passages.

9. Grammatical terms: when you go through the course for the first time, do not spend time and effort trying to learn them. To do so might hinder your efforts to learn Greek. Leave them for more careful study when you have read more of the New Testament. They will make more sense when you review them later on.

10. In these lessons everything that needs to be learned is written on the pages. So as soon as you have understood a lesson, you can use it to help others to learn; since all you have to do is to lead them through the pages and to help them to smile. Smiles stimulate study!

11. Enjoy your studies and take pleasure in your progress.
Lesson 1

αβγ – Learning the Letters

1.1 The Greek alphabet

The first step in learning New Testament Greek is to recognize the letters of the Greek alphabet. Several are similar to English letters, although this can sometimes be misleading (ρ looks like ‘p’ but sounds like ‘r’).

In the first column below, you will find the Greek letters with their closest English equivalents. The second column has groups of Greek letters and tells you how they are pronounced. When you have studied these carefully, try to read the groups of letters in the third column. Cover the fourth column while you read, then use it to check that you have recognized the letters correctly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greek letters</th>
<th>Read the groups of letters</th>
<th>Greek groups of letters</th>
<th>English equivalents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>α – a</td>
<td>αβ – ab</td>
<td>βα αββα</td>
<td>ba abba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>β – b</td>
<td>gab</td>
<td>βαγ</td>
<td>bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>γ – g</td>
<td>gab</td>
<td>βαδ γαδ δαδ</td>
<td>dab gad dad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>δ – d</td>
<td>bad</td>
<td>δεγ δεδ αδεδ</td>
<td>beg ded abed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ε – e</td>
<td>bed</td>
<td>δζζ δζδ δζδ</td>
<td>bedz bed bedz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ζ – dz or ds, as in ‘cords’</td>
<td>bez – bedz</td>
<td>bez bez gaz</td>
<td>dadz dadz bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>η – ē (‘ai’, as in ‘air’, or ‘ay’, as in ‘say’)</td>
<td>γη – gē</td>
<td>βη δη ηδ ηζ</td>
<td>βē dē ēd ēdz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>θ – th</td>
<td>δθ δθθ δθθ</td>
<td>ββθ γαθ βεθ</td>
<td>bath gath beth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>υ – i</td>
<td>υδ υδδ υδδ</td>
<td>βυγ βυζ δυδ</td>
<td>big bids did</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>κ – k</td>
<td>κιθ – kith</td>
<td>κιδ κιζ κικ</td>
<td>kid kidz kēk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>λ – l</td>
<td>λιδ – lid</td>
<td>λαδ λεγ βελλ</td>
<td>lad leg bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>μ – m</td>
<td>με – μηδ</td>
<td>μαδ μηκ καμελ</td>
<td>math mēk camel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ν – n</td>
<td>μαν – man</td>
<td>梅姆</td>
<td>men ném thin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ξ – x</td>
<td>αξ – ax</td>
<td>αξ</td>
<td>ex mix nix nik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ο – o</td>
<td>οξ – ox</td>
<td>νοδ ναγ μοθ</td>
<td>nod nag moth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>π – p</td>
<td>ποπ – pop</td>
<td>ποζ</td>
<td>pip pox podz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ρ – r</td>
<td>ραν – ran</td>
<td>ριη</td>
<td>rip rig pē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>σ, s – s</td>
<td>σιπ – sip</td>
<td>σατ σκιλλ</td>
<td>sap skill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>τ – t</td>
<td>σετ – set</td>
<td>σατ σατς</td>
<td>sat sits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>υ – ‘u’ as in French ‘lune’, or ‘oo’ as in ‘book’; ‘w’ when it starts a word</td>
<td>βυκ – book</td>
<td>λυκ κυκ</td>
<td>look kook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ϕ – ph, f</td>
<td>φυτ – foot</td>
<td>φιτ φιτ</td>
<td>fit fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>χ – kh</td>
<td>χακι – khaki</td>
<td>χριστος</td>
<td>khrístos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ψ – ps</td>
<td>λυψ – lips</td>
<td>τυψ ταψ</td>
<td>tips taps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ω – ō</td>
<td>φων – phōn</td>
<td>φωτω σωπ σωπ</td>
<td>phōtō sōp sop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘o’, as in ‘phone’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘ – h</td>
<td>ἀτ – hat</td>
<td>ἰτ ἰμ</td>
<td>hit ham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Written over an initial vowel)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘</td>
<td>ἀτ – at</td>
<td>ἰμ ἰτ ὁν ἠτ</td>
<td>am it on ēt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Written over initial vowel when there is no ‘h’ sound)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Learn New Testament Greek
John H. Dobson, Learn New Testament Greek, 3rd edition
1.2 Greek you already know

As you begin to read Greek, you will find that you can already understand some words, because there are English words like them. Notice, for example:

- ἀπόστολος – apostle
- προφήτης – prophet
- θρόνος – throne
- Χριστός – Christ

Other words you will quickly recognize because English words are derived from them:

- θεός – God
theology
- λόγος – word
theology, logic
- ἀνθρωπός – man
anthropology
- ἀρχή – beginning
archaeology
- γράφω – I write
graph, paragraph
- εν – in
entry
- φῶς – light
phosphorus.

You may also know:

- Κύριε ἔλεησον – Lord have mercy
When you learn Κύριος – Lord, master, owner; you will be aware that in speaking to someone, you say Κύριε.

- Ιησοῦς – Jesus; so when you learn Ἰησοῦς – Jesus, this will help you to be aware that someone speaking to Ἰησοῦς will say Ἰησοῦ.

- If you know the tune of Kumbaya (‘Come by here’) you may like to use ἐρχοῦ ‘Come!’ and ὁδε ‘here’ to sing:

  ἐρχοῦ ὁδῇ Κύριε (3 times)
  ὁ Ἰησοῦ Κύριε.

1.3 Writing the letters

The arrows show you the easiest place to begin when writing a Greek letter.

Notes:
1. Do not put a dot over ι.
2. Be careful to make n pointed: ν, and u round: υ.
Lesson 2

ἐν ἀρχῇ – In the beginning

2.1 The Greek alphabet – small letters

Look again at the alphabet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>α – a</td>
<td>η – ē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>β – b</td>
<td>θ – th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>γ – g</td>
<td>ι – i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>δ – d</td>
<td>κ – k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ε – e</td>
<td>λ – l</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ζ – dz</td>
<td>μ – m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ν – n</td>
<td>ρ – r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>θ – t</td>
<td>φ – ph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ι – i</td>
<td>ο – o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>κ – k</td>
<td>π – p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>λ – l</td>
<td>ρ – r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>μ – m</td>
<td>σ, s – s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ν – n</td>
<td>ω – ῆ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.2

When two vowels come together, they give the following sounds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vowels</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>αι – i, ai</td>
<td>(as in mile, aisle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ει – ei</td>
<td>(as in veil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>οι – oi</td>
<td>(as in boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>αυ – au, ou</td>
<td>(as in out)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ευ – eu, yew</td>
<td>(as in feud)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ου – oo</td>
<td>(as in root)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>υι – ui, wi</td>
<td>(as in we)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ιη – yē</td>
<td>(as in Yale)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So αϊ is pronounced like ‘high’, ει is pronounced like ‘you’, and Ἰησοῦς is pronounced ‘Yē-soos’.

Note that when two vowels make a single sound at the beginning of a word, the breathing mark ‘ ’ or ‘ ’ is written over the second vowel.

2.3

When γ occurs before κ, χ, or another γ, it is pronounced as ‘n’ rather than ‘g’.

γγ – ng  γκ – nk  γχ – nkh

So ἀγγελός is pronounced rather like ‘angle-os’.
2.4
Read the following lines carefully. Start by reading the Greek words while you keep an eye on the English equivalent. Then cover the right-hand column and read the Greek words again. Uncover the right-hand column to check that you are correct. See that you know the sound the letters make. You will learn the meaning of the words in 2.5.

| Cover this column | en arkhē en ho logos |
| Cover this column | kai ho logos en pros ton theon |
| Cover this column | kai theos en ho logos. |
| Cover this column | hootos en en arkhē |
| Cover this column | pros ton theon |

Note that ι can be written underneath α, η and ω: η/ι/ω. It is not pronounced, or is pronounced very lightly. You see it in this lesson in the word ἀρχῇ.

2.5 Words

- ἀρχῇ – beginning
- ἴν – he was, it was
- καὶ – and
- λόγος – word
- ἐν – in
- ὁ – the
- θεός – God
- πρὸς – towards, with
- τὸν – the
- οὗτος – this, he

2.6 Read and then translate
Cover up the right-hand column and translate the passage, uncovering the right-hand column to check each line. Do not read the notes below until you have translated the whole passage.

| In (the) beginning¹ | ἐν ἀρχῇ |
| In (the) beginning¹ | ἴν ὁ λόγος, |
| In (the) beginning¹ | καὶ ὁ λόγος ἴν |
| In (the) beginning¹ | πρὸς τὸν θεόν |
| In (the) beginning¹ | καὶ θεός ἴν ὁ λόγος. |
| In (the) beginning¹ | οὗτος ἴν ἐν ἀρχῇ |
| In (the) beginning¹ | πρὸς τὸν θεόν. |
| was the word, | and the word was |
| and the word was with (the) God² | and the word was God.³ |
| He was in the beginning | with God. |

John H. Dobson, Learn New Testament Greek, 3rd edition
Notes:
1. $\epsilon ν \acute{\alpha ρχ}様々な – in beginning. ‘In beginning’ is not good English. We translate as ‘In the beginning’.
2. $πρ̄δς τόν θεόν – with the God. In English we do not usually use ‘the’ when referring to God, so we translate as ‘with God’.
3. καὶ θεός ῥῆν ο λόγος – and the word was God. Notice that the order of words is different in English.

2.7 Translation
You have read and translated John 1.1. You have noticed that ideas in Greek and in English may be expressed in different words. To translate is not to put the words of one language into another: it is to express the meaning of the words in another language.

2.8 The beautiful Hebraic poetic patterning of John 1:1–2
Hebrew poets made use of carefully crafted word patterns and repetition of key words. Sometimes they combined two patterns together. In John 1:1–2 we find terrace patterning and chiasmus. In terrace patterns the last word of one line is used as the first main word of the next line. Many commentators have noticed this in John 1:1 Note λόγος... λόγος and θεόν... θεός :

'Aν ἀρχήν ῥῆν ὁ λόγος
καὶ ὁ λόγος ῥῆν πρὸς τὸν θεόν
καὶ θεός ῥῆν ὁ λόγος

But the dominant pattern in 1:1–2 is chiasmus. In a chiasmus there is a step by step forward movement to a central focus and then a balancing step by step backwards to the closure. This produces patterns like ABC C’B’A’.

A  'Εν ἀρχήν
B  ῥῆν
C  ὁ λόγος
   καὶ ὁ λόγος
D  ῥῆν
   πρὸς τὸν θεόν
   καὶ θεός
D’ ῥῆν
   οὔτος
C’ ὁ λόγος
B’ ῥῆν
A’ ἐν ἀρχήν πρὸς τὸν θεόν
A’ CLOSURE: A, plus part of the central focus
Note that in an extended chiasmus the most emphatic point is at the centre. This is a feature to be found in some of the parables of Jesus. Here in John 1:1–2 the major emphasis is on the word ὁ ὁσ.

The closure echoes the beginning but is extended by including part of the central focus. This kind of extension in a closure is also a feature of Hebrew poetry.

Note also the threefold use of the key words λόγος and θεός. John 1:3–10 is also a chiasmus, and we shall see a key word repeated three times in verse 3, and a key word three times in verse 10. Verse 10 repeats part of verse 3, helping to mark the closure.
Lesson 3

\textit{εστίν} – is \quad \textit{ήν} – was

3.1

\textit{εστίν} means ‘he is’, ‘she is’, or ‘it is’.

\textit{ήν} means ‘he was’, ‘she was’, or ‘it was’.

When we translate \textit{εστίν} and \textit{ήν} we can only tell whether to use ‘he’, ‘she’, or ‘it’, by reading the passage as a whole.

\textit{Compare}

(a) \textit{Ἰησοῦς ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν. ἀληθῆς ἦν.}

Jesus was with God. He was true.

(b) \textit{Μαριά ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν. ἀληθῆς ἦν.}

Mary was with God. She was true.

(c) \textit{ὁ λόγος ἀληθῆς ἦν καὶ ἀληθῆς ἦστιν}

The word was true and it is true.

Note that the word order is often not the same in English as it is in Greek. For \textit{ἀληθῆς ἦν} in (a) we do not say ‘True he was’, but ‘He was true’. Compare \textit{θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος} in 2.6. In this sentence \textit{ὁ} (the) indicates that the subject is \textit{λόγος}, so we translate it, ‘The word was God’.

3.2 Translate

1. \textit{Ἰησοῦς ἦστιν.} \quad \textit{ὁ λόγος ἦν.}

2. \textit{Ἰησοῦς ἦν.} \quad \textit{ὁ λόγος ἦν.}

3. \textit{The word was.} \quad \textit{The word is.}

4. \textit{The word was.} \quad \textit{The word is.}

5. \textit{The word is God.} \quad \textit{The word is true}

6. \textit{The word is true}

7. \textit{In the beginning the word was, and in the beginning it was true.}
3.3 Words

- ὁ λόγος – the word
- οἱ λόγοι – the words
- ὁ Μάρκος – Mark
- ὁ Ἰησούς – Jesus
- τοῦ Ἰησούς – of Jesus
- οὗτος – this, he
- οὗτοι – these
- ἀλήθης – true, genuine, real, honest

- οὗτος ὁ λόγος – this word
- ἐστίν – he is, she is, it is
- εἰσίν – they are
- ἦν – he was, she was, it was
- ἦσαν – they were
- γράφει – he writes, she writes
- γράφει τὸν λόγον – he writes the word
- γράφει τοὺς λόγους – he writes the words

3.4 Translate

1. ὁ λόγος ἀλήθης ἐστιν.
   The word is true.

2. οἱ λόγοι ἀληθεῖς εἰσίν.
   The words are true.

3. οὗτος ὁ λόγος ἀληθῆς ἐστιν.
   This word is true.

4. οὗτοι οἱ λόγοι ἀληθεῖς εἰσίν.
   These words are true.

5. ἀλήθης ἦν ὁ λόγος.
   The word was true.

6. ἀλήθης ἦν ὁ λόγος τοῦ Ἰησοῦ.
   The word of Jesus was true.

7. γράφει τὸν λόγον.
   He writes the word.

8. γράφει τοὺς λόγους.
   He writes the words.

9. ὁ Μάρκος γράφει τοὺς λόγους.
    Mark writes the words.
    He writes the words of Jesus.
    These words of Jesus are true.

10. ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν. οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.
    Jesus was with God. He was in the beginning with God.

11. οὗτοι εἰσίν οἱ λόγοι τοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ οἱ λόγοι τοῦ Μάρκου.
    These are the words of Jesus and the words of Mark.

3.5

You have begun to learn the following Greek words. Notice the English words that are like them. Many English words are derived from Greek words.
Greek word | Compare
---|---
ἡ ἀρχή – the beginning | archetype – original model
ὁ θεός – God, the God | theism – belief in God
ὁ λόγος – the word | logic, theology, archaeology
Ἰησοῦς – Jesus | Jesus
Μάρκος – Mark | Mark
ἐν – in | enter, in
ἐστίν – he is, she is, it is | is
ἐστίν – they are | is
γράφει – he writes, she writes | graph, paragraph, graffiti
πρὸς – to, with | prosthetic

3.6

(a) Using the patterns
οἱ λόγοι τοῦ Ἰησοῦ – the words of Jesus
ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ θεοῦ – the love of God
and the words from 3.5
say in Greek:
The words of Jesus – the words of God – the word of God – the word of Mark – the words of Mark – the love of God – the love of Jesus – the beginning of the word.

(b) Using the patterns
ἀγαθὸς ἐστίν ὁ θεός – God is good
ἀληθὴς ἦν ὁ λόγος – the word was true
say in Greek:
God is good – the word is good – Mark is good – the word is true – the word was true – Mark was honest – the word was good.

(c) Learn by heart from 1 Jn 1:5 ὁ θεός φῶς ἐστίν (God is light)
and from 1 Jn 4:16 ὁ θεός ἀγάπη ἐστίν (God is love).
3.7 Progress test 1

Test the progress you have made by reading these questions and writing down which answers you think are correct. For example, in question 1 if you think that Ἰησοῦς ἐστιν means ‘Jesus is’, write down: 1 (c).

Which translation is correct?

1. Ἰησοῦς ἐστιν.
   (a) The word is.
   (b) Jesus was.
   (c) Jesus is.

2. ὁ λόγος ἦν.
   (a) The word was.
   (b) The word is.
   (c) God was.

3. οὗτος ἐστιν ὁ λόγος
   (a) God is the word.
   (b) This is the word.
   (c) These are the words.

4. οὗτοι οἱ λόγοι ἀληθεῖς εἰσίν
   (a) These words are true.
   (b) This word is true.
   (c) He writes true words.

5. γράφει τοὺς λόγους τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ὁ Μάρκος.
   (a) Jesus is writing these words.
   (b) He is writing the words of Jesus and of Mark.
   (c) Mark is writing the words of Jesus.

Now check your answers by looking in Key to Progress Tests on page 333.
Desiderius Erasmus learned Greek at the age of 32. The first printed edition of the Greek New Testament produced by Erasmus was based on the following manuscripts: (1) 2105 (2) 2814 (3) 2815 (4) 2816 (5) 2817. The division of the New Testament into chapters, now in use, was made in the dark ages, after the selection of portions for ecclesiastical readings, which frequently therefore run on from one chapter into another. That division frequently separates things which are closely connected, and joins together things which are really distinct. Greek New Testament Texts. Note: all the material available on this page is completely free and may be further distributed by anyone without any restrictions. The New Testament in the Original Greek: Byzantine Textform 2005 is available here in PDF format. Timothy Friberg's introductory article to the Byzantine-priority theory is available here in PDF format. The article is largely a summary of the arguments found in Maurice Robinson's writings in a form more comprehensible to those without a previous knowledge of Koine Greek and textual criticism. The text of various Greek New Testa...