# Welcome to Mastering NT Greek

By Ted Hildebrandt © 2003

Baker Academic

## Introductory Matters

- Welcome
- Syllabus read through & course introduction

## Why study Greek?

- God has spoken study as the highest form of worship—2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 1:1; 4:12; Ps. 119:11; Jn. 6:63; 2 Pet. 1:21. On reading love letters
- Context determines meaning
- Why not just read it in an English translation? E.g. "trunk—
- Car
- Tree
- Luggage
- Body

## eithnh--peace?

Semantic Domains between languages may not match up exactly

Lk 2:14 (peace?); "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace"

- Mk 5:34 (health); unclean woman touches Jesus, healed
   "Go in peace and be freed from your suffering"
- Lk 2:29 (tranquility) "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace.
- Lk 11:21(safe/secure) When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe."
- Luke 10:5 (Blessing) "When you enter a house, first say,
   'Peace to this house.'
- 1 Thessalonians 5:3 (no war) While people are saying,
   "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly,

# dikaioj -- righteous

- Cultural impact
- Causal: Because Joseph righteous → did not want to make a public example
- Concessive: Despite Joseph being righteous → he did not want to....
- Joseph is righteous = not wanting to...
- Mat 5:20; 6:33 new righteousness

## Why study Greek?

- Thinking for yourself: Ps 119:11, 105
- Seeing things closely: author's style,
- Things that matter in a "whatever" culture: Jn 6:63
- Learning English through Greek--1 Kgs 8
- Beware--Power corrupts: "In the Greek it means..."

## How should we study Greek?

- Goal the dream
- Memorizing—27 chants
- Time, Consistency, Persistence
- Discipline (bottom line), buddy system
- Vocab building
- Grammatical muscle building (verbs, nouns, adjectives, pronouns, article, etc.)
- Morphology: sg/pl.; m/f; 1st person...
- Inch by inch it's a cinch, yard
- Humility ("in the Greek this means")

#### What is Koine Greek?

- Stages of Greek Language
- Pre-Homeric (1400-1100 BC)
  Mycenaean= Linear B
- Epic (Homer 800 BC)
- Classical (500-300 BC) dialects: Ionic → Attic [Athens], Doric, Aeolic
- Koine/Hellenistic (330 BC AD 330)
- Byzantine (330-1453)
- Modern (1453 present) Katharevousa (official until 1976); Demotike –common oral

#### What is Koine Greek?

- Semitic background-alpha-bet (ox + house; Greeks added vowels), right to left; Boustrophedon
- Three influences: Semitic, literary koine, vernacular koine (Wallace, 28)
- Koine as Holy Spirit Greek → Common
- God speaks the language of the people

# Classical/Koine shifts: Diacrhonic/Synchronic

- Shifts in meaning Classical to Koine [synonyms] (eteroj/heteros//aldoj/allos: 2 Cor 11:4; Gal. 6:1) Classical clear separation: another=additional//different
- KJV 2 Corinthians 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another (allon) Jesus, whom we have not preached, or *if* ye receive **another** (eteron) spirit, which ye have not received, or another (eteron) gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with *him*.
- KJV Galatians 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another (heteron) gospel:
- Galatians 1:7 Which is not another (allo); but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

## Koine (333BC-300AD)

- Hellenism Alexander (333 B.C.)— universal--LXX
- Incredible timing: Gal. 4:4 "in the fullness of time God sent his son..."
- Uncials/Miniscules & manuscripts
- Inspiration and copying processes: text criticism [lower criticism] versus higher criticism (source, form, redaction criticism)

## Alphabet

- a / A Alpha sounds like "a" in father
- **b** / **B** Beta sounds like "b" in Bible
- **g** / **G Gamma** sounds like "g" in gone
- d / D Delta sounds like "d" in dog
- e / E Epsilon sounds like "e" in met

Z / Z
Zeta sounds like "z" in
daze when it begins a word,
"dz" when it's in the middle
of a word

■ h / H Eta sounds like "e" in obey

q / Q Theta sounds like "th"
think

- i / I lota short sounds like initial "i" in sit long sounds like the second "i" in machine When it begins a name = "y" ( Ihsou) Yesus)
- **k / K Kappa** sounds like "k" in kitchen
- I / L Lambda sounds like "l" in law

**m** / **M Mu** sounds like "m" in mother

n / N Nu sounds like "n" in new

**c** / **C** Xsi sounds like "x" in axe

O / O Omicron sounds like "o" in not some pronounce it like modern Greek long "o" as in "obey" others like the "ou" in thought

p / P Pi sounds like "p" in peach

r / R Rho sounds like "r" in rod

S/S Sigma sounds like "s" in set sigma looks like "j" when it comes at the end of a word (final sigma, sof oj)

t / T Tau sounds like "t" in talk

■ u / U Upsilon sounds like "oo" in "hoops"

- f / F Phi sounds like "ph" in phone
- **x** / **X** Chi sounds like "ch" in chemical

- y / Y Psi sounds like "ps" in lips
- w / W Omega sounds like "o" in tone

## Whole Alphabet Chant through

```
a b g d e z h q i k l m n c o p r s t u f x y w
A B G D E Z H Q I K L M N C O P R S T U F X Y W
```

### Double Consonants











## Easy to confuse letters

- **h** (with n)
- **n** (with v)
- $\mathbf{r}$  (with p)
- $\mathbf{x}$  (with x)
- w (with w)

## Nasal gamma

- When gamma comes before g, k, x, c it is pronounced like an "n"
- aggeloj = angelos

#### Vowels

- a, e, h, i, o, u, w
- Always Short: e, o
- Always Long: h, w
- Long or short: a, i, u

### **Vowel Chart**

Short Long
e h
w

Both a, i, u

## Diphthongs -- 2 vowels = 1 sound

- **ai** as in "aisle"
- ei as in "eight"
- oi as in "oil"
- **ui** as in "suite"
- au as in "sauerkraut"
- eu, hu as in "feud"
- ou as in "boutique"

# Iota Subscripts

%, ^, &

#### Diaeresis \*

Cancels the diphthong effect – keeps the two vowels separate.

$$Hsaiaj = H-sa-i-aj$$

#### **Phonetic Chart**

```
Labials (lips) p b f

Dentals (teeth) t d q

Velars (tongue/ k g x

roof)
```

#### Phonetic Addition

Labial + 
$$s = y$$
 ( $p + s = y$ )

Palatal + 
$$s = c$$
 ( $k + s = c$ )

Dental + 
$$s = s$$
 (t +  $s = s$ )

aggeloj, -ou, o[



angel

ahhn



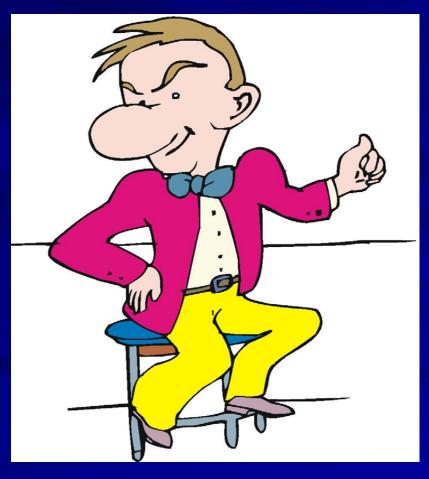
truly, verily

afgrwpoj, -ou, o[



man, human

egw<

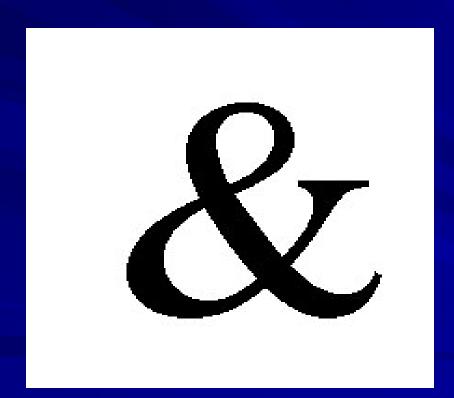


I--ego

qeoj, -ou?o[

God

kai<</p>



and

kardia, -aj, h[

heart

# Chapter 1 Vocabulary

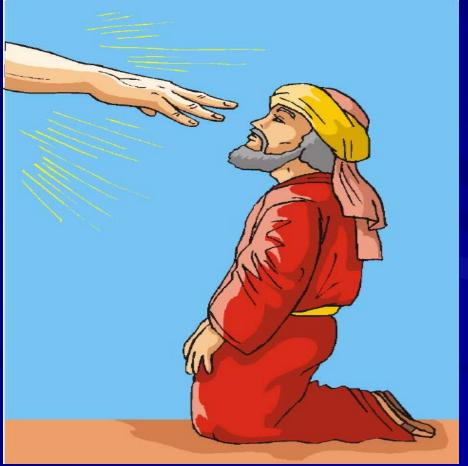
legw



I say

# Chapter 1 Vocabulary

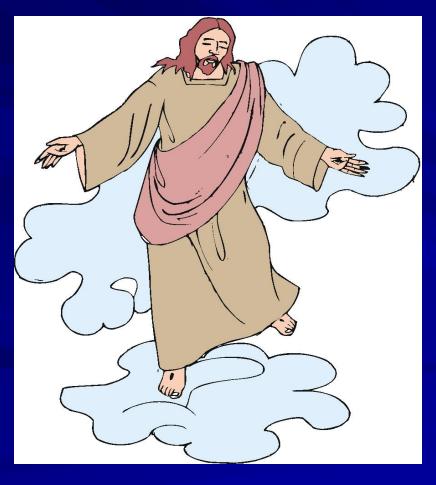
prof hthj, -ou, o[



prophet

# **Chapter 1 Vocabulary**

■ Xristoj, -ou?o[



Christ, Messiah, anointed one

# Alphabet Razzle/Dazzle - Call out the name drill

- **X**
- C
- S
- **b**
- k

#### Alphabet Razzle/Dazzle Drill

- **q**
- h
- r
- u u
- y
- t
- g

#### Alphabet Razzle/Dazzle Drill

- $\blacksquare \mathbf{f}$
- **m**
- $\blacksquare$   $\mathbf{Z}$
- a
- i
- p
- W

#### Alphabet Razzle/Dazzle Drill

- g
- **y**

- S
- $\blacksquare$   $\mathbf{Z}$
- **b**

## Alphabet Drill Teams Drill

- q
- $\blacksquare \mathbf{f}$
- r
- t
- n
- C

### Alphabet Drill Teams Drill

- p
- h
- W
- **m**
- **i**
- e

## Uncial capital Letters Drill

- **C**
- $\blacksquare$  R
- S
- **Z**
- **B**
- W

## Uncial capital Letters Drill

- **G**
- Q
- U
- $\blacksquare \mathbf{F}$

#### Uncial capital Letter Drill

- H
- Y
- P
- **0**
- T

# Diphthong sound offs

ei

ai

oi

ui

au

eu

hu

ou