



16

Conjunctions

OBJECTIVE:

To learn how to correctly use some of the Greek conjunctions

Memory Verse:

Ἡμεῖς ἀγαπῶμεν αὐτὸν

We

love

Him

ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ Α 4:19

I John 4:19a

This is the first part of I John 4:19, which we will finish memorizing next week. Notice that the first word in this verse is one of the pronouns that you learned in the ἐγὼ paradigm. What case is the word ἡμεῖς, and what part does it play in the verse above?

day 1: Vocabulary

Review Bible verses.

ἀλλά

but

εἰ

if

ὅτι

because, that

+δέ

and, but

The first thing you probably noticed about your vocabulary words today is that peculiar ‘plus sign’ before the Greek word δέ. This sign is present to make us aware that this word cannot ever begin a phrase in Greek, although we commonly begin phrases in English with both the words ‘and’ and ‘but’. This word is referred to grammatically as a postpositive. Usually, it is the second word in the phrase. Notice also that there are two words for ‘but’ on your list. The word ἀλλά is a strong word, and it is used when you really want to draw attention to the contrast between two things. “I thought he was lying *but* I was wrong.” The word δέ is milder: “I thought about going, but decided against it.”

You will notice that the word for *if* is nearly identical to the second person singular

form of εἰμί, εἶ. The only difference between these two words is that εἶ (if) has no accent, while εἶ (you are) has the circumflex accent. Though you are not required to learn the accents at this point, it is important to note this distinction and remember it.

All of the vocabulary words this week are *conjunctions*. They are words used to join two phrases, words, or thoughts, and they show the relationship between the two parts.

Review vocabulary:

ἀγαθός	good (moral)
ἄλλος	other
ἔσχατος	last
κακός	bad
καλός	good, beautiful

day 2: Using the postpositive δέ

Remember that whenever the word δέ shows up in a sentence or phrase, it is not going to be the lead word like it is in English. Greek writers usually like to slip it in right after the first word in the sentence, regardless of what that word is. Study these examples:

...but the man suffers
ὁ δὲ ἄνθρωπος πάσχει.

...but a faithful apostle speaks
πιστὸς δὲ ἀπόστολος λέγει.

...but I hear
ἀκούω δέ

Notice how the word δέ appears as the second word in each phrase above.