



The Third Declension, part 1



OBJECTIVE:

To begin learning about the third declension

Memory Verse:

Ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ θλίψιν ἔχετε·

ΚΑΤΑ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΝ 16:33

You will notice that there is no translation for your verse above. Read this verse through carefully until you can pronounce each word correctly. Pay attention to any words that are familiar to you, and try to remember their meanings. Then go to your workbook to work out the translation for this verse. By the end of this week, you should have this verse and its English translation memorized.

day 1: Vocabulary and Derivative work

ἡ ἐλπίς, ἐλπίδος	the hope
ὁ αἰών, αἰῶνος	the age
ὁ ἄρχων, ἄρχοντος	the ruler
τό γράμμα, γράμματος	the letter
τό θέλημα, θελήματος	the will

This week we are beginning our study of the third declension. The third declension has the most variations in its endings, so we will be taking things slowly. Because the words in the third declension do not follow any rules regarding their gender or nominative forms, you must approach your vocabulary a bit differently as you study these words. Previously, the nouns in your vocabulary have followed the pattern of including only the article and nominative singular form. This has been enough information for you to know the pattern for the whole declension. However, this changes with the third declension. As you can see from looking at the words above, there is a lot of variation in the appearance of third declension nominative singular forms. The word that follows the nominative form above is the genitive form. You **must** learn this form, because this is what tells you what the rest of the declension will look like. The endings in this declension do not always indicate the gender of the noun, so you also must memorize the article with the noun. Study these words today, learning all the information listed above.

Complete the exercises in your workbook. They will help you to understand these words as well as their roots and derivatives.

Review vocabulary:

Each week, you will have ten words from years one and two to review. Be sure you remember these words and their meanings.

ἡ ἀρχή	the beginning
ἐκβάλλω	I cast out
ἡ χώρα	the country
ὁ ὄχλος	the crowd
πίπτω	I fall
ὁ ἄγγελος	the messenger, angel
ὁ λόγος	the word
βάλλω	I throw
διδάσκω	I teach
δέκα	ten

day 2: Third declension case endings

The third declension has its own set of case endings, just as the first and second declension do. We will learn these endings today, and spend the next few weeks looking at the way they are actually used in specific instances. Although there is only one main set of endings, there are several variations when they are put to use. It will be a few weeks before you will be able to fully decline a third declension noun, but once you know all the necessary information, you will find that it is no more difficult than first and second declension nouns are. To begin with, these are the endings you need to learn:

-ς (or nothing)	N	-ες
-ος	G	-ων
-ι	D	-σι
-α	A	-ας

Memorize these. By Friday, you should be able to recite them perfectly. As you can see, there are similarities between these and the case endings you have previously learned, but there are also differences. You will spend some time in your workbook today looking at these similarities and differences.

day 3: Greek to English sentence translation

In your sentence translations today, you will find some third declension nouns. However, since you do not know how to decline the nouns, the ones in the sentences will all be in the nominative or genitive singular cases. Remember that the genitive singular is the second form listed in your vocabulary words above. As you translate these sentences, pay attention to the endings on the words. Greek is an inflected language, and these endings will tell you what each word is doing in the sentence.

day 4: English to Greek translation

Before beginning the translation exercise in your workbook, review the third declension case endings and this week's verse.

day 5: Review

Use your time today to review your vocabulary words, as well as the third declension endings and the Bible verse. You should be able to recite the case endings and verse from memory.