A BRIEF INTRODUCTORY GREEK GRAMMAR

Dr. Gary Staats, Th.D; Ph.D

Transcribed by Kiel Nation, Keith Doyle and Jeffery Gujjarlamudi

Edited by Pastor James Davison

Copyright © 2010
Dr. Gary Staats
All Rights Reserved

About The Author

Dr. Gary Staats was the Gale and Harriette Ritz professor of Old Testament at Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay, Ohio. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible at Southeastern Bible College in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963; his Th.M. in New Testament Greek from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1967; his Th.D. in Biblical Studies from DTS in 1971; and his Master of Arts in Hebrew and Ancient Near Eastern languages at Dropsie College of Hebrew and Cognate Learning in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1983. He completed his Ph.D. in Hebrew and Near Eastern Languages at New York University in 1989. Dr. Staats has been a professor and pastor for many years, serving at various schools and in numerous pastorates.

Acknowledgements

I want to thank my students Kiel Nation, Keith Doyle and Jeffery Gujjarlamudi for their tremendous help in typing this work for me. Their kindness in typing this project has made my notebook on Inductive Greek Grammar in classic texts a tool that I can use in my classes. I also want to thank Pastor James Davison for his tremendous help in editing this book.

I also would like to thank my parents for instilling in me a love of the Bible from childhood.

I also want to thank Don Gillis, Vice President of Business Development at WORDsearch for his encouragement and approval of my works of publication.

Finally, and foremost, I want to thank my wife Janet for her unfailing encouragement, her infinite patience and kindness, and for her constant love and sharing in all of life and ministry with me. She is truly אֵשֶׁת־חַיִל.

- *Gary Staats*

Introduction to the Christological Greek Grammar

The purpose of the study is to worship Jesus Christ so that He can be magnified and glorified.

Note: The student should first learn the alphabet followed by the article, the nouns, and the participle from the verb **εἰμί.**

For further deductive study one can use J. Gresham Machen, New Testament Greek for Beginners in addition to my inductive Greek notes.

A Brief Greek Grammar

1. GreekAlphabet

α	alpha	a
β	beta	b
γ	gamma	g
δ	delta	d
ϵ	epsilon	e
ζ	zeta	z
η	eta	ē
θ	theta	th
ι	iota	y
κ	kappa	k
λ	lambda	l
μ	mu	m
ν	nu	n
ξ	xi	x
ο	omicron	o
π	pi	p
ρ	rho	r
σ	sigma	s
τ	tau	t
υ	upsilon	u
ϕ	phi	ph
χ	chi	ch
ψ	psi	ps
ω	omega	ō

2. Article

	Singular		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nom.	ὁ	ἡ	τό
Gen.	τοῦ	τῆς	τοῦ
Dat.	τῷ	τῇ	τῷ
Acc.	τόν	τήν	τό
	Plural		
Nom.	οἱ	αἱ	τά
Gen.	τῶν	τῶν	τῶν
Dat.	τοῖς	ταῖς	τοῖς
Acc.	τούς	τάς	τά

By learning the article the noun and adjective declensions are easily recognized.

3. The Cases, Number, Gender

Nominative	-	Subject of a sentence
		Ex: **The word** was preached
Genitive	-	Case of possession
		Ex: The Word **of God** (gen)
Dative	-	"to or for" case of indirect object
		Ex: He spoke the Word **to the man**
Accusative	-	Direct object
		Ex: He gave **the gift** to us.
Number	-	Singular or Plural
Gender	-	Masculine or Feminine or Neuter

4. Nouns

Masculine - 2nd declension

Singular

Nom.	ὁ	λόγος	-	the word
Gen.	τοῦ	λόγου	-	of the Word
Dat.	τῷ	λόγῳ	-	to or for the word
Acc.	τόν	λόγον	-	the word

Plural

Nom.	οἱ	λόγοι	-	the words
Gen.	τῶν	λόγων	-	of the words
Dat.	τοῖς	λόγοις	-	to or for the words
Acc.	τούς	λόγους	-	the words

Feminine - 1st declension

Singular

Nom.	ἡ	ἀρχή	-	the beginning
Gen.	τῆς	ἀρχῆς	-	of the beginning
Dat.	τῇ	ἀρχῇ	-	to or for the beginning
Acc.	τήν	ἀρχήν	-	the beginning

Plural

Nom.	αἱ	ἀρχαί	-	the beginnings
Gen.	τῶν	ἀρχῶν	-	of the beginnings
Dat.	ταῖς	ἀρχαῖς	-	to or for the beginnings
Acc.	τάς	ἀρχάς	-	the beginnings

Neuter - an object a thing

Singular

Nom.	**τό**	**ἱερόν**	-	the temple
Gen.	**τοῦ**	**ἱεροῦ**	-	of the temple
Dat.	**τῷ**	**ἱερῷ**	-	to or for the temple
Acc.	**τό**	**ἱερόν**	-	the temple

Plural

Nom.	**τά**	**ἱερά**	-	the temples
Gen.	**τῶν**	**ἱερῶν**	-	of the temples
Dat.	**τοῖς**	**ἱεροῖς**	-	to or for the temples
Acc.	**τά**	**ἱερά**	-	the temples

(Notice the nominative & accusative forms have the same ending. Also both nouns and adjectives will be declined by these endings)

3rd Declension Noun (differs from the 1st & 2nd)

Singular

Nom.	χάρις	-	grace
Gen.	χάριτος	-	of grace
Dat.	χάριτι	-	to or for grace
Acc.	χάριτα	-	grace

Plural

Nom.	χάριτες	-	graces
Gen.	χαρίτων	-	of graces
Dat.	χάρισι	-	to or for graces
Acc.	χάριτας	-	graces

5. Accents

A. The acute - ´ can occur anywhere on the last three syllables

B. Circumflex - ˆ occurs on the last two syllables

C. Grave - ` occurs on the last syllable

D. Ultima - the last syllable

E. Penult - the next to the last syllable

F. Antepenult - the syllable before the penult

When the final syllable has a short vowel the acute accent goes to the antepenult; if final vowel long the accent goes on the penult.

6. The Verbs

Tense - Present, Future, past time Imperfect, Aorist, Perfect, Pluperfect

Mood - actual(indicative) or possible (subjunctive)

Person - 1st = I, 2nd = you, and 3rd = he/she/it

Number - singular or plural

Voice - active is subject doing action (I loose), middle is reflexive (I myself loose), passive is subject being acted upon (I am being loosed).

Present Active Indicative
(Present Tense)

Singular			**Plural**		
λύω	-	I loose	λύομεν	-	we loose
λύεις	-	you (sg.) loose	λύετε	-	you (pl.) loose
λύει	-	he/she loose	λύουσι(ν)	-	they loose

Present Indicative Middle/ Passive

Singular

λύομαι	-	I myself loose/ I am being loosed
λύῃ	-	you yourself loose / you are being loosed
λύεται	-	he himself looses/ he, she, it is being loosed

Plural

λυόμεθα	-	we ourselves loose/ we are being loosed
λύεσθε	-	you yourself loose/ you are being loosed
λύονται	-	they themselves loose/ they are being loosed

Future Indicative Active and Middle

In the future a *σ* is added after the stem with the same endings as in the present, Ex: λύ*σ*ω – I will loose, λύ*σ*ομαι – I will loose for myself.

Imperfect

Views continuous action in the past time. It has a prefix augment ε and imperfect endings. Ex: I was loosing

Imperfect Indicative Active

Singular

ἔλυον	-	I was loosing
ἔλυες	-	you (sg.) were loosing
ἔλυε	-	he was loosing

Plural

ἐλύομεν	-	we were loosing
ἐλύετε	-	you (pl.) were
ἔλυον	-	they were loosing

Imperfect Indicative Middle & Passive

Singular

ἐλυόμην	-	I myself was loosing/I was being loosed
ἐλύῃ	-	you yourself was loosing/ you (sg.) were being loosed
ἐλύετο	-	he himself was loosing/ he/she/it was being loosed

Plural

ἐλυόμεθα	-	we ourselves were loosing/ we were being loosed
ἐλύεσθε	-	you yourself were loosing/ you (pl.) were being loosed
ἐλύοντο	-	they themselves were loosing/ they were being loosed

Aorist

Views completed action (normally in the past) and takes a prefix augment ε on to stem with a suffix σα.

Aorist Indicative Active

Singular

ἔλυσα	-	I loosed
ἔλυσας	-	you (sg.) loosed
ἔλυσε	-	he (she, it) loosed

Plural

ἐλύσαμεν	-	we loosed
ἐλύσατε	-	you (pl.) loosed
ἔλυσαν	-	they loosed

Aorist Indicative Middle

Singular

ἐλυσάμην	-	I loosed for myself
ἐλύσω	-	you (sg.) loosed for yourself
ἐλύσατο	-	he (she, it) loosed for himself

Plural

ἐλυσάμεθα	-	we loosed for ourselves
ἐλύσασθε	-	you (pl.) loosed for yourself
ἐλύσαντο	-	they loosed for themselves

Aorist Indicative Passive

Singular

ἐλύθην	-	I was loosed
ἐλύθης	-	you (sg.) were loosed
ἐλύθη	-	he/she/it was loosed

Plural

ἐλύθημεν	-	we were loosed
ἐλύθητε	-	you (pl.) were loosed
ἐλύθησαν	-	they were loosed

Future Indicative Passive

The aorist indicative passive ending θη is added to the stem λυ as a suffix, plus the σ, Ex: λυθήσομαι – I shall be loosed

Singular

λυθήσομαι	-	I will be loosed
λυθήσῃ	-	you (sg.) will be loosed
λυθήσεται	-	he (she, it) will be loosed

Plural

λυθησόμεθα - we will be loosed

λυθήσεσθε - you (pl.) will be loosed

λυθήσονται - they will be loosed

Perfect

The Perfect normally views completed action in the past with the results continuing into the present. Ex: I have loosed . The perfect takes reduplication in the prefix followed by a **κ** after the stem.
λέλυκα – I have loosed

Perfect Indicative Active

Singular

λέλυκα - I have loosed

λέλυκας - you (sg.) have loosed

λέλυκε - he (she, it) has loosed

Plural

λελύκαμεν - we have loosed

λελύκατε - you (pl.) have loosed

λελύκασι - they have loosed

Perfect Indicative Middle & Passive

Singular

λέλυμαι - I myself have loosed (middle)/
I have been loosed (passive)

λέλυσαι - you yourself have loosed/
you (sg.) have been loosed

λέλυται - he himself has loosed/
he (she, it) has been loosed

Plural

λελύμεθα - we ourselves have loosed/
we have been loosed

λέλυσθε	-	you yourselves have loosed/ you (pl.) have been loosed
λέλυνται	-	they themselves have loosed/ they have been loosed

Pluperfect

The Pluperfect views action completed in the past with results continuing up to a certain point in the past but not into the present.
Ex: I had loosed - ἐλελύκειν

Pluperfect Indicative Active

There is a reduplication plus an augment ἐ in the prefix (ἐλε)
with the κ and ειν suffix.

Singular

ἐλελύκειν	-	I had loosed
ἐλελύκεις	-	you (sg.) had loosed
ἐλελύκει	-	he (she, it) had loosed

Plural

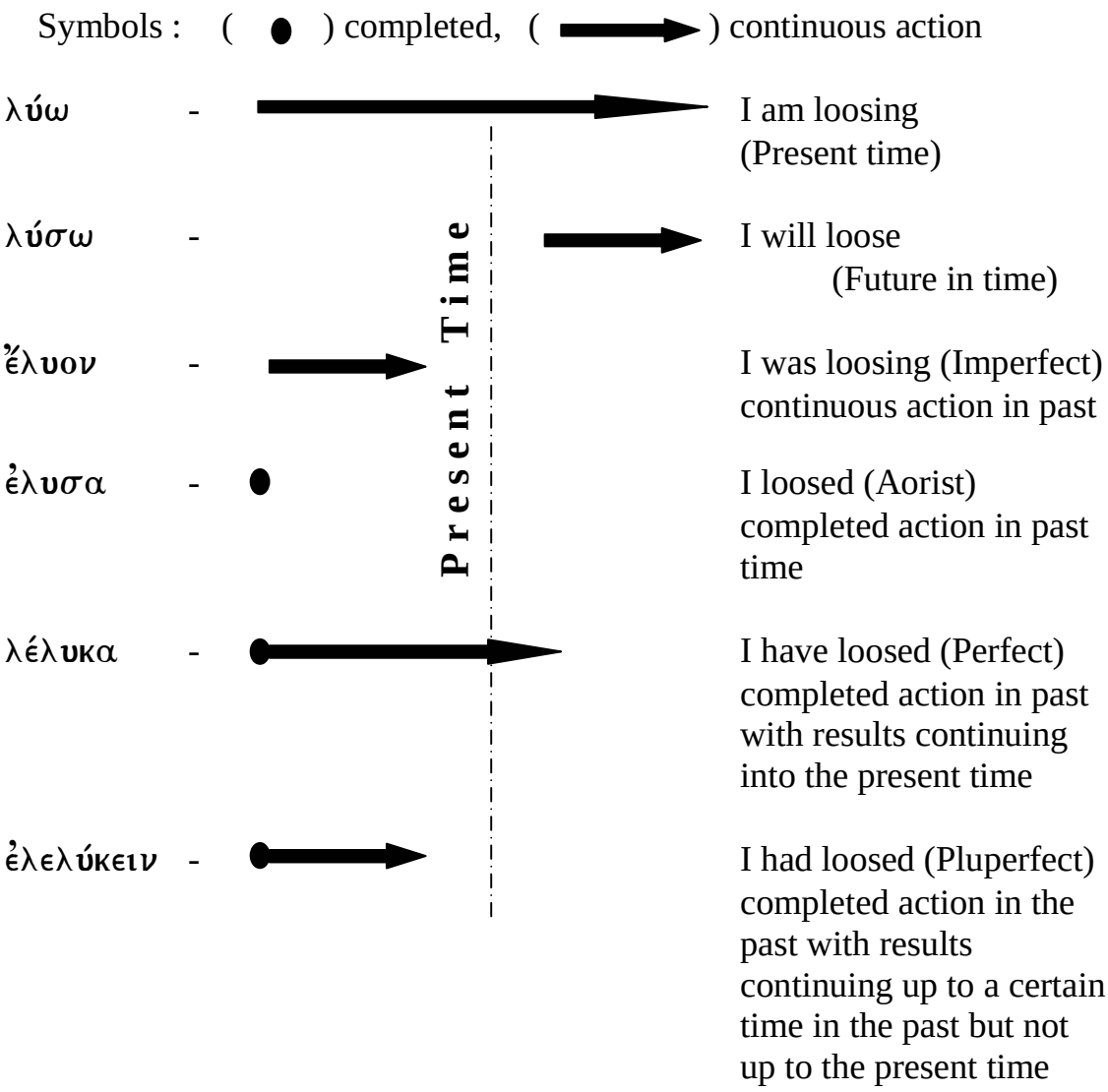
ἐλελύκειμεν	-	we had loosed
ἐλελύκειτε	-	you (pl.) had loosed
ἐλελύκεισαν	-	they had loosed

7. <u>Summary of stems for regular verb</u> - λυ – stem

<u>λύ</u>ω	-	I loose	-	Present has the stem plus ending
<u>λύ</u>σω	-	I will loose	-	Future with σ after stem

				λυ.
ἔλυον	-	I was loosing	-	Imperfect with ἐ augment prefix and ον suffix after the stem
ἐλυσα	-	I loosed	-	Aorist with augment prefix ἐ plus σα suffix after the stem
ἐλύθην	-	I was loosed	-	Aorist Passive with the prefix ἐ augment and the θην suffix
λυθήσομαι	-	I will be loosed	-	Future Indicative Passive with θη suffix; it is the same suffix as aorist passive with a final σ after θη
λέλυκα	-	I have loosed	-	Perfect Active with an augment prefix ἐ reduplication of λ plus a κα suffix after the stem
ἐλελύκειν	-	I had loosed	-	Pluperfect with prefix ἐ plus reduplication and an augment ἐ before the reduplication plus a suffix κειν ending after the stem.

8. Summary of the aktionsart or kind of action



9. Imperatives

Present Active Imperative
(mood of command)

Singular

λύε	-	loose (you) (sg.)
λυέτω	-	let him loose

Plural

λύετε	-	loose (you) (pl.)
λυέτωσαν	-	let them loose

Present Middle/Passive Imperative

Singular

λύου	-	loose yourself or be loosed(sg.)
λυέσθω	-	let him loose himself or let him be loosed

Plural

λυέσθε	-	loose yourself (pl.) or be loosed
λυέσθωσαν-		let them loose themselves or let them be loosed

10. Infinitives

Infinitives (verbal nouns)

λύειν	-	Present Active Infinitive	-	to loose (continued action)
λύεσθαι	-	Present Middle/Passive Infinitive-		to loose for oneself or to be loosed
λῦσαι	-	Aorist Infinitive Active	-	to loose (completed action)

λύσασθαι	-	Aorist Infinitive Middle	-	to loose oneself (completed action)
λυθῆναι	-	Aorist Infinite Passive	-	to be loosed
λελυκέναι	-	Perfect Infinitive Active	-	to have loosed
λελύσθαι	-	Perfect Infinitive Middle	-	to loose for oneself

11. Participles

Participle (is a verbal adjective)

It is helpful to learn the participle for **εἰμί** - "to be" – since its forms are attached to the stems of other words in forming a participle

Present Active Participle

Masculine Singular

Nom.	ὤν	-	being
Gen.	ὄντος		
Dat.	ὄντι		
Accus.	ὄντα		

Masculine Plural

Nom.	ὄντες
Gen.	ὄντων
Dat.	οὖσι(ν)
Accus.	ὄντας

Present Active Participle
(λύων – masc./ λύουσα – fem./ λῦον – neut.)

	Singular		
Nom.	λύων	-	loosing
Gen.	λύοντος		
Dat.	λύοντι		
Accus.	λύοντα		
	Plural		
Nom.	λύοντες		
Gen.	λυόντων		
Dat.	λύουσι		
Accus.	λύοντας		

Present Middle/ Passive Participle

	Singular		
Nom.	λυόμενος	-	loosing for himself/ being loosed
Gen.	λυομένου		
Dat.	λυομένῳ		
Accus.	λυόμενον		

Plural

Nom.	λυόμενοι
Gen.	λυομένων
Dat.	λυομένοις
Accus.	λυομένους

Aorist Active Participle
(λύσας– masc./ λύσασα – fem./ λῦσαν – neut.)

Singular

Nom.	λύσας	-	having loosed (masc.)
Gen.	λύσαντος		
Dat.	λύσαντι		
Accus.	λύσαντα		

Plural

Nom.	λύσαντες
Gen.	λυσάντων
Dat.	λύσασι
Accus.	λύσαντας

Aorist Middle Participle
(λυσάμενος– masc./ λυσαμένη – fem./ λυσάμενον – neut.)

Singular

Nom.	λυσάμενος	-	having loosed for himself
Gen.	λυσαμένου		

Dat. λυσαμένῳ

Accus. λυσάμενον

Plural

Nom. λυσάμενοι

Gen. λυσαμένων

Dat. λυσαμένοις

Accus. λυσαμένους

Note the σα after the stem λυ plus the same suffix ending as in the present participle

Aorist Passive Participle
(λυθείς– masc./ λυθεῖσα – fem./ λυθέν – neut.)

Singular

Nom. λυθείς - having been loosed

Gen. λυθέντος

Dat. λυθέντι

Accus. λυθέντα

Plural

Nom. λυθέντες

Gen. λυθέντων

Dat.	λυθεῖσι		
Accus.	λυθέντας		

Perfect Active Participle
(λελυκώς– masc./ λελυκυῖα – fem./ λελυκός – neut)

Singular

Nom.	λελυκώς	-	having loosed
Gen.	λελυκότος		
Dat.	λελυκότι		
Accus.	λελυκότα		

Plural

Nom.	λελυκότες		
Gen.	λελυκότων		
Dat.	λελυκόσι		
Accus.	λελυκότας		

Perfect Middle/Passive Participle
(λελυμένος – masc./ λελυμένη – fem./ λελυμένον – neut.)

Singular

Nom.	λελυμένος	-	having loosed for oneself/ having been loosed

Gen. λελυμένου

Dat. λελυμένῳ

Accus. λελυμένον

Plural

Nom. λελυμένοι

Gen. λελυμένων

Dat. λελυμένοις

Accus. λελυμένους

Note the accent is on the penult or the next to the last syllable (even with a short final vowel) instead of on the expected antepenult syllable (the 2nd back from the ultima or last syllable).

12. <u>The Subjunctives</u>

(the mood of probability or possibility)

It is rendered as "may loose" rather than "I am loosing" of the indicate mood indicating a probable or possible action of reality over against that of an actual reality Ex: It is raining (indicative),
It may rain (subjunctive).

Present Active Subjunctive

Singular

λύω	-	I may loose
λύῃς	-	you (sg.) may loose
λύῃ	-	he/she may loose

Plural

λύωμεν	-	we may loose
λύητε	-	you (pl.) may loose
λύωσι(ν)	-	they may loose

Note that in the subjunctive the endings have the longer η ending throughout and the long ω in the 1st and 3rd personal plural instead of the **ομεν**,or **ουσι**.

Present Middle/Passive Subjunctive

Singular

λύωμαι	-	I may loose myself/ I may be loosed
λύῃ	-	you may loose yourself/you (sg.) may be loosed
λύηται	-	he may loose himself/ he/she may be loosed

Plural

λυώμεθα	-	we may loose ourselves/we may be loosed
λύησθε	-	you may loose yourselves/you (pl.) may be loosed
λύωνται	-	they may loose themselves/they may be loosed

Note again the long ω and η vowels on the suffix of the stem **λυ.**

Aorist Active Subjunctive

	Singular	
λύσω	-	I might loose
λύσῃς	-	you (sg.) might loose
λύσῃ	-	he/she might loose
	Plural	
λύσωμεν	-	we might loose
λύσητε	-	you (pl.) might loose
λύσωσι(ν)	-	they might loose

Note the aorist subjunctive has the same endings as the Present Subjunctive after the *σ* suffix following the stem λ**υ** which gives it away as an aorist.

13. <u>Summary of Nouns</u>

1). 1st declension (feminine) - η or α vowel in the ending. Ex: ἀρχή , ἀρχής , δόξα , δόξης , etc.

2). 2nd declension (masculine) - nouns have a **ο** vowel in its ending. Ex: λόγος , λόγου ἄνθρωπος , ἀνθρώπου , etc.

3). 3rd declension nouns - depart from the 1st and 2nd declension in the genitive and the following cases. Ex: χάρις, χάριτος, χάριτι, etc.

Note: Learn the article and apply the case ending to 1st and 2nd declension nouns

14. Summary of Verbs/Participles/Subjunctives

The following chart may be helpful for the tenses:

λύω	Present	basic stem
λύ[σ]ω	Future	σ in suffix
[ἐ]λυ ον	Imperfect	ε in prefix, ον suffix
[ἐ]λυ σα	Aorist Active	ε in prefix, σα suffix
[ἐ]λύ θην	Aorist Passive	ε in prefix, θην suffix
[λέ]λυ κα	Perfect	λέ in prefix, κα suffix
[ἐλε]λύ́κειν	Pluperfect	ἐλε in prefix, κειν suffix

Participle

Learn the participle for εἰμί in ὤν, ὄντος etc and apply these ending to the present participle and after the σα suffix in the aorist add ending for ὼν, ὀντος , etc. Ex: λύων, λύοντος, λύσας, λύσαντος, etc.

Subjunctive

The longer ω and η vowels are used. Ex: λύω, λύῃς, λύῃ etc. over against the present λύω, λύεις, λύει.

Principle Parts

Principle parts is the recognition of the verb in the present, future, aorist, aorist passive and perfect stems. Second aorists or perfects are used and differ in root of the stem in the aorist & perfect from the present. Thus learning these forms are essential in translation. These basic principle parts will be presented with each lesson as they occur at the end of the grammar before each lesson.

15. Personal Pronoun

Personal Pronouns

	Singular			Plural		
Nom.	ἐγω	-	I	ἡμεῖς	-	we
Gen.	ἐμοῦ	-	of me	ἡμῶν	-	of us
Dat.	ἐμοί	-	to or for	ἡμῖν	-	to, or for us
Acc.	ἐμέ	-	me	ἡμᾶς	-	us

	Singular			Plural		
Nom.	σύ	-	you	ὑμεῖς	-	you
Gen.	σοῦ	-	of you	ὑμῶν	-	of you
Dat.	σοί	-	to or for you	ὑμῖν	-	to,or for you
Acc.	σέ	-	you	ὑμᾶς	-	you

	Singular			Plural		
Nom.	αὐτός	-	he	αὐτοί	-	they
Gen.	αὐτοῦ	-	of him	αὐτῶν	-	of them
Dat.	αὐτῷ	-	to him	αὐτοῖς	-	to them
Acc.	αὐτόν	-	him	αὐτούς	-	them

	Singular			Plural		

Nom.	**αὐτή**	-	she	**αὐταί**	-	they
Gen.	**αὐτῆς**	-	of her	**αὐτῶν**	-	of them
Dat.	**αὐτῇ**	-	to her	**αὐταῖς**	-	to them
Acc.	**αὐτήν**	-	her	**αὐτάς**	-	them

	Singular			Plural		
Nom.	**αὐτό**	-	it	**αὐτά**	-	they
Gen.	**αὐτοῦ**	-	of it	**αὐτῶν**	-	of them
Dat.	**αὐτῷ**	-	to it	**αὐτοῖς**	-	to them
Acc.	**αὐτό**	-	it	**αὐτά**	-	them

<u>The basic verbs with principal parts in John 1:1-14 are:</u>

(εἰμι, The "to be" verb)

The conjugation in the Present Active Indicative

Singular			Plural		
ἐιμί	-	I am	**ἐσμέν**	-	we are
εἶ	-	you (sg.) are	**ἐστέ**	-	you (pl.) are
ἐστί(ν)	-	He/she it is	**εἰσί(ν)**	-	they are

The conjugation in the Imperfect Active Indicative

Singular			Plural		
ἤμήν	-	I was	**ἦμεν**	-	we were
ἦς	-	you (sg.) were	**ἦτε**	-	you (pl.) were
ἦν	-	He/she it is	**ἦσαν**	-	they were

(<u>γίνομαι</u> - to become)

Present Active	**γίνομαι**	-	I become
Aorist Active	**ἐγενόμην**	-	I became
Perfect Active	**γέγονα**	-	I have become

(καταλαμβάνω - to comprehend)

Present Active	**καταλαμβάνω**	-	I comprehend
2nd Aorist	**κατέλαβον**	-	I comprehended

(ἀποστέλλω - to send)

Present Active	ἀποστέλλω	-	I send
Aorist Active	ἀπέστειλα	-	I sent
Perfect Active	ἀπέσταλκα	-	I have sent

(ἔρχομαι - to come)

Present Middle	**ἔρχομαι**	-	I come
2nd Aorist Active	**ἦλθον**	-	I came
Perfect Active	ἐλήλυθα	-	he has come

(γινώσκω - to know)

Present Active	**γινώσκω**	-	I know
Future Middle	**γνώσομαι**	-	I shall know
2nd Aorist Active	**ἔγνων**	-	I knew
Perfect Active	**ἔγνωκα**	-	I have known

(κράζω - to cry)

Present Active	**κράζω**	-	I cry
Aorist Active	**ἔκραξα**	-	I cried
Perfect Active	**κέκραζα**	-	I have cried

(λαμβάνω - to receive)

Present Active	λαμβάνω	-	I receive
Future Middle	**λήμψομαι**	-	I will receive

2nd Aorist Active	ἔλαβον	-	I received
Perfect Active	εἴληφα	-	I have received
	(ὁράω - to see)		
Present Active	ὁράω	-	I see
Future Middle	ὄψομαι	-	I will see
Aorist Active	εἶδον	-	I saw
Perfect Active	ἑόρακα	-	I have seen

Note: The second aorists or second perfects have a stem change and do not follow the pattern as in the regular verb. Note: λ**ύω,** λ**ύσω,** ἐλ**ύσα,** etc where the same stem λ**υ** remains constant with the adding of prefixes and suffixes whereas in the 2nd aorist forms there is a stem change and imperfect endings are used: λα**μ**βάν**ω** becoming ἔλαβ**ον** in 2nd aorist going from λαμβ to λαβ in the stem change or **γινώσκω** (I know) changing the stem to ἔ**γνων** (I knew) in the 2nd aorist. Some basic principle parts then with stem changes in the 2nd aorist are: λέγω (I say) ⇨ εἶπ**ον** in the 2nd aorist (I said). **γίνομαι** (I become) ⇨ ἐγεν**όμην** (I became) in 2nd Aorist. Note the stem change from **γιν** to **γεν** in 2nd aorist. The key to second aorists and perfects is the stem change unlike the regular verb which keeps its stem throughout. By learning 2nd aorist & perfects in principle parts of verbs one can easily begin to recognize the second aorists and perfects by their continued use in the Biblical text.