



Lesson 8

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Chapter 14: Relative Pronouns

The relative pronouns in English include such words as, **who, that, which, whom,** and **whose.**

Relative clause: the relative pronoun and the clause that it introduces

“The teacher **who has a halo around his head** teaches Greek.” (Mounce, p. 110; the reference is obviously to some other seminary!)

Relative clauses can function as a unit in a sentence and take the place of a noun.

I eat **meat.**

I eat **what is placed before me.**

Notice here that the noun in the first sentence functions as a direct object, and *so does the relative clause in the second example*. The relative clause and the simple noun have identical *functions* in the two sentences: they identify what is eaten.

The same thing is true of the next two pairs of examples, as subject in the first and as object of a preposition in the second.

George is not against me.

Whoever is with me is not against me.

Give the Bible to George.

Give the Bible to whomever asks for it.

Greek relative pronoun

	M	F	N	English gloss
NS	ὅς	ἥ	ὅ	who/which/that
GS	οὗ	ἧς	οὗ	whose/of whom...
DS	ᾧ	ἧ	ᾧ	to whom/which
AS	ὅν	ἥν	ὅ	whom/which/that
NP	οἷ	αἷ	ᾧ	who/which/that
GP	ᾧν	ᾧν	ᾧν	whose/of whom...
DP	οἷς	αἷς	οἷς	to whom/which
AP	οὗς	ᾧς	ᾧ	whom/which/that

Cp. **similar** forms you have meet before: [ὁ], ἡ, οἱ, αἱ, and ἦν. To keep these forms distinct, remember that the relative pronoun **always** has a rough breathing mark & an accent mark. The article has only a rough breathing mark.

ἦν (smooth breathing and circumflex accent) is a form of εἶμι, **he was**, whereas the relative pronoun is ἦν (rough breathing and acute accent).

The **number** and **gender** of a relative pronoun is determined by its **antecedent** (just like a personal pronoun). The **case** of a relative pronoun is determined by its **function** in the sentence.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὃν γινώσκω (I know) διδάσκει (he teaches) ἡμᾶς.

The man **whom I know** teaches us.

The relative pronoun is ὃν (MSA). Its antecedent is ὁ ἄνθρωπος (MSN). The function of the relative pronoun is as the direct object of γινώσκω. The relative clause is ὃν γινώσκω.

Exercises: pp. 61ff (**Green** text below is added to what is given in the workbook—but it is in the NT and you can translate it with the help given.)

1. John 6:63, τὸ πνεῦμά ἐστιν τὸ ζωοποιῶν (one who gives life), ἡ σὰρξ οὐκ ὠφελεῖ (profits) οὐδέν· τὰ ῥήματα ἃ ἐγὼ λελάληκα (I speak) ὑμῖν πνεῦμά ἐστιν καὶ ζωὴ ἐστιν.

Did you catch what seems at first to be an anomaly in the underlined words? If not, what **number** are they? If you're stuck and don't remember, check the workbook, p. 34, n. 2 and p. 39, n. 11.

3. Mark 1:2, **Καθὼς γέγραπται** (it is written) **ἐν τῷ Ἡσαΐα τῷ προφήτῃ·** ἰδοὺ ἀποστέλλω (I send) τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει (he will prepare) τὴν ὁδόν σου·
4. John 2:23, **Ὡς δὲ ἦν ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐν τῷ πάσχα ἐν τῇ ἑορτῇ,** πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ θεωροῦντες (because they saw) αὐτοῦ τὰ σημεῖα ἃ ἐποίει (he was doing)·
5. 1 Cor. 15:1-2, **Γνωρίζω** (I make known) δὲ ὑμῖν, ἀδελφοί, τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ὃ **εὐηγγελισάμην** (I preached) ὑμῖν, **ὃ καὶ παρελάβετε** (you received), **ἐν ᾧ καὶ ἐστήκατε** (you stand) ² **δι' οὗ καὶ σώζεσθε** (you are saved),
7. Mark 2:24 **καὶ οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ἔλεγον** (they said) **αὐτῷ· Ἴδε τί ποιοῦσιν** (they do) **τοῖς σάββασιν ὃ οὐκ ἔξεστιν** (it is lawful);
8. 1 Cor. 15:10 **χάριτι δὲ θεοῦ εἰμι ὃ εἰμι, καὶ ἡ χάρις αὐτοῦ ἢ εἰς ἐμέ οὐ κενή** (useless) **ἐγενήθη** (it was).