

# Punctuation and Syllabification

In this Chapter we will learn

- 1) Four Greek punctuation marks and three accents.
- 2) How to break a Greek word into parts so we can pronounce it.
- 3) 25 Vocabulary Words

Review Alphabet **α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν ξ ο π ρ σ(ς) τ υ φ χ ψ ω** [Alphabet.wav](#)

## Punctuation

An English Comma, is a Greek Comma,

An English Period, is a Greek Period,

so far so good.

An English semicolon is a Greek Question mark,

And a period above the line is a Greek semicolon.

Diaeresis (double dot over a vowel, as in 'naive', in English) indicates the vowels are NOT pronounced as a diphthong.

Apostrophe, when a preposition ends with a vowel, and the next word begins with a vowel, the final vowel of the first word drops out. It is marked by an apostrophe, which is placed where the vowel was dropped.

Accent , placed over a vowel showing the syllable that gets the accent. It was a pitch accent and eventually became a stress accent as in English. The pitch accent can be a acute, both mark and pitch going up, a grave, both mark and pitch going down or a circumflex accent, both the mark and the pitch rose up then dropped a little.

Syllabification Dividing words into syllables for pronunciation ease is done in Greek as it is in English. Here are eight simple rules:

- 1) There is one vowel (or diphthong) per syllable
- 2) A single consonant by itself, (not a cluster) goes with the following vowel.
- 3) Two consecutive vowels, which do NOT form a diphthong, are divided.
- 4) A consonant cluster that can NOT begin a word is divided , and the first consonant goes with the preceding vowel.
- 5) A consonant cluster that can begin a word goes with the following vowel.
- 6) Double consonants are divided.
- 7) Any consonant plus a mu or a vau goes with the following vowel.
- 8) Compound words are divided where joined.

## Vocabulary

There are only 5,437 different Greek words in the entire NT. They occur a total of 138,162 times. But there are only 313 words that occur 50 times or more. When you learn 319 Greek words you can read 79.92% of the total word count! Contrast that with Spanish or French where you must learn about 2,000 words to speak the language. In a years study you can become proficient at reading your Greek NT. Take the time, a little bit EVERY day.

Vocabulary will be given in each lesson. Memorize the Greek spelling, for now ignore the genitive ending in the next column and the gender indicator in the next, memorize the English meaning, and (for some) the link to the pronunciation might work.

HELPFUL HINTS Mounce's disk has an excellent technique where he sings a little well known song and

substitutes the vocab word in the lyric. (i.e. sing "Glory Glory Glory, Lord God Almighty" Starting with "Doxa, Doxa, Doxa" instead.) Also associations, although often weird, help me to remember vocab very effectively (i.e. you find life at the ZOO-Ah, or my PHONO makes sounds)

#### Mounce Chapter 4 Vocabulary (Memorize)

For self pronouncing list: [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/greek/greek\\_vocab01.html](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/greek/greek_vocab01.html)

<b>Αβρααμ</b>	ου	ὁ	Abraham (73)
<b>ἄγγελος</b>	ου	ὁ	messenger, angel
<b>ἀμήν</b>			amen, verily, truly
<b>ἄνθρωπος</b>	ου	ὁ	man, mankind, person, people
<b>ἀπόστολος</b>	ου	ὁ	apostle, envoy, messenger
<b>Γαλιλαία</b>	ας	ἡ	Galilee
<b>γραφή</b>	ησ	ἡ	writing, Scripture
<b>Δαβίδ</b>	ου	ὁ	David
<b>δόξα</b>	ην	ἡ	glory
<b>ἐγώ</b>			I
<b>ἔσχατος</b>	η, ον		last, final
<b>ζωή</b>	ῆς	ἡ	life
<b>θεός</b>	ου	ὁ	God, god
<b>και</b>			and, even, also
<b>καρδία</b>	ας	ἡ	heart, inner self
<b>κόσμος</b>	ου	ὁ	world, universe
<b>λόγος</b>	ου	ὁ	word, statement, message
<b>Παυλος</b>	ου	ὁ	Paul
<b>Πετρος</b>	ου	ὁ	Peter
<b>Πιλατος</b>	ου	ὁ	Pilot

Σιμων	ου	ὁ	Simeon
πνεῦμα	τος	το	spirit, wind, breath, inner life
προφήτης	ου	ὁ	prophet
σάββατον	ου	τό	sabbath, 7th day
φωνά	ῆς	ἡ	sound, noise, voice

### Practice Pronunciations

According to Matthew 1:18-25

ΚΑΤΑ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΝ 1 :18 Τοῦ δὲ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἡ γέννησις οὕτως ἦν. μνηστευθείσης γὰρ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ Μαρίας τῷ Ἰωσήφ, πρὶν ἢ συναλθεῖν αὐτοὺς εὐρέθη ἐν γαστρὶ ἔχουσα ἐκ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου.

19 Ἰωσήφ δὲ ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς, δίκαιος ὢν καὶ μὴ θέλων αὐτὴν παραδειγματίσαι, ἐβουλήθη λάθρα ἀπολῦσαι αὐτήν.

20 ταῦτα δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐνθυμηθέντος ἰδοὺ ἄγγελος Κυρίου κατ' ὄναρ ἐφάνη αὐτῷ λέγων· Ἰωσήφ υἱὸς Δαυὶδ, μὴ φοβηθῆς παραλαβεῖν Μαριάμ τὴν γυναῖκά σου· τὸ γὰρ ἐν αὐτῇ γεννηθὲν ἐκ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου.

21 τέξεται δὲ υἱὸν καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν· αὐτὸς γὰρ σώσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτῶν.

22 Τοῦτο δὲ ὅλον γέγονεν ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος·

23 ἰδοὺ ἡ παρθένος ἐν γαστρὶ ἔξει καὶ τέξεται υἱόν, καὶ καλέσουσι τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἐμμανουήλ, ὃ ἐστὶ μεθερμηνευόμενον μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός.

24 Διεγερθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰωσήφ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὕπνου ἐποίησεν ὡς προσέταξεν αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος Κυρίου καὶ παρέλαβε τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ,

25 καὶ οὐκ ἐγίνωσκεν αὐτὴν ἕως οὗ ἔτεκε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτῆς τὸν πρωτότοκον, καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν.

According to Matthew 1:18 ¶ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.(KJB)

EXERCISE 4 (Don't just gawk, don't just print it, write it out by hand and syllabificate)

Punctuation and Syllabification

Syllabification: Divide the following words into syllables. If you are learning the rules, indicate which ones apply.

1. ἀμήν
2. ραφή
3. ἔσχατος
4. καρδία
5. πνεῦμα
6. προφητης
7. σάββατον
8. ἄγγελος
9. ἄνθρωπος
- 10 περιπατέω

**Reading:** We cannot stress enough how important it is to learn to pronounce the language. After years of teaching Greek we assure you that if you do not learn to pronounce it, you will never master the language. As you are reading, do not worry about the meaning of the words. Practice reading the selections over and over and over. Read it out loud until you can read it correctly in good time.

---

## ReDo Dr. Decker Lesson

[Lesson pdf file on Chap 3-4 by Dr. Decker](#)

---

Take [Closed Book Quiz 3 for Chapter 4](#) (Includes Vocab and Syllabification)  
(This Quiz should be taken with a html editor then saved and emailed to your instructor.)

---

Reference my 1st year Greek resource [www.gsbaptistchurch.com/greek/grk101.rtf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/greek/grk101.rtf) (This file uses the old Mounce font)  
(Hint: Try a right click on this, then select "save link to file." It works for me.)

---

[Back to Index](#) or On to [Next Lesson 5](#)