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A Concise Dictionary of New Testament Greek

This Dictionary provides students, pastors, and other readers of the Bible with a convenient and useful source of word meanings and English glosses for the entire vocabulary of the Greek New Testament. In addition to reflecting the full range of semantic uses and nuances with appropriate examples, according to the most recent lexical research, the Concise Dictionary includes the following features: identifying the part of speech, listing cognate key words, noting principal parts for each verb as used in the New Testament (giving the frequency of use in the New Testament), and citing the New Testament reference for each word used only once. The Dictionary also identifies enclitics, postpositives, and non-Greek words, and contains numerous cross references for irregular forms. It should prove to be an essential accompaniment to any course of NT Greek or serious study of the Bible in its original form.

WARREN C. TRENCHARD is Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Literature at La Sierra University, Riverside, California. He is author of the highly successful *The Student's Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament* and its second edition entitled *Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament* (Zondervan, 1993, 1998).

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To Mark, David, and Kevin —
sons to whom I entrust the future

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CONTENTS

Preface	<i>page</i> ix
Introduction	xi
Abbreviations	xvi
Dictionary	1

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PREFACE

This dictionary represents the maturation of a project that I began in 1990 with research and preparation for a comprehensive vocabulary guide to the Greek New Testament. Based on a computer database that I developed over two years, the first product was *The Student's Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament* (Zondervan, 1992). In 1998, it was released in revised form with a shortened title, as indicated below. However, for many years, I felt the need to greatly expand the database, especially in the area of word meanings, and issue the results in a small dictionary of the Greek New Testament. The result is *A Concise Dictionary of New Testament Greek*.

There are several fine small dictionaries available for students, pastors, and others who read the Greek New Testament, most notably the one by Barclay Newman listed below. This dictionary inevitably contains much of the same information. However, it is also unique in providing cognate key words, frequency data, and references for all words that occur only once in the New Testament. The *Concise Dictionary* also identifies enclitics, postpositives, and non-Greek words.

Among the many works that I have consulted in preparing this dictionary, I want particularly to acknowledge the following:

- Abbott-Smith, G. *A Manual Greek Lexicon of the New Testament*. 3d ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1937.
- Aland, Barbara, Kurt Aland, Johannes Karavidopolous, Carlo M. Martini, and Bruce M. Metzger. *The Greek New Testament*. 4th rev. ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1998.
- Blass, F., and A. Debrunner. *A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. Translated and revised by Robert W. Funk. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1961.
- Concordance to the Novum Testamentum Graece of Nestle-Aland, 26th Edition, and to the Greek New Testament, 3rd Edition*. 3d ed. Edited by the Institute for New Testament Textual Research and the Computer Center of Münster University. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1987.
- Danker, Frederick William. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. Based on Walter Bauer, *Griechisch-deutsches Wörterbuch zu den Schriften des Neuen Testaments und der frühchristlichen Literatur*. 6th ed. Edited by Kurt Aland and Barbara Aland with Viktor Reichmann, and on previous English editions by W.F. Arndt, F.W. Gingrich, and F.W. Danker. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2000.
- GRAMCORD Morphological Search Engine 2.4bm.

- Greenlee, J. Harold. *A New Testament Greek Morpheme Lexicon*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1983.
- Kohlenberger III, John R., Edward W. Goodrick, and James A. Swanson. *The Exhaustive Concordance to the Greek New Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995.
- Liddell, Henry George, and Robert Scott. *A Greek–English Lexicon*. New ed. by Henry Stuart Jones. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1940.
- Louw, Johannes P., and Eugene A. Nida, eds. *Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains*. 2 vols. 2d ed. New York: United Bible Societies, 1989.
- Moule, C.F.D. *An Idiom-Book of New Testament Greek*. 2d ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1959.
- Moulton, James Hope. *A Grammar of New Testament Greek*. 4 vols. Vol. 2 edited by Wilbert Francis Howard. Vols. 3 and 4 edited by Nigel Turner. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1906–1976.
- Moulton, James Hope, and George Milligan. *The Vocabulary of the Greek Testament Illustrated from the Papyri and Other Non-Literary Sources*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1930.
- Newman, Jr., Barclay M. *A Concise Greek–English Dictionary of the New Testament*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993.
- Robertson, A.T. *A Grammar of the Greek New Testament in Light of Historical Research*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1934.
- Trenchard, Warren C. *Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998.

I am pleased to express my deep gratitude to several persons who helped with this project. My former student, Liisa Hawes, and my son, Mark Trenchard, worked on the initial database. My assistants, Joyce Arevalo and David Ocegüera, entered material into the current database. My friend, Tom Zapara, provided funds for computer equipment. My dean, John Jones, gave support and encouragement. My editor at Cambridge, Kevin Taylor, believed in this project from the beginning and greatly facilitated its realization. My family, especially my wife Marilyn, patiently put up with my fixation on this for longer than reasonable.

INTRODUCTION

A Concise Dictionary of New Testament Greek is intended to provide students, pastors, and others with a convenient and useful source of word meanings and English glosses and with other information concerning the vocabulary of the Greek New Testament. It assumes that users have a working knowledge of New Testament Greek grammar and syntax and a basic understanding of Greek word formation.

The entries in this dictionary contain information in the following order and formatting: headword in boldface type, part of speech, cognate key word(s) in parentheses, type of proper word, indication of a non-Greek word or one of non-Greek origin, principal parts of verbs, meanings and glosses in italic type, frequency of NT use in parentheses, and NT references for words that occur only once. Of course, no entry will have all of these. What follows will explain each of these components.

Headword

Usually, the entries list headwords for each entry according to BDAG, including the voice form of verbs. The listing of the very common *πορεύομαι* instead of *πορεύω* is a notable exception. When an entry lists a verb in the active voice that occurs in the NT only in the middle and/or passive, this fact is noted in the meaning. Likewise, entries indicate that certain words listed as adjectives occur in the NT only as substantives. The alternate forms of words are included only if such forms appear in the NT.

The spelling, accentuation, and capitalization of headwords typically follow what appears in UBS⁴. This includes the representation of certain Aramaic and Hebrew words used in direct quotations without accents or breathing marks, for example *αββα* and *ηλι*. In some cases, entries separately list words (e.g. *ἐάνπερ*) that appear in BDAG under the entries for other words (*ἐάν*). This reflects the usage in UBS⁴.

Many headwords represent irregular or other forms of words found elsewhere in the dictionary and are cross-referenced to them. Some headwords occur in the NT only as variant readings in UBS⁴, N²⁷, or an earlier edition of either. A few listings provide information about the results of compounding certain prepositions to words beginning with particular letters, for example *συνπ-*.

Part of speech

Entries give the part of speech of each headword. The exceptions include certain non-Greek words (e.g. ελωι) and cross references. The designations of parts of speech usually follow BDAG.

Cognate key word(s)

This part of the entry lists up to three key words that share a cognate relationship with the headword, if there is a cognate word in the NT. The determination of cognate word groups and their related key words largely follows those identified by J. Harold Greenlee in *A New Testament Greek Morpheme Lexicon*. A few entries list key words that are prepositional compounds (e.g. ἐπιποθέω), if all the related words in the NT represent the same compound. Of course, such words are not actually cognate key words and are provided merely as a convenience for users.

If only one root of a multi-root word is represented in the NT, entries list only one key word. An asterisk (*) indicates that the headword is itself the key word to which other words are related. A hyphen in front of a key word (e.g. -βαίνω) means that the key word appears in the NT only in compounds.

Because they are so numerous and their presence so obvious, entries do not list prepositions as key words for prepositional compounds, except for words that derive solely from prepositions. Furthermore, entries do not give key words for headwords that occur in the NT only as variant readings or for proper words. The one exception to the latter is Ζεύς, because it is the basis of the common words διοπετής and εὐδία. The form εὐ- is a prefix and thus not listed as a key word.

Type of proper word

Proper words are capitalized as headwords and are identified in one of three ways. Names of persons (pers.) include the names of human persons, deities, and titles associated with each. Included in this category are the names of the twelve sons of Jacob, even though they are occasionally used to identify places.

Names of places (pla.) refer to the names of countries, regions, cities, towns, geographical features and phenomena, and buildings. They also include nouns related to languages and the inhabitants of particular places, as well as the corresponding proper adjectives and adverbs.

Other proper words (oth.) include the names of religious, philosophical, political, and social groups and the words used to describe their members. A few miscellaneous proper words (e.g. Ἀσιάρχης and Χερούβ) also fall into this category.

Non-Greek word

Entries identify the non-Greek words among the vocabulary of the NT, as well as the Greek words that derived directly from another language. These include words from Aramaic, Coptic, Hebrew, Latin, and Persian. A few are listed simply as Semitic. Greek words that derived from original loanwords (e.g. the derivatives of βύσσινος) or that entered Greek very early (e.g. συκάμινος) are usually not identified.

Principal parts

For verbs, entries list the principal parts that are found in the NT. If none are listed, this means that the verb occurs only in the present principal part (present and/or imperfect tenses). Principal parts are not included for verbs that appear in the NT only as variant readings. Some principal parts contain more than one form.

Because the forms ἐρῶ, εἶπον, εἶρηκα, εἶρημαι, and ἐρρέθη and their compounds are always used in the NT for λέγω and its compounds outside the present and imperfect, I have listed them among the principal parts of λέγω and the related verbs. Likewise, I have given εἶδον as the predominant aorist principal part of ὁράω.

Meanings and glosses

The heart of each entry is the listing of the headword's meaning or the English glosses that represent its range of uses in the NT. For these meanings and glosses and the main semantic nuances into which they are divided, I draw extensively on BDAG, with input from the other sources listed in the Preface and my own observations.

Entries divide these meanings and glosses into their main semantic nuances, separated by semicolons with the glosses and examples within a particular nuance separated by commas. For example, **κρίμα, ατος, τό** n. (κρίνω) *dispute, lawsuit; decision, degree; judging, judgment, authority to judge; judicial verdict, condemnation, punishment, sentence.*

Also separated in this way are the distinct meanings associated with particular forms or functions, for example passive voice or substantive form. These are identified in parentheses at the end of the section to which they pertain. For example, **λοιπός, ἦ, ὄν** adj. (λείπω) *left, remaining; other, rest (of); from now on, in the future, henceforth, beyond that, in addition, finally, furthermore, therefore* (neut. as adv.).

Where a classification or description relates to more than one main nuance, this is identified at the beginning of the first of these main nuances, and pertains to all the main nuances that follow until one comes to another such description or to the end of the entry. For example, **ἔξω** adv. (ἐκ) *outside; outer, outside, foreign* (as adj.); *out; outsider* (w. art.); adv. prep. w. gen. *outside; out, out of*.

Only words and phrases in italic typeface represent meanings and English glosses. Italicized expressions within parentheses associated with one of these meanings or glosses are intended to be a possible element of the meaning or gloss, for example *settle (down)*. If the parenthetical expression is in regular typeface, it is intended to be explanatory, for example *to cast against* (of votes). Likewise, the word “or” is used frequently to convey an alternative element of the meaning or gloss and is not intended to be part of the meaning, for example *to pour out or down over*.

Often the word is not used in the NT in the particular form represented by the headword (e.g. active voice for verbs or attributive or predicate use for adjectives). Usually, entries list the meaning of the headword form followed after a semicolon by the meaning of the form used in the NT. For example, **μαρῖνω** v. (*) aor. pass. ἐμαράνθην. *to destroy; die out, fade, disappear, wither* (pass. in NT).

Many of these nuances include unusual or idiomatic examples from the text of the NT. For example, **πλησμονή, ἡς, ἦ** n. (πίμπλημι) *satiety, satisfaction, gratification, πρὸς πλησμονὴν τῆς σαρκός self-indulgence*.

When giving parsing information in cross references, entries use the following assumptions for various types of words, unless otherwise stated. For verbs: indicative, active, first person, singular. For imperatives: second person, singular. For participles: active, singular, masculine, nominative. For nouns: masculine, nominative, singular. Also, unless otherwise stated aorist = 1 aorist, perfect = 1 perfect, future = 1 future. Thus, for example “aor.” means “1 aor. ind. act. 1 sg.”; “2 aor. pass. ptc.” means “2 aor. pass. ptc. sg. masc. nom.”

Frequency

The frequency information reflects the number of times a word is used in the NT. The main sources for the data, which are not intended to be definitive, are the *Concordance to the Novum Testamentum Graece, The Exhaustive Concordance*

to the Greek New Testament, and GRAMCORD. Only words that appear in the text of UBS⁴, including those printed within square brackets, are used in the count. Crasis forms have their own frequency numbers. However, the individual parts of these contracted words are also counted in computing the frequency of the individual words. I have not provided frequency numbers for words that occur only as variant readings in the NT. Instead, the abbreviation “v.l.” appears within the parentheses.

Reference

The last component of the entry is the reference provided for all words that occur only once in the NT. This information is not given for words that occur in the NT only as variant readings.

ABBREVIATIONS

New Testament books

Mt	Matthew	1 Ti	1 Timothy
Mk	Mark	2 Ti	2 Timothy
Lk	Luke	Tit	Titus
Jn	John	Phlm	Philemon
Ac	Acts	Heb	Hebrews
Rom	Romans	Jas	James
1 Cor	1 Corinthians	1 Pt	1 Peter
2 Cor	2 Corinthians	2 Pt	2 Peter
Gal	Galatians	1 Jn	1 John
Eph	Ephesians	2 Jn	2 John
Phil	Philippians	3 Jn	3 John
Col	Colossians	Jd	Jude
1 Th	1 Thessalonians	Rev	Revelation
2 Th	2 Thessalonians		

Other abbreviations

1	first person	comp.	comparative
2	second person	conj.	conjunction
3	third person	contr.	contraction, contracted
abs.	absolute	Cop.	Coptic
abstr.	abstract	correl.	correlative
acc.	accusative	cult.	cultic
act.	active	dat.	dative
adj.	adjective	demonstr.	demonstrative
adv.	adverb, adverbial	distr.	distributive
alt.	alternate	emph.	emphasis
aor.	aorist	encl.	enclitic
Ara.	Aramaic	esp.	especially
art.	article	ex.	example
attrib.	attributive	excl.	exclamation
aux.	auxiliary	ext.	extended
BDAG	<i>A Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, 4th ed.</i>	fem.	feminine
		fig.	figurative
		form.	formula
		fut.	future

gen.	genitive	pla.	name of a place
Heb.	Hebrew	plpf.	pluperfect
impers.	impersonal	pos.	positive
impf.	imperfect	poss.	possible, possibly
impv.	imperative	posses.	possessive
indef.	indefinite	postpos.	postpositive
inf.	infinitive	pred.	predicate
infer.	inferential	predom.	predominantly
instr.	instrumental	pref.	preferred
interj.	interjection	prep.	preposition
interrog.	interrogative	pres.	present
intr.	intransitive	prob.	probably
Lat.	Latin	pron.	pronoun
lit.	literal	prop.	properly
masc.	masculine	ptc.	participle
met.	metaphorical	recip.	reciprocal
mid.	middle	ref.	reference
mng(s).	meaning(s)	reflex.	reflexive
mor.	moral	rel.	relative
n.	noun	s.	see
N ²⁷	Nestle–Aland, <i>Novum Testamentum Graece</i> , 27th ed.	Sem.	Semitic
neg.	negative	sg.	singular
neut.	neuter	somet.	sometimes
nom.	nominative	subj.	subjunctive
NT	New Testament	subst.	substantive
oft.	often	superl.	superlative
opp.	opposite	temp.	temporal
opt.	optative	trans.	transitive
oth.	other proper name	UBS ⁴	United Bible Societies, <i>The Greek New Testament</i> , 4th ed.
part.	particle	untransl.	untranslatable
pass.	passive	usu.	usually
Per.	Persian	v.	verb
pers.	name of a person, personal	v.l.	variant reading(s) only
personif.	personified	voc.	vocative
pf.	perfect	w.	with
pl.	plural		

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