Chapter 14

Verbal System: Secondary-Tense Endings for Middle/Passive Voice, Indicative Mood

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THE BASICS

✔ Formation and Translation of Secondary Tenses, Middle and Passive Voices

✔ The Indicative Mood: A Review

14.1 Vocabulary

14.1.1 Principal Parts

εὐαγγελίζω, ——, εὐηγγέλισα, ——, εὐηγγέλισμαι, εὐηγγελίσθην
I evangelize, announce good news

εὑρίσκω, εὑρήσω, εὗρον, εὕρηκα, ——, εὑρέθην
I find

ἔχω, ἕξω, ἔσχον, ἔσχηκα
I have

θαυμάζω, θαυμάσομαι, ἐθαύμασα, ——, ——, ἐθαυμάσθην
I marvel, wonder at

θεραπεύω, θεραπεύσω, ἐθεράπευσα, ——, τεθεράπευμαι, ἐθεραπεύθην
I heal, care for, serve (cf. therapeutic)

καθαρίζω, καθαριῶ,[1] ἐκαθάρισα, ——, κεκαθάρισμαι, ἐκαθαρίσθην
I cleanse (cf. "catharsis")

καθίζω, καθίσω, ἐκάθισα, κεκάθικα
I seat, sit

κηρύσσω, κηρύξω, ἐκήρυξα, ——, κεκήρυγμαι, ἐκηρύχθην
I preach, proclaim

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[1] The future forms καθαριῶ and καθισῶ are discussed in §17.2.7.

κλαίω, κλαύσω, ἔκλαυσα
    I weep, cry out
κράζω, κράξω, ἔκραξα, κέκραγα
    I cry out
λαμβάνω, λήμψομαι, ἔλαβον, εἴληφα, εἴλημμαι, ἐλήμφθην
    I take, receive
    παραλαμβάνω
        I receive, take along or with
λέγω,[2] ἐρῶ, εἶπον or εἶπα,[3] εἴρηκα, εἴρημαι, ἐρρέθην or ἐρρήθην
    I say, speak, tell
λείπω,[4] -λείψω, ἔλιπον, ——, -λέλειμμαι, -ελείφθην
    I leave
λύω, λύσω, ἔλυσα, λέλυκα, λέλυμαι, ἐλύθην
    I loose, untie, release, set free, abolish
πάσχω, ——, ἔπαθον, πέπονθα
    I suffer, endure (cf. "paschal lamb")
πείθω, πείσω, ἔπεισα, πέποιθα, πέπεισμαι, ἐπείσθην
    I persuade
πειράζω, πειράσω, ἐπείρασα, ——, πεπείρασμαι, ἐπειράσθην
    I try, attempt, put to the test, tempt
πέμπω, πέμψω, ἔπεμψα, ——, πέπεμμαι , ἐπέμφθην
    I send
περισσεύω, περισσεύσω, ἐπερίσσευσα
    I abound, am rich
πίνω, πίομαι, ἔπιον, πέπωκα, ——, -επόθην
    I drink
πίπτω, πεσοῦμαι, ἔπεσον, πέπτωκα
    I fall
πιστεύω, πιστεύσω, ἐπίστευσα, πεπίστευκα, πεπίστευμαι, ἐπιστεύθην
    I believe
πράσσω, πράξω, ἔπραξα, πέπραχα, πέπραγμαι
    I do, accomplish
σκανδαλίζω, ——, ἐσκανδάλισα, ——, ἐσκανδάλισμαι, ἐσκανδαλίσθην
    I cause to sin, cause to fail; give offense to (cf. "scandalize")

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[2]Although the stem λεγ- appears only in the first principal part of this verb, some of its compounds construct the other principal parts on the same stem. Cf. καταλέγω, καταλέξω, κατέλεξα, etc. Cf. p. 32.

[3]The aorist forms of this verb often take *first aorist* endings featuring the -α- linking vowel: εἶπα, εἶπας, εἴπαμεν, etc.

[4]λείπω itself is not common in the GNT, but it has many compound forms—especially καταλείπω ("I leave, am leaving").

στρέφω, -στρέψω, ἔστρεψα, ——, -έστραμμαι, ἐστράφην
    I turn
ὑποστρέφω
       I return, turn back
σῴζω, σώσω, ἔσωσα, σέσωκα, σέσωσμαι, ἐσώθην
    I save, rescue, heal
ὑποτάσσω, ——, ὑπέταξα, ——, ὑποτέταγμαι, ὑπετάγην
       active: I subject, subordinate; passive: I subject myself, am subjected
φεύγω, φεύξομαι, ἔφυγον, πέφυγα
    I flee
φυλάσσω, φυλάξω, ἐφύλαξα
    I watch, guard, keep

The six principal parts of the verb have been introduced. In this chapter you will learn the tenses that are formed with secondary-tense middle-voice endings: the imperfect tense, middle and passive voices; the aorist tense, middle voice; and the pluperfect tense, middle and passive voices. You should review the significance of the imperfect tense (pp. 82–84), the aorist tense (pp. 93–94), the pluperfect tense (p. 106), and the middle and passive voices (pp. 111–12).

14.2 Formation and Translation of Secondary Tenses, Middle and Passive Voices

The following are the endings of the secondary middle tenses:

	Singular	*Plural*
1	-μην	-μεθα
2	-σο	-σθε
3	-το	-ντο

After reviewing the *active* voice forms of the secondary tenses, you can more readily identify the *middle/passive* voice forms.

14.2.1 Imperfect Tense, Middle and Passive Voices

As with the present tense (on which the imperfect is formed), one conjugation serves for both the middle and the passive voices.

1. *Identify the past-time augment and locate the* o/ε *linking vowel.* For example, ἐ-λυ-ό-μην. For stems beginning with a vowel, this entails recognizing the lengthened initial vowel, as with ἦγ-ο-μην (from ε- + ἄγ- [ἄγω]).

2. *Identify the middle/passive ending.* As with the primary middle endings, the intervocalic σ of the second person singular ending drops out, and the linking vowel contracts with the remaining o to yield -ου. Hence, ἐλύου results from ἔλυε + σο.

Imperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of λύω

		Middle	*Passive*
1S	ἐ λυ ό μην	I was releasing (in my own interest)	I was being released
2S	ἐ λύ ου	you were releasing (in your own interest)	you were being released
3S	ἐ λύ ε το	he, she, it was releasing (in his, her, its own interest)	he, she, it was being released
1P	ἐ λυ ό μεθα	we were releasing (in our interest)	we were being released
2P	ἐ λύ ε σθε	you were releasing (in your own interest)	you were being released
3P	ἐ λύ ο ντο	they were releasing (in their own interest)	they were being released

14.2.2 Aorist Tense, Middle Voice

First aorist. The first aorist middle is built on the first aorist stem (the third principal part; e.g., ἔλυσα).

1. *Identify the past-time augment ε- and locate the tense suffix -σ- with the linking vowel α.* Hence ἐ-λυ-σ-ά-μην.

2. *Identify the middle ending.* In the second person singular, the σ of -σο drops out, and the linking vowel α contracts with the remaining o to yield -ω. Hence, instead of ἐλύσασο, one finds ἐλύσω.

First Aorist Middle Indicative of λύω

		Singular			*Plural*
1	ἐ λυ σά μην	I released (in my own interest)		ἐ λυ σά μεθα	we released (in our own interest)
2	ἐ λύ σω	you released (in your own interest)		ἐ λύ σα σθε	you released (in your own interest)
3	ἐ λύ σα το	he, she, it released (in his, her, its own interest)		ἐ λύ σα ντο	they released (in their own interest)

Second aorist. The second aorist middle is built on the second aorist stem (the third principal part; e.g., ἤγαγον [from ἄγω]).

1. *Identify the past-time augment and locate the o/ε linking vowel.* Thus, ἠγαγόμην is a result of ε- + ἀγαγ + ο.

2. *Identify the middle/passive ending.* The second person singular follows the contraction pattern of the imperfect; hence, ἠγάγου. Remember that the only difference in appearance between the imperfect (e.g., ἠγόμην) and the second aorist (e.g., ἠγαγόμην) is the *stem*.

Second Aorist Middle Indicative of ἄγω

	Singular	Plural
1	ἠ γαγ ό μην	ἠ γαγ ό μεθα
2	ἠ γάγ ου	ἠ γάγ ε σθε
3	ἠ γάγ ε το	ἠ γάγ ο ντο

14.2.3 Pluperfect Tense, Middle and Passive Voices

The middle and passive voices of the pluperfect tense are formed on the fifth principal part (λέλυμαι; ἦγμαι). As with the perfect middle and passive, their forms are identical, and they do not use a linking vowel or -κ- tense suffix.

1. *Identify the past-time augment ε-.* For example, the pluperfect middle of λύω is ἐλελύμην. Often, however, pluperfect forms will not have an augment and the tense is recognizable only from the ending; hence the perfect ἦγμαι and the pluperfect ἦγμην.

2. *Identify the secondary middle/passive endings.* As with the perfect, the ending is connected directly to the verb stem without a linking vowel. Hence ἐλελύμην or ἦγμην.

Pluperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of λύω

		Middle	Passive
1S	(ἐ) λε λύ μην	I had released (in my own interest and the effect had continued)	I had been released (and the effect had continued)
2S	(ἐ) λέ λυ σο	you had released	you had been released
3S	(ἐ) λέ λυ το	he/she/it had released	he/she/it had been released
1P	(ἐ) λε λύ μεθα	we had released	we had been released
2P	(ἐ) λέ λυ σθε	you had released	you had been released
3P	(ἐ) λέ λυ ντο	they had released	they had been released

Because the pluperfect is formed on the fifth principal part (perfect middle/passive), changes occur to stems ending in consonants (see p. 115): for example, ἡγιάσμην (from the verb ἁγιάζω = I sanctify).[5] The following is representative:

Pluperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of ἁγιάζω

	Singular	*Plural*
1	ἡγιάσ μην	ἡγιάσ μεθα
2	ἡγία σο	ἡγία σθε
3	ἡγίασ το	ἡγιασ μένοι ἦσαν

14.3 The Indicative Mood: A Review

You have now been introduced to all of the tenses and voices of the indicative mood encountered in the GNT. Three ways of understanding or categorizing verbs have been presented:

1. the three basic tense aspects (durative, unitary, and completed with continuing results);

2. the six principal parts (the stem forms upon which all conjugations are based); and

3. the four sets of endings (primary active; secondary active; primary middle/ passive; secondary middle/passive).

Tenses in the indicative mood express both time and kind of action. This will not be true of tenses in the subjunctive, imperative, and optative moods or of participles and infinitives (chs. 19–24). Because only indicative mood verbs express time of action, the past-time augment ε- is found only in the indicative mood.

In the following two tables, the tenses are organized by the four types of verb ending. The second table uses the slightly irregular verb ἄγω, which illustrates

1. the changes in augment and reduplication when the initial letter is a vowel;

2. the internal stem changes in the second aorist, active and middle voices; and

3. the changes to the stem when σ or θ is attached to a stem ending with a palatal consonant.

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[5] Note: The first and second persons plural of the perfect middle/passive are identical to the first and second persons of the pluperfect middle/passive. Thus, context must be one's guide in their translations.

λύω, a Regular Verb of the -ω Conjugation, Indicative Mood

	PRIMARY ACTIVE ENDINGS			SECONDARY ACTIVE ENDINGS			
	PRESENT ACTIVE	FUTURE ACTIVE	PERFECT ACTIVE	IMPERFECT ACTIVE	AORIST ACTIVE	AORIST PASSIVE	PLUPERFECT ACTIVE
1S	λύω	λύσω	λέλυκα	ἔλυον	ἔλυσα	ἐλύθην	λελύκειν
2S	λύεις	λύσεις	λέλυκας	ἔλυες	ἔλυσας	ἐλύθης	λελύκεις
3S	λύει	λύσει	λέλυκε(ν)	ἔλυε(ν)	ἔλυσε(ν)	ἐλύθη	λελύκει
1P	λύομεν	λύσομεν	λελύκαμεν	ἐλύομεν	ἐλύσαμεν	ἐλύθημεν	λελύκειμεν
2P	λύετε	λύσετε	λελύκατε	ἐλύετε	ἐλύσατε	ἐλύθητε	λελύκειτε
3P	λύουσι(ν)	λύσουσι(ν)	λελύκασι(ν)	ἔλυον	ἔλυσαν	ἐλύθησαν	λελύκεισαν

	PRIMARY MIDDLE ENDINGS				SECONDARY MIDDLE ENDINGS		
	PRESENT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	FUTURE MIDDLE	FUTURE PASSIVE	PERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	IMPERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	1 AORIST MIDDLE	PLUPERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE
1S	λύομαι	λύσομαι	λυθήσομαι	λέλυμαι	ἐλυόμην	ἐλυσάμην	(ἐ)λελύμην
2S	λύῃ	λύσῃ	λυθήσῃ	λέλυσαι	ἐλύου	ἐλύσω	(ἐ)λέλυσο
3S	λύεται	λύσεται	λυθήσεται	λέλυται	ἐλύετο	ἐλύσατο	(ἐ)λέλυτο
1P	λυόμεθα	λυσόμεθα	λυθησόμεθα	λελύμεθα	ἐλυόμεθα	ἐλυσάμεθα	(ἐ)λελύμεθα
2P	λύεσθε	λύσεσθε	λυθήσεσθε	λέλυσθε	ἐλύεσθε	ἐλύσασθε	(ἐ)λέλυσθε
3P	λύονται	λύσονται	λυθήσονται	λέλυνται	ἐλύοντο	ἐλύσαντο	(ἐ)λέλυντο

ἄγω, a Regular Verb of the -ω Conjugation, Indicative Mood; Stem Beginning with a Vowel and Ending with a Consonant; Second Aorist Active and Middle; Second Perfect and Pluperfect

	PRIMARY ACTIVE ENDINGS			SECONDARY ACTIVE ENDINGS			
	PRESENT ACTIVE	FUTURE ACTIVE	PERFECT ACTIVE[6]	IMPERFECT ACTIVE	2 AORIST ACTIVE	1 AORIST PASSIVE	PLUPERFECT ACTIVE
1S	ἄγω	ἄξω	ἦχα	ἦγον	ἤγαγον	ἤχθην	ἤχειν
2S	ἄγεις	ἄξεις	ἦχας	ἦγες	ἤγαγες	ἤχθης	ἤχεις
3S	ἄγει	ἄξει	ἦχε	ἦγε	ἤγαγε	ἤχθη	ἤχει
1P	ἄγομεν	ἄξομεν	ἤχαμεν	ἤγομεν	ἠγάγομεν	ἤχθημεν	ἤχειμεν
2P	ἄγετε	ἄξετε	ἤχατε	ἤγετε	ἠγάγετε	ἤχθητε	ἤχειτε
3P	ἄγουσι(ν)	ἄξουσι(ν)	ἤχασι(ν)	ἦγον	ἤγαγον	ἤχθησαν	ἤχεισαν

	PRIMARY MIDDLE ENDINGS				SECONDARY MIDDLE ENDINGS		
	PRESENT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	FUTURE MIDDLE	FUTURE PASSIVE	PERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	IMPERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE	2 AORIST MIDDLE	PLUPERFECT MIDDLE/ PASSIVE
1S	ἄγομαι	ἄξομαι	ἀχθήσομαι	ἦγμαι	ἠγόμην	ἠγαγόμην	ἤγμην
2S	ἄγῃ	ἄξῃ	ἀχθήσῃ	ἦξαι	ἤγου	ἠγάγου	ἦξο
3S	ἄγεται	ἄξεται	ἀχθήσεται	ἦκται	ἤγετο	ἠγάγετο	ἦκτο
1P	ἀγόμεθα	ἀξόμεθα	ἀχθησόμεθα	ἤγμεθα	ἠγόμεθα	ἠγαγόμεθα	ἤγμεθα
2P	ἄγεσθε	ἄξεσθε	ἀχθήσεσθε	ἦχθε	ἤγεσθε	ἠγάγεσθε	ἦχθε
3P	ἄγονται	ἄξονται	ἀχθήσονται	ἠγμένοι εἰσί(ν)	ἤγοντο	ἠγάγοντο	ἠγμένοι ἦσαν

[6]Although the perfect active of the verb ἄγω does not occur in the GNT, it does occur in classical Greek and is included here for purposes of illustration.

EXERCISES

A. Translate the following sentences into English:

1. ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ παρελεύσεται, οἱ δὲ λόγοι μου οὐ παρελεύσονται.
2. οἱ δὲ πρὸς αὐτὸν εἶπον· ἡμεῖς οὔτε λόγους περὶ σοῦ ἐδεξάμεθα ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰουδαίας, οὔτε οἱ ἀδελφοὶ εἰρήκασι περὶ σοῦ πονηρόν.
3. ὁ πονηρὸς οὐχ ἅψεται αὐτοῦ ὅτι γέγονε υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ἔγνωκε τὴν ἀλήθειαν ἣν εἴρηται ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ.
4. καθὼς δὲ ἤγγιζεν ὁ χρόνος τῆς ἐπαγγελίας ἧς εἶπεν ὁ θεὸς τῷ Ἀβραάμ, ἡμάρτησαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι καὶ ἀπήρχοντο εἰς τοὺς ἑτέρους θεούς.
5. πέπεισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε ἄγγελος οὔτε δαιμόνιον λήμψεται ταύτας τὰς πιστὰς ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.
6. ὡς δι' ἀνθρώπου ἡ ἁμαρτία εἰς τὸν κόσμον εἰσῆλθεν καὶ διὰ ἁμαρτίας ὁ θάνατος· καὶ οὕτως εἰς ὅλους ἀνθρώπους ὁ θάνατος ἦλθεν.
7. λήμψεσθε Τιμόθεον ὅτι τὸ ἔργον κυρίου ἐργάζεται ὡς κἀγώ.[7]
8. καὶ ἐγένετο[8] ὡς ἀπῆλθον ἀπ' αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν οἱ ἄγγελοι, οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἔλεγον πρὸς ἀλλήλους, νῦν διελευσόμεθα ἕως Βηθλέεμ καὶ βλεψόμεθα τὸν λόγον τοῦτον ὃν ὁ κύριος ἐκήρυξε ἡμῖν.
9. ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκείνης καὶ ἔπεσε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ προσηύχετο.
10. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὑμεῖς καθήσεσθε καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐπὶ θρόνους. Πολλοὶ [Many] δὲ ἔσονται πρῶτοι ἔσχατοι καὶ ἔσχατοι πρῶτοι.
11. αἱ γλῶσσαι προφητῶν ὑποτεταγμένοι εἰσὶν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ.
12. καὶ καθὼς ἐγένετο ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Νῶε, οὕτως ἔσται καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου·
13. ἤσθιον, ἔπινον, ἄχρι ἧς ἡμέρας εἰσῆλθεν Νῶε εἰς τὴν κιβωτόν [ark], καὶ ἦλθεν ὁ κατακλυσμός [flood].

B. Translate the following sentences into Greek:

1. The disciples were brought together in the presence of Jesus.
2. At that time the ruler was persecuting others,
3. but in that day he himself will be persecuted.
4. Peter had seated John at the right hand[9] of the Lord.
5. He entered the temple (in his own interest).

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[7]A combination (called crasis) of καί and ἐγώ. Dative singular (κἀμοί) and accusative singular (κἀμέ) forms also occur. Translate as "and I," "but I," "I also."

[8]Often, when ἐγένετο ("it happened") is used to introduce a narrative, it is not followed by an introductory word such as ὅτι ("that"), even though it is required in the English translation.

[9]The preposition ἐκ with the genitive plural of δεξιός is usually employed to express "at the right hand" (ἐκ δεξιῶν).