

Chapter 17

Verbal System: Contract Verbs; Liquid Verbs; Abstracts System: Comparative and Superlative Forms

THE BASICS

- ✓ Formation of Contract Verbs
- ✓ Formation of Liquid Verbs
- ✓ Comparative and Superlative Degrees of Adjectives and Adverbs

A STEP BEYOND

- ✓ Additional Uses of the Nominative Case

17.1 Vocabulary

17.1.1 -o Stem Contract Verbs

δικαιόω (δικαιῶ, δικαιώσω) ¹	I justify, pronounce righteous
πληρόω (πληρῶ, πληρώσω)	I fulfill, fill
σταυρόω (σταυρῶ, σταυρώσω)	I crucify
φανερόω (φανερῶ, φανερώσω)	I reveal, make known

17.1.2 -a Stem Contract Verbs

ἀγαπάω (ἀγαπῶ, ἀγαπήσω)	I love
γεννάω (γεννῶ, γεννήσω)	I beget
ἔρωτάω (ἔρωτῶ, ἐρωτήσω)	I ask, ask a question, request
ἔπερωτάω	I ask
ζάω (ζῶ, ζήσω)	I live

¹Because of the regularity of their formation, the principle parts of contracts verbs are not given and need not be memorized.

ὄραω (ὄρῳ, ὄσομαι [diff. stem]) I see [second aorist: εἶδον; perfect: ἑώρακα or ἑόρακα] (cf. “optic”)

17.1.3 -ε Stem Contract Verbs

ζητέω (ζητῶ, ζητήσω)	I seek, I look for
καλέω (καλῶ, καλέσω [irreg.])	I call
ἐπικαλέω	I call, name; middle: I invoke, appeal to
παρακαλέω	I beseech, exhort, console
λαλέω (λαλῶ, λαλήσω)	I speak, give forth a sound
ποιέω (ποιῶ, ποιήσω)	I do, make, practice
τηρέω (τηρῶ, τηρήσω)	I keep, observe, fulfill

17.1.4 -λλ or -λ Stem Liquid Verbs

ἀναγγέλλω
I report, announce, proclaim (pf. act.: ἀνήγγελκα)
ἀπαγγέλλω, ἀπαγγελῶ, ἀπήγγειλα, —, —, ἀπηγγέλην
I report, announce, proclaim
ἀποστέλλω, ἀποστελῶ, ἀπέστειλα, ἀπέσταλκα, ἀπέσταλμαι, ἀπεστάλην
I send away, send out
βάλλω, βαλῶ, ἔβαλον, βέβληκα, βέβλημαι, ἐβλήθην
I throw, put, place
ὀφείλω (Occurs only in present and imperfect tenses.)
I owe, am indebted, ought, must, am obligated (with infinitive following)
παραγγέλλω
I give orders, command

17.1.5 -ν Stem Liquid Verbs

ἀποκτείνω or ἀποκτέννω, ἀποκτενῶ, ἀπέκτεινα, —, —, ἀπεκτόνην
I kill
-βαινω, -βήσομαι, -εβην, -βέβηκα, —, -βήθην
ἀναβαίνω, ἀναβήσομαι, ἀνέβην, ἀναβέβηκα
I go up, come up, ascend
καταβαίνω
I go down, come down, descend
κρίνω, κρινῶ, ἔκρινα, κέκρικα, κέκριμαι, ἐκρίθην
I judge, consider, decide
μένω, μενῶ, ἔμεινα, μεμένηκα
I remain, stay, abide
φαίνω, —, ἔφανα, —, —, ἐφάνην
I shine, give light, become visible

The $-\omega$ verb conjugation has two subcategories that present special problems in formation. *Contract verbs* are verbs whose stems end in the vowel α , ϵ , or o . *Liquid verbs* are verbs whose stems end in a liquid or nasal consonant— λ , $\lambda\lambda$, ν , or ρ .² Both subcategories use the regular endings of the $-\omega$ conjugation. The variations that occur in formation concern linking vowels, stem changes, and changes in accentuation; they do not concern function or meaning.

17.2 Formation of Contract Verbs

The GNT does not contain the lexical forms of contract verbs, such as $\sigma\tau\alpha\nu\rho\acute{o}\omega$, $\acute{o}\rho\acute{\alpha}\omega$, or $\pi\omicron\iota\acute{\epsilon}\omega$; rather, the forms $\sigma\tau\alpha\nu\rho\hat{\omega}$, $\acute{o}\rho\hat{\omega}$, and $\pi\omicron\iota\hat{\omega}$ occur. The lexical forms are shown with the contract vowel, and should be learned this way to make it easier to predict how these verbs will inflect. Because there is no tense suffix with the first principal part, linking vowels are attached directly to stems in the *present* and *imperfect* tenses. With verb stems that end in α , ϵ , or o , these vowels contract when combined with linking vowels, resulting in long vowels or diphthongs. In the other five principal parts (where the tense suffixes $-\sigma-$ or $-\kappa-$ are attached directly to the stem), the stem vowel lengthens ($o \rightarrow \omega$; $\alpha/\epsilon \rightarrow \eta$).

17.2.1 General Rules of Vowel Dominance in Contraction

- Of the three contract vowel sounds, O is the most dominant, followed by A and E.
- O overcomes all other vowels or diphthongs, resulting in ω or ou . However, if an iota or subscript is present, the result is φ or oi .
- O overcomes A vowels or diphthongs, resulting in ω or φ (if an iota or subscript is present).
- O overcomes E vowels or diphthongs, resulting in ou (with short vowels), ω (with long vowels), or oi (if a subscript is present).
- A overcomes E vowels or diphthongs, resulting in α or φ (if an iota or subscript is present). A prefers to form long vowels or improper diphthongs rather than proper diphthongs.
- E is weak and is absorbed unless combined with another short vowel: $\epsilon + \epsilon = \epsilon\iota$, $\epsilon + o = ou$.
- I is tenacious and always produces an ι -diphthong (oi or $\epsilon\iota$) or a subscript (φ or φ).

² λ and ρ are liquid consonants, but ν is a nasal. However, stems ending in all three consonants are grouped together as “liquid verbs” because of the similarity in their formation.

17.2.2 -o Stem Contract Verbs

stem ending	+	linking vowel(s)	=	resulting contraction
ο	+	ω	=	ω
ο	+	ο, ου, or ε	=	ου
ο	+	η or ει	=	οι or ω

Present Active Indicative of σταυρόω, *I crucify*

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	σταυρ ᾶ (ὀ + ω)	σταυρ οῦ μιν (ὀ + ομιν)
2	σταυρ οῖς (ὀ + εις)	σταυρ οῦ τε (ὀ + ετε)
3	σταυρ οἶ (ὀ + ει)	σταυρ οῦ σι (ὀ + ουσι)

Present Middle/Passive Indicative of σταυρόω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	σταυρ οῦ μαι (ὀ + ομαι)	σταυρ οῦ μεθα (ο + ὀμεθα)
2	σταυρ οἶ (ὀ + η)	σταυρ οῦ σθε (ὀ + εσθε)
3	σταυρ οῦ ται (ὀ + εται)	σταυρ οῦ νται (ὀ + ονται)

Imperfect Active Indicative of σταυρόω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἔσταύρ ου ν (ο + ον)	ἔσταυρ οῦ μιν (ὀ + ομιν)
2	ἔσταύρ ου ς (ο + ες)	ἔσταυρ οῦ τε (ὀ + ετε)
3	ἔσταύρ ου (ο + ε)	ἔσταύρ ου ν (ο + ον)

Imperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of σταυρόω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἔσταυρ οῦ μην (ο + ὀμην)	ἔσταυρ οῦ μεθα (ο + ὀμεθα)
2	ἔσταυρ οῦ (ὀ + ου)	ἔσταυρ οῦ σθε (ὀ + εσθε)
3	ἔσταυρ οῦ το (ὀ + ετο)	ἔσταυρ οῦ ντο (ὀ + οντο)

17.2.3 -α Stem Contract Verbs

stem ending	+	linking vowel(s)	=	resulting contraction
α	+	ο, ου, or ω	=	ω
α	+	ε or η	=	α
α	+	η or ει	=	α

Present Active Indicative of ὀράω, I see

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ὄρ ᾠ= (ά + ω)	ὄρ ᾠ μεν (ά + ομεν)
2	ὄρ ᾠς (ά + εις)	ὄρ ᾠ τε (ά + ετε)
3	ὄρ ᾠ (ά + ει)	ὄρ ᾠ σι (ά + ουσι)

Present Middle/Passive Indicative of ὀράω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ὄρ ᾠ μαι (ά + ομαι)	ὄρ ᾠ μεθα (α + ὀμεθα)
2	ὄρ ᾠ (ά + η)	ὄρ ᾠ σθε (ά + εσθε)
3	ὄρ ᾠ ται (ά + εται)	ὄρ ᾠ νται (ά + ονται)

Imperfect Active Indicative of ὀράω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἔώρ ω ν (α + ον)	ἔώρ ᾠ μεν (ά + ομεν)
2	ἔώρ ας (α + ες)	ἔώρ ᾠ τε (ά + ετε)
3	ἔώρ α (α + ε)	ἔώρ ω ν (α + ον)

Imperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of ὀράω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἔωρ ᾠ μην (α + ὀμην)	ἔωρ ᾠ μεθα (α + ὀμεθα)
2	ἔωρ ᾠ (ά + ου)	ἔωρ ᾠ σθε (ά + εσθε)
3	ἔωρ ᾠ το (ά + ετο)	ἔωρ ᾠ ντο (ά + οντο)

17.2.4 -ε Stem Contract Verbs

stem ending	+	linking vowel(s)	=	resulting contraction
ε	+	ω	=	ω
ε	+	ο or ου	=	ου
ε	+	η	=	η
ε	+	ε or ει	=	ει

Present Active Indicative of ποιέω, I do/make

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ποι ᾠ (έ + ω)	ποι οὔ μεν (έ + ομεν)
2	ποι εἶς (έ + εις)	ποι εἶ τε (έ + ετε)
3	ποι εἶ (έ + ει)	ποι οὔ σι (έ + ουσι)

Present Middle/Passive Indicative of ποιέω, I do/make

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ποι οὔ μαι (έ + ομαι)	ποι ού μεθα (ε + όμεθα)
2	ποι ἦ (έ + η)	ποι εἶ σθε (έ + εσθε)
3	ποι εἶ ται (έ + εται)	ποι οὔ νται (έ + ονται)

Imperfect Active Indicative of ποιέω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἐποί ουν (ε + ον)	ἐποι οὔ μεν (έ + ομεν)
2	ἐποί ει ς (ε + ες)	ἐποι εἶ τε (έ + ετε)
3	ἐποί ει (ε + ε)	ἐποί ου ν (ε + ον)

Imperfect Middle/Passive Indicative of ποιέω

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἐποι ού μην (ε + όμην)	ἐποι ού μεθα (ε + όμεθα)
2	ἐποι οὔ (έ + ου)	ἐποι εἶ σθε (έ + εσθε)
3	ἐποι εἶ το (έ + ετο)	ἐποι οὔ ντο (έ + οντο)

The following chart summarizes the rules of vowel contract learned thus far.³ The far left column presents the final stem vowels of contract verbs. The top horizontal row has the various linking vowels. A given contraction may be found at the point of intersection between the two variables.

	<u>ε</u>	<u>ει</u>	<u>η</u>	<u>ο</u>	<u>ου</u>	<u>ω</u>
<u>ο</u>	ου	οι	ω	ου	ου	ω
<u>α</u>	α	α	α	ω	ω	ω
<u>ε</u>	ει	ει	η	ου	ου	ω

17.2.5 Principal Parts of Contract Verbs

To repeat, only the first principal part (present and imperfect tenses) exhibits the contraction of stem and linking vowels. With the other principal parts, the vowel that ends the stem lengthens (ο → ω; α/ε → η) before the tense suffix and endings are added.⁴ Otherwise, the principal parts of contract verbs are quite regular.

³Additional combinations can occur. Appendix 2, table 10, contains a comprehensive chart of verb contractions.

⁴καλέω is an exception. It retains the ε in the second and third principal parts but has a lengthened stem vowel in the remaining principal parts: καλῶ, καλέσω, ἐκάλεσα, κέκληκα, κέκλημαι, ἐκλήθην.

Consider the principal parts of φανερώ, ἀγαπάω, and τηρέω:

Present Active	Future Active	Aorist Active	Perfect Active	Perfect Middle/Passive	Aorist Passive
φανερώ	φανερώσω	ἐφάνέρωσα	πεφάνέρωκα	πεφάνέρωμαι	ἐφανερώθη
ἀγαπῶ	ἀγαπήσω	ἠγάπησα	ἠγάπηκα	ἠγάπημαι	ἠγαπήθη
τηρῶ	τηρήσω	ἐτήρησα	τετήρηκα	τετήρημαι	ἐτηρήθη

Rules of accentuation pertinent to contract verbs are found in appendix 1, p. 266.

17.2.6 Non-Contract Verbs with Contract Linking Vowels in the Future Tense

Several verbs that do not have ο, α, or ε for a stem ending manifest the linking vowels of the present-tense contract verbs in the future tense. The future of ἀποθνήσκω shows a contracted form: ἀποθανεῖται (Rom 5:7) and ἀποθανεῖσθε (John 8:21, 24). In Matt 10:29 a future form of πίπτω occurs: πεσεῖται. Matthew 15:14 is another instance: πεσοῦνται. Note that all of these future forms are *deponent*.

17.2.7 -ιζω Verbs in the Future Tense

Some verbs that end in -ιζω delete the ζ and use the present contract linking vowels of the -ε stem type to form their futures. Among these are the verbs ἐγγίζω, ἐλπίζω, καθαρίζω, and καθίζω, which were introduced in ch. 11.

17.3 Formation of Liquid Verbs

Liquid verbs (stems ending in λ, λλ, ν, or ρ) show peculiarities in forming the future and aorist tenses especially. Usually the verb stem varies from the first principal part and the tense suffix -σ- disappears.

17.3.1 Future Tense, Active and Middle Voices

The linking vowels and endings of the future tense, active and middle voices (e.g., βαλῶ, βαλοῦμαι), are identical to those of the present tense, active and middle/passive voices, of the -εω contract verb ποιέω.⁵ Observe carefully the following conjugations of βαλῶ (I will throw) and βαλοῦμαι (I will throw *in my interest*). Compare them with ποιῶ and ποιοῦμαι (pp. 151–52). The identifying marks of the future tense are the stem change, the circumflex accent, and the linking vowel diphthongs.

⁵Theoretically, the future of a liquid verb is formed by the attachment of -εσ- (the tense suffix preceded by a euphonic vowel) to the stem. The intervocalic σ drops out and the remaining ε contracts with the linking vowel(s)—hence the -ε- stem contract verb linking vowels.

	Future Active		Future Middle	
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	βαλῶ	βαλοῦμεν	βαλοῦμαι	βαλούμεθα
2	βαλεῖς	βαλεῖτε	βαλή	βαλεῖσθε
3	βαλεῖ	βαλοῦσι(ν)	βαλεῖται	βαλοῦνται

Often both the stem and the accent will indicate which tense is being used. There are verbs, however, that show differences only of accent. (Even this distinction sometimes disappears; when it does, the reader is completely dependent upon context.) One such verb is κρίνω. Compare the following:

Present: κρίνω, κρίνεις, κρίνει, κρίνομεν, κρίνετε, κρίνουσι(ν)

Future: κρίνῶ, κρινεῖς, κρινεῖ, κρινοῦμεν, κρινεῖτε, κρινοῦσι(ν)

The future tense form associated with λέγω is liquid and also follows this scheme: ἐρῶ, ἐρεῖς, ἐρεῖ, ἐροῦμεν, ἐρεῖτε, ἐροῦσι(ν).

17.3.2 First Aorist Tense, Active and Middle Voices

The third principal part of liquid verbs usually undergoes an internal lengthening of vowels (e.g., present μένω but aorist ἔμεινα) and loses the -σ- tense suffix. It is still considered a first aorist form, however, since it uses the aorist α/ε linking vowels with the typical secondary active or middle endings. The paradigms of ἔμεινα (I remained) and ἔμεινάμην (I remained *in my interest*) follow:

	Liquid First Aorist Active		Liquid First Aorist Middle	
	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	ἔμεινα	ἐμείναμεν	ἐμεινάμην	ἐμεινάμεθα
2	ἔμεινας	ἐμείνατε	ἐμείνω	ἐμείνασθε
3	ἔμεινε	ἐμείναν	ἐμείνατο	ἐμείναντο

Most liquid verbs have first aorists. If the verb has a second aorist, the conjugation follows the normal second aorist pattern (cf. ἔβαλον, from βάλλω).

Not all liquid verbs exhibit the typical liquid-verb traits in the second and/or third principal parts. For example, the stem of ἀμαρτάνω forms the second, third, and fourth principal parts like an -αω contract verb (ἀμαρτήσω, ἡμάρτησα, ἡμάρτηκα).⁶ The verb πίνω has a deponent, non-liquid future tense: πίομαι.

⁶ Actually, the disappearance of the ν in the second, third, and fourth principal parts leads to a compensatory lengthening of the α to η before the tense suffix.

17.4 Comparative and Superlative Degrees of Adjectives and Adverbs

17.4.1 Formation

Adjectives exhibit one of two basic patterns to form the comparative and superlative degrees (see p. 7, Adjectives and Adverbs).

1. The comparative suffix *-τερος*, *-α*, *-ον* is quite common, but the superlative suffix *-(τ)ατος*, *-η*, *-ον* is very rare (four times in the GNT). Hence, *μικρότερος*, the comparative form of *μικρός*, *small*, occurs five times in the GNT, but the superlative *μικρότατος*, *smallest*, does not occur at all.⁷ The comparatives decline like first- and second-declension adjectives.
2. The comparative form *-(ι)ων*, *-(ι)ων*, *-(ι)ον* follows a third-declension pattern. The superlative form *-ιστος*, *-η*, *-ον* is far more common than the form *-τατος*, *ἐλάσσων*, *lesser*, and *ἐλάχιστος*, *least*, illustrate this pattern.⁸

Adverbs do not decline, but like adjectives they can form comparative and superlative degrees. As with adjectives, adverbs form degrees following two main patterns:

The most common comparative adverbial form uses the neuter singular form of the comparative adjective suffix *-τερος*. Thus the comparative of *ἄνω*, *above*, is *ἀνώτερον*, *further above*, *higher*. A variation of this is to form the adverb by adding the adverbial ending *-ως* to the same suffix (cf. *περισσῶς*, *abundantly*, and *περισσότερος*, *more abundantly*).⁹

For words that form their comparative and superlative adjectives using *-ιων* and *-ιστος*, the respective adverbs are formed using the neuter singular form of the comparative adjective and the neuter plural form of the superlative adjective. Thus the comparative of the adverb *ταχέως*, *quickly*, is *τάχιον*, *more quickly*, and the superlative is *τάχιστα*, *most quickly*, *very quickly*.

Some words combine the two patterns above. Thus the comparative adverb of *ἐγγός*, *near*, is *ἐγγύτερον*, *nearer*, and the superlative is *ἐγγιστα*, *nearest*.

⁷*πρώτος*, *first*, *earliest*, *foremost*, stands out as a very common superlative—it is even more common than its comparative form. *πρώτος* is formed from the preposition *πρό* and the ending *-ατος*. The comparative form is *πρότερος* (former, earlier, more prominent; the adverb is *πρότερον* [formerly, earlier]).

⁸In addition to illustrating the *-(ι)ων*, *-ιστος* endings, these words also demonstrate that stems may change in the comparative and/or superlative categories from what you would expect; *ἐλάσσων* and *ἐλάχιστος* are the comparative and superlative forms of *μικρός*. Rather than modifying the stem of *μικρός*, they derived from an altogether different stem in the Classical era. A paradigm for the *-(ι)ων/-ον* pattern is found in the declension of *μείζων*, *-ον* in appendix 2, Table 5, “Adjectives.”

⁹The formation of the superlative degree of the adverb using the suffix *-τατον* (or *-τατως*) does not occur in the New Testament.

17.4.2 Function

The comparative adjective is usually followed by the genitive case or the particle ἤ and translated “_____er than” or “more _____ than.”

Mark 1:7 ἔρχεται ὁ **ἰσχυρότερός** μου ὀπίσω μου.
The one *more powerful than* I [am] is coming after me.

John 15:13 **μείζονα** ταύτης ἀγάπην οὐδεὶς ἔχει.
No one has *greater* love *than this*.

By the New Testament period, the superlative form was dying out, and comparative forms were used as both comparatives and superlatives. So, where English idiom would use the superlative, Greek will frequently have the comparative. For example, in Matt 13:32 the mustard seed is described as ὁ **μικρότερον** μὲν ἔστιν πάντων τῶν σπερμάτων = “which is the *least* [lit., ‘lesser’] of all the seeds.” When the superlative does occur, it only occasionally functions as a true superlative (αἱ πλείεσται δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ = “most of his deeds of power” [Matt 11:20]); more often it has only a heightening or elating force, with the sense of “very.” Compare Mark 4:1 (ὄχλος πλείεστος = a very large crowd) with the parallel in Matt 13:2 (ὄχλοι πολλοί = a large crowd); see the same phenomenon reversed with Mark 11:8 (πολλοί = many) and Matt 21:8 (πλείεστος ὄχλος = a very large crowd).

17.5 Additional Uses of the Nominative Case

Although the nominative is the normal case for the subjects of verbs, this is not always the case. Titles and salutations such as “*Grace and peace* to you,” for example, are commonly in the nominative. When a nominative occurs without an immediate grammatical connection to a particular sentence, it is referred to as a *nominative absolute* or *independent nominative*. In many cases, there is a *logical* connection between the nominative and some part of a closely associated sentence, as in Acts 7:40:

ὁ γὰρ **Μωϋσῆς οὗτος**, ὃ ἐξήγαγεν ἡμᾶς ἐκ γῆς Αἰγύπτου,
οὐκ οἶδαμεν τί ἐγένετο αὐτῷ.

As for *this Moses*, who led us out of the land of Egypt—
we do not know what happened to *him*.

One of the common uses of the nominative case is as the predicate nominative in a sentence featuring the verb “to be” or one of its equivalents. Thus in the sentence, “Jesus is the Son of God,” both the subject, “Jesus,” and the predicate nominative, “Son,” would be in the nominative case. A variation on the predicate nominative occurs in situations involving naming. After the passive form of the verb καλέω or following the terms ὄνομα or ὀνόματι, the nominative case will often be used to give someone’s name. For example:

- Luke 1:32 υἱὸς ὑψίστου¹⁰ κληθήσεται.
He will be called *Son* of the Most High.
- Luke 2:21 ἐκλήθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦς.
His name was called *Jesus*.

Sometimes the name will be linked to a previous nominative referent:

- Luke 10:38 γυνή δέ τις ὀνόματι Μάρθα . . .
Now a certain *woman*, by name *Martha* . . .

or

- Luke 19:2 ἀνὴρ ὀνόματι καλούμενος Ζακχαῖος
a *man* by name called *Zacchaeus*

In other instances, a person's name may simply be introduced into the text, essentially grammatically independent of the sentence (although one could call it appositional in relation to the subject).

- John 1:6 Ἐγένετο ἄνθρωπος . . . ὄνομα αὐτῷ Ἰωάννης.
A man came . . . ; his name was John [or “named John”; lit., “name to him John”].

EXERCISES

A. Translate the following sentences into English:

1. εἰ ἐμὲ ἐδίωξαν, καὶ ὑμᾶς διώξουσιν· εἰ τὸν λόγον μου ἐτήρησαν, καὶ τὸν ὑμέτερον* τηρήσουσιν.
2. οὐκέτι λέγω ὑμᾶς δούλους,¹¹ ὅτι ὁ δοῦλος οὐκ οἶδεν τί ποιεῖ αὐτοῦ ὁ κύριος· ὑμᾶς δὲ εἴρηκα φίλους,* ὅτι πάντα ἃ ἤκουσα παρὰ τοῦ πατρός μου ἐγνώρισά* ὑμῖν.
3. Ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῷ, Ὁ πατὴρ ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ ἐστίν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Εἰ τέκνα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἦτε, τὰ ἔργα τοῦ Ἀβραάμ ἐποιεῖτε·
4. νῦν δὲ ζητεῖτέ με ἀποκτεῖναι,¹² ἄνθρωπον ὃς τὴν ἀλήθειαν ὑμῖν λελάληκα ἦν¹³ ἤκουσα παρὰ τοῦ θεοῦ· τοῦτο Ἀβραάμ οὐκ ἐποίησεν.

¹⁰A true superlative!

¹¹Notice the double accusative construction. The two objects stand in apposition to each other, each modifying the verb. See p. 11, Sentences, ex. 6, and ch. 5, p. 41.

¹²The infinitive ἀποκτεῖναι (to kill) complements and clarifies the idea initiated by ζητεῖτε and so is part of a verbal chain. Together they take με as a direct object. Ἄνθρωπον stands in apposition to με, modifying it. More discussion of infinitives as objects is found in ch. 23.

¹³Notice that in this relative clause a first person verb is used despite the fact that the relative pronoun already holds the position of the subject. In all likelihood the verb anticipates

5. ὑμεῖς ποιεῖτε τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν. εἶπαν [οὖν]¹⁴ αὐτῷ, Ἥμεῖς ἐκ πορνείας* οὐ γεγεννήμεθα· ἕνα πατέρα ἔχομεν τὸν θεόν.
6. ὁ γὰρ πᾶς νόμος ἐν ἐνὶ λόγῳ πεπλήρωται, ἐν τῷ Ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον* σου ὡς σεαυτόν.
7. εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Εἰ ὁ θεὸς πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἦν, ἠγαπάτε ἂν ἐμέ, ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐξήλθον καὶ ἤκω*· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ ἐλήλυθα, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνός με ἀπέστειλεν.
8. μακάριοι οἱ καθαροὶ* τῇ καρδίᾳ, ὅτι αὐτοὶ τὸν θεὸν ὄψονται.
9. καὶ ἡμεῖς μάρτυρες πάντων ὧν ἐποίησεν ἐν τε τῇ χώρᾳ* τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ Ἰερουσαλήμ.*
10. Ἀλλ' ἐρεῖ τις, Σὺ πίστιν ἔχεις καὶ γὰρ ἔργα ἔχω.
11. σὺ πιστεύεις ὅτι εἷς θεὸς ἐστίν; καλῶς* ποιεῖς· καὶ τὰ δαιμόνια πιστεύουσιν καὶ φρίσσουν.*
12. Ἀβραὰμ ὁ πατὴρ ἡμῶν οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων ἐδικαιώθη;
13. ὁ πιστὸς ἐν ἐλαχίστῳ* καὶ ἐν πολλῷ πιστὸς ἐστίν, καὶ ὁ ἐν ἐλαχίστῳ ἄδικος* καὶ ἐν πολλῷ ἄδικός ἐστιν.
14. μακάριοι οἱ εἰρηνοποιοί,* ὅτι αὐτοὶ υἱοὶ θεοῦ κληθήσονται.
15. εἰ δέ τις ἀγαπᾷ τὸν θεόν, οὗτος ἔγνωσται ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.
16. εἰ οὖν Δαυὶδ καλεῖ αὐτὸν κύριον, πῶς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἐστίν;
17. διὸ* ἐκλήθη ὁ ἀγρὸς* ἐκεῖνος Ἄγρὸς Αἵματος ἕως τῆς σήμερον.*
18. Ἦν δὲ ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων, Νικόδημος ὄνομα αὐτῷ, ἄρχων τῶν Ἰουδαίων.

B. Translate the following sentences into Greek:

1. The saying was spoken in the light.
2. I live in peace; I love my brother and sister.¹⁵
3. He had been healed by the power of the Spirit's fire.
4. What did you (sg.) do? What is truth? Are you a king?
5. Many will come and all will be baptized.

the first person verb ἤκουσα that immediately follows. An awkward literal translation might be: "a person who I spoke." The easiest way to resolve this in translation is to treat the verb as though it were third person: "a person who spoke."

¹⁴The brackets here indicate that the word is omitted from some NT manuscripts.

¹⁵To form the Greek word for "sister," add a first-declension, φωνή-type ending to the ἀδελφ- stem.