

Lesson 30

The Third Declension

πᾶσα θυσία ἀλλὶ ἀλισθήσεται. Every sacrifice shall be seasoned with salt. Mark 9:49

222. The Third Declension. All stems except those in α/η and ο are included in the third declension. This is sometimes called the consonant declension because the majority of stems included are consonants. However there are also stems in vowels (semivowels) ι and υ. This is the most varied of the three declensions. Included are (1) Liquid stems, (2) Mutes: palatal, lingual, and labial, (3) Sibilants (σ), (4) Vowels (ι & υ) (5) Stems in οντ, which include the participle, (6) Stems in εν, and (7) Stems in –ματ. These different stems will each be the subject of a lesson and they will be interspersed with other material.

223. Gender of the Third Declension. The third declension includes nouns of all genders. Masculine and feminine nouns generally have the same endings. Some stems are all of one gender (e.g., all ι–stems are feminine; all ματ–stems are neuter), but in general the gender must be learned from the article in the lexicon or vocabulary.

224. Endings of the Third Declension. The endings of the masculine and feminine nouns are perfectly exhibited by the Greek word ἄλς, ος, ὄ, salt:

	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>
Nom.	ὁ ἄλ-ς <u>the salt</u>	οἱ	ἄλ-ες <u>the salts</u>
Gen.	τοῦ ἄλ-ός <u>of the salt</u>	τῶν	ἄλ-ῶν <u>of the salts</u>
Abl.	τοῦ ἄλ-ός <u>from the salt</u>	τῶν	ἄλ-ῶν <u>from the salts</u>
Dat.	τῷ ἄλ-ί <u>to the salt</u>	τοῖς	ἄλ-σί <u>to the salts</u>
Ins.	τῷ ἄλ-ί <u>with the salt</u>	τοῖς	ἄλ-σί <u>with the salts</u>
Loc.	τῷ ἄλ-ί <u>in the salt</u>	τοῖς	ἄλ-σί <u>in the salts</u>
Acc.	τὸν ἄλ-α <u>the salt</u>	τοὺς	ἄλ-ας <u>the salts</u>
Voc.	ἄλ-ς <u>O salt!</u>	ἄλ-ες	<u>O salt!</u>

Note Carefully: With these compare the endings of the first and second declension.

The endings shown above are the basic endings. They should be learned thoroughly. Variations may then be learned as they appear. The chief variations are:

- a. Neuters and stems in ν, ρ (liquids) –οντ have no ς in the nominative singular. αἰών, age (Gen. αἰῶνος.)
- b. Neuters have α in both nominative and accusative plural instead of ες and ὀνόματα, names (stem: ὀνόματ-ος).
- c. Vowel stems have ν in the accusative singular instead of α. πόλιν, accusative singular of πόλις, city.
- d. Mute stems undergo their usual euphonic changes in combination with σ. This affects especially the nominative singular and dative-instrumental-plurals.

Note Carefully: Because of these variations, the stem of a third declension noun must be learned by dropping the -ος of the genitive singular. Thus the genitive case is always given in the lexicon.

225. Third Stem Endings.

<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>	
<u>Masc. and Fem.</u>	<u>Neut.</u>	<u>Masc. and Fem.</u>	<u>Neut.</u>
Nom. -ς or none	Nothing	-ες	-α
Gen. -ος	-ος	-ων	-ων
Abl. -ος	-ος	-ων	-ων
Dat. -ι	-ι	-σι	-σι
Ins. -ι	-ι	-σι	-σι
Loc. -ι	-ι	-σι	-σι
Acc. -α or -ν	Nothing	-ας	-α
Voc. Like Nom. or stem. Some have no Voc.	Nothing	-ες	-α

226. Accent of Third Declension. The third declension nouns have one peculiar rule: If a noun of the third declension has only syllable in the nominative case, the genitive-ablative and dative-instrumental-locative cases are accented on the ultima. The accent is acute except, except ᾠν (long ultima).

πύρ fire πυρός of fire
 νύξ night νυκτός of night

227. The Infinitive with the Article. Since there is no gerund, the infinitive in Greek is very versatile. Besides its use to express result (with ὥστε, See Sec. 37), its simple use to express purpose, and its use in indirect discourse, it is often used as a substantive with the article. As a substantive it is indeclinable, its case being indicated by the article. Notice the following uses.

a. As subject, object. etc.

περὶ ᾧ οὐκ ἔστιν νῦν λέγειν κατὰ μέρος.

To speak concerning it part by part is not possible.

τὸ λαλεῖν γλώσσαις μὴ κωλύετε

Do not forbid to speak in tongues.

b. As any noun in an oblique case.

οὐκ ἔσχηκα ἄνεσιν τῷ πνεύματί μου τῷ μὴ εὔρεῖν Τίτον

I had no relief for my spirit in not finding (causal dative?) Titus.

ὁ καιρὸς τοῦ ἀρξασθαι τὸ κρίμα The season of beginning judgment.

c. With the genitive article to express purpose.

εἰσῆλθεν τοῦ μείναι σὺν αὐτοῖς

He entered in order to remain with them.

This last construction is very common in the N. T. It is called the Genitive Articular Infinitive.

228. Vocabulary.

ἀγαλλιάω, ᾶ, ασω, <u>I rejoice,</u> <u>leap for joy</u> (mostly middle)	γενεά, ᾶς, ἡ, <u>generation</u>
ἀληθινός, ἡ, ὄν, <u>true real</u>	ἐνδύω, <u>I clothe; middle clothe myself</u> <u>be endued</u>
ἄλιζω, <u>I salt</u>	ἐνιατός, οὔ, ὄ, <u>year</u>
ἄλς, ὄς, ὄ, <u>salt</u>	ἐπιστρέφω, <u>I turn back, return</u>
ἀφανίζω, <u>I put out of sight, consume</u>	θησαυρός, οὔ ὄ, <u>treasure</u>
θυσία, ας, ἡ, <u>sacrifice</u>	ἰσχύς, -ύος, ἡ, <u>strength, might, power, ability</u>
ἰχθύς, ύος, ὄ, <u>fish</u>	σῆς, σιτός, ὄ, <u>moth</u>
μήν, μηνός, ὄ, <u>month</u>	σκολιός, ἡ, ὄν, <u>crooked</u>
ὄπλον, ου, τό, <u>instrument; plural, armor</u>	συναντάω, <u>I meet</u> (with Dative)
ὄσφύς, ύός, ἡ, <u>loin</u>	ύς, ύός, ὄ, <u>hog, sow</u>
περιζώννυμι, <u>I gird (myself)</u>	φῶς, φωτός, τό, <u>light</u>

229. Note on Vocabulary. The nouns with *v*-stems take the *v* instead of *α* for the accusative singular ending. Note that in nouns like σῆς, σιτός (moth) the *ς* ending has caused the *τ* (a dental) to drop in the nominative case.

230. Exercises.I. Text A.

Ἰωάννης ἦλθεν εἰς μαρτυρίαν, μαρτυρεῖν περὶ τοῦ φωτός. οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖνος τὸ φῶς. Ἰησοῦς ἦν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν. ἠθέλησεν ἀγαλλιασθῆναι ἐν τῷ φωτὶ αὐτοῦ. ἡμεῖς υἱοὶ φωτός ἐσμεν καὶ υἱοὶ ἡμέας. δεῖ ἐνδύεσθαι τὰ ὄπλα τοῦ φωτός, ὅτι φαίνομεν ὡς φῶτα ἐν μέσῳ γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς.

τοῦτο γὰρ ὑμῖν συμφέρει (συμφέρω, I profit.) οἵτινες (who) οὐ μόνον τὸ ποιῆσαι ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ θέλειν προενηρξασθε (begin beforehand) ἀπὸ πέρυσι (“a year ago”). νυνὶ δὲ καὶ τὸ ποιῆσαι ἐπιτελέσατε (You complete, Imperative), ὅπως καθάπερ (sc. “there was”) ἡ ἐπιθυμία τοῦ θέλειν, οὕτως καὶ τὸ ἐπιτέλεσαι (sc. “might be) ἐκ τοῦ ἔχειν. [Note: sc. means “understand,” i.e., supply the word.]

εὐδοκήσαμεν (εὐδοκέω, It seemed good to me) καταλειφθῆναι καὶ ἐπέμψαμεν Τιμόθεον τοῦ στηρίζαι ὑμᾶς καὶ παρακαλέσαι ὑμᾶς περὶ τῆς πίστεως (faith), διὰ τοῦτο ἔπεμψα τοῦ γνῶναι τὴν πίστιν (faith) ὑμῶν.

II. Text B.

1. ἐνδύομεθα τοῦ ἀγαπᾶν τὸν θεὸν ἡμῶν ἐξ ὅλας τῆς ἰσχύος ἡμῶν.
2. σήτες ἀφανίζουσι τοὺς θησαυροὺς τῶν ἀνθρώπων.
3. περιζώννυται ἐν τῇ ἰσχύι τῶν ὀσφύων.
4. Λευὶ ἔτε γὰρ (sc. ἦν) ἐν ὀσφύι Ἀβραάμ ὅτε συνήνησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Μελχισεδέκ.
5. οἱ ὕες ἐπέστρεψαν εἰς τὸν βόρβορον (mire).
6. παιδίον ἔχει ὧδε πέντε ἄρτους καὶ δύο ἰχθύας.
7. δεῖ τὴν θυσίαν ἀλισθηῖναι ἀλί.
8. ὁ ἰσχυρὸς περιζώννυται περὶ τὴν ὀσφύν ἐν ἰσχύι καὶ ἀλήθειᾳ.
9. ἠτοίμασαν εἰς τὴν ὥραν καὶ τὴν ἡμέραν καὶ τὸν μῆνα καὶ τὸν ἐνιαυτόν.
10. τότε παραγίνεται ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἀπὸ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ἐπὶ τὸν Ἰορδάνην πρὸς τὸν Ἰωάννην τοῦ βαπτισθῆνα ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

III. Translate.

1. The disciples are lights in the midst of an evil world.
2. I shall salt the sacrifice with the good salt.
3. We walk in the light as he is in the light.
4. We must clothe our loins with the strength of truth.
5. A little lad brought bread and two fish in order to eat (use τοῦ) them.

Corrected 3/02/06