

Lesson 37

The Genitive Absolute. Supplementary Participle

οὖν Χριστοῦ παθόντος σαρκὶ καὶ ὑμεῖς τὴν αὐτὴν ἔννοιαν ὀπλίσασθε
Therefore since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same mind. I Peter 4:1

285. The Genitive Absolute. One of the most common variations of the circumstantial participle is the genitive absolute. In this construction a temporal, causal, or conditional subordinate clause (or any other adverbial idea) is added loosely to the main clause. (The word “absolute” is from Latin ab solve, I Loose.) The subject is put in the genitive case, and the verbal idea is expressed by a genitive participle depending on it.

καθ’ ἡμέραν ὄντος μου μεθ’ ὑμῶν ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ οὐκ ἐξετείνετε τὰς χεῖρας ἐπ’ ἐμέ.

When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not lift your hands against me. Lk. 22:53

ὄντος a present active participle, genitive, masculine singular and agrees with the genitive of the personal pronoun μου.

The real test of a genitive absolute is that the subject of the absolute construction is different from the subject of the main clause. Notice the difference between the two constructions:

ὄντες ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ οὐκ ἐξέτειναν τὰς χεῖρας,

While they were in the temple, they did not stretch out the hands.

ὄντος αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ οὐκ ἐξέτειναν τὰς χεῖρας.

While they were in temple, they did not stretch out the hands.

In the first sentence ὄντες, the nominative plural participle agrees with the subject of the main clause, but in the second (the genitive absolute) the subject of the participle is singular and different from the subject of the main clause.

286. The Absolute Construction in Other Languages. Since the genitive absolute gives the beginning student so much trouble, every care should be made to understand it at the outset. Absolute constructions are common in language. Latin students will remember the ablative absolute. This construction is familiar also in English.

English absolute constructions are put in the nominative case, as The man being in the street, the body was crushed by the truck. The first part of the sentences is subordinate and causal in meaning. The subject here must be different from the subject of the main clause, otherwise the result is a dangling participle; e.g., Going down the street, the building fell on the man. (What is going down the street?)

287. Supplementary Participle. The participle, like the infinitive, may supplement the meaning of the verb. Cf. the following:

παύομεν λέγειν, We cease to speak.

παύομεν λέγοντες, We cease to speak.

This is a common construction in Greek. Compare such phrases as “keep speaking” or “begin writing” in English.

288. Declension of πᾶς, All. The masculine and neuter of πᾶς are declined in the third declension, the feminine in the first. The accents of the dative, instrumental, and locative plural are irregular.

	<u>Singular</u>			<u>Plural</u>		
	Masc	Fem.	Neut.	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Nom.	πᾶς	πᾶσα	πᾶν	πάντες	πᾶσαι	πάντα
Gen.	παντός	πάσης	παντός	πάντων	πασῶν	πάντων
Abl.	παντός	πάσης	παντός	πάντων	πασῶν	πάντων
Dat.	παντί	πάσῃ	παντί	πᾶσι(ν)	πάσαις	πᾶσι(ν)
Inst.	παντί	πάσῃ	παντί	πᾶσι(ν)	πάσαις	πᾶσι(ν)
Loc.	παντί	πάσῃ	παντί	πᾶσι(ν)	πάσαις	πᾶσι(ν)
Acc.	πάντα	πᾶσαν	πᾶν	πάντας	πάσας	πάντα

289. Uses of πᾶς.

- When modifying a noun in the predicate position πᾶς means “all.”
πᾶσα ἡ ἀγέλη all the herd; πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος all the crowd;
πάντα τὰ ὄρη all the mountains
- When modifying a noun in the attributive position, it signifies the total number of amount, the whole.
πᾶς νόμος, the whole law
- When used with a noun without any article, it is distributive.
πᾶς οἶκος, every house
- πᾶς may also be used as a pronoun.
πάντες ἡμαρτον, All have sinned.
- πᾶς with the articular participle means “everyone who.”
πᾶς ὁ λέγων, Everyone who speaks

290. Vocabulary.

ἀνέχω, Mid., I bear with (gen. of person or thing)

ἄπιστος, ον, without faith, faithless

ἄρχων, οντος. ὁ, ruler

βοάω, I cry out

δέομαι, I pray, beseech

διώκω, I pursue, persecute

ἐκπλήσσομαι, I am amazed, astonished

ἐνεργέω, I work in someone, work, accomplish

ἐντέλλομαι, I command (with dat.)

ἐπιτιμάω, I rebuke (with dat.)

ἰάομαι, I heal

ἰδοῦ, behold!

κατέρχομαι, I go down

κελεύω, I command bid

κωφός, ἢ, ὄν, deaf, dumb

μονογενής, ἕς, only, only begotten

πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν, all, the whole, every

προεῦομαι, I go, come

ὦ, interjection, O!

τε, conjunction, and.

291. Exercises.I. Text A.

ἐγένετο δὲ τῇ ἕξῃς (sixth) ἡμέρα κατελθόντων αὐτῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄρους συνήνησεν αὐτῷ ὄχλος. καὶ ἰδοὺ ἀνὴρ (a man) ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄχλου ἐβόησεν λέγων. διδάσκαλε, δέομαί σου ἐπιβλέψαι (ἐπιβλέπω, I look upon) ἐπὶ τὸν υἱόν μου ὅτι μονογενὴς μοί ἐστιν. καὶ ἰδοὺ πνεῦμα λαμβάνει αὐτόν. καὶ ἐδεήθη τῶν μαθητῶν σου ἐκβαλεῖν αὐτὸ καὶ οὐκ ἠδυνήθησαν. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν ὧ γενεὰ ἄπιστος καὶ διαεστραμμένη (perverse), ἕως πότε ἔσομαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς καὶ ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; καὶ ἐνέτειλε αὐτὸν προσαγαγεῖν (προσάγω, I bring to) τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ. ἔτι δὲ προσερχομένου αὐτοῦ ἔρρηξεν (ῥήγνυμι, I break, rend) αὐτὸν τὸ διαμόνιον. ἐπετίμησεν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ καὶ ἴασατο τὸν παῖδα. καὶ ἀπέδωκεν αὐτὸν τῷ πατρὶ αὐτοῦ. ἐξεπλήσσοντο δὲ πάντες ἐπὶ τῇ μεγαλειότητι (μεγαλειότης, τητος, ἡ, greatness) τοῦ θεοῦ.

II. Text B.

1. ἀμαρτία οὐκ ἐλλογεῖται¹ μὴ ὄντος νόμου.
2. ἐγένετο δὲ τοῦ διαμονίου ἐξελθόντος ἐλάλησεν.
3. ἰδὼν τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ ὄρος.
4. ταῦτα αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος αὐτοῖς ἰδοὺ ἄρχων προσελθὼν προσεκύνη αὐτῷ.
5. πᾶσάν τε ἡμέραν ἐν τῷ ἱέρῳ καὶ κατ' οἶκον οὐκ ἐπαύοντο διδάσκοντες καὶ εὐαγγελιζόμενοι τὸν χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν.
6. γενομένης ἡμέρας ἐξελθὼν ἐπορεύθη εἰς ἔρημον τόπον.
7. ὁ αὐτὸς θεὸς ὁ ἐνεργῶν τὰ πάντα ἐν πᾶσιν.
8. πάντων τε καταπεσόντων² ἡμῶν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἤκουσα φωνὴν λέγουσαν πρὸς με, Σαοὺλ Σαοὺλ τί με διώκεις;
9. μὴ ἔχοντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀποδοῦναι, ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος πρᾶτῃν³ καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἔχει.
10. ἐλθούσης δὲ τῆς ἐντολῆς ἡ ἀμαρτία ἀνέζησεν⁴ ἐγὼ δὲ ἀπέθανον.

¹ ἐλλογέω, charge reckon

² καταπιπτο, I fall down

³ πιπράσκο, I sell, Aorist Passive Infinitive

⁴ ἀναζάω, I make alive

III. Translate. (Use Genitive Absolute where possible.)

1. Coming to Jesus, the ruler worshipped him.
2. And it came to pass when the disciples had come down from the mountains he healed the only son of a man.
3. While they were speaking all these things, Jesus went into the mountain.
4. Since the men did have (anything) to pay, the Lord commanded the wives and children to be sold.
5. Since all men had died in sin. Christ died in behalf of them.

Corrected 6/9/06