

## Lesson 39

The Subjunctive Mood

πᾶσα γραφή θεόπνευστος...ἵνα ἄρτιος ᾦ ὁ τοῦ θεοῦ ἄνθρωπος.

Every scripture is inspired by God ... in order that the man of God may be complete. II Tim. 3:17

301. The Subjunctive Mood. All verbs conjugations given so far have been in the indicative mood. It will be remembered (Section 3) that mood has to do with the manner of affirmation; i.e., whether the statement is made as a fact or in some other way. The indicative states the action as a fact (including negative declarations and statements).

Greek had three other moods besides the indicative: the subjunctive, imperative, and optative.

The Greek constructions which use the subjunctive verb usually state a thing as conditional, possible (but not accomplished) or something merely entertained as a thought. It may be a statement viewed emotionally, as desired, doubted, or wished.

In English the subjunctive of verbs are usually introduced by modal auxiliaries, "should," "would," "were," etc., as If I were to do it, I would be punished.

302. The Tenses of the Subjunctive. The subjunctive in Greek is usually found in either the present (indicating linear action) or the aorist (indicating point action.) The perfect is very rare.

303. The Present Subjunctive of λύω.

| <u>Active</u>   |               | <u>Passive</u>  |               |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <u>Singular</u> | <u>Plural</u> | <u>Singular</u> | <u>Plural</u> |
| 1. λύω          | λύωμεν        | λύωμαι          | λύωμεθα       |
| 2. λύης         | λύητε         | λύη             | λύησθε        |
| 3. λύη          | λύωσι         | λύηται          | λύωνται       |

Notes: The present subjunctive is made off the present stem (1st principal part). The endings are the same as the indicative mood (primary active and middle endings). The identifying feature is the long connecting vowel which is the sign of the subjunctive. The first singular active is not distinguishable from the indicative form except by context.

304. Translation of the Subjunctive. The natural question is how do you translate the subjunctive? The answer is that there is no translation apart from the constructions which demand its use. For example, ἵνα with the subjunctive expresses purpose: ἵνα λύης, in order that you may loose. but λύης by itself has no translation. The subjunctive must be learned with its constructions, each of which will have its own translation.

305. The Present Subjunctive of εἰμί.

|    | <u>Singular</u> | <u>Plural</u> |  |
|----|-----------------|---------------|--|
| 1. | ᾶ               | ᾶμεν          | <u>Note Carefully:</u> The <u>endings</u> of the present subjunctive of other verbs are the same as the present subjunctive of εἰμί. |
| 2. | ῆς              | ῆτε           |  |
| 3. | ῆ               | ᾶσι           |  |

306. The Subjunctive in Independent and Subordinate Clauses. The word “subjunctive” means “joined under,” indicating that the mood is ordinarily used in subordinate rather than independent clauses. These clauses are usually introduced by subordinate conjunctions such as εἰν if, ἕως, μέχρι until, ἵνα, μή, lest, in order to, ὅς ἂν (εἰάν), whoever, ὅταν, whenever, all dependent and either contingent or indefinite ideas.

In both English and Greek the verb in the main clause in a few instances is in the subjunctive mood (e.g., “Be mine to love”) in commands, wishes, and prohibitions.

In Greek the subjunctive is used in four independent constructions: (1) Hortatory expressions, (2) emphatic future negation with οὐ μή, (3) Prohibitions, and (4) deliberative questions. All other uses are in subordinate clauses.

First we shall deal with the subordinate uses.

307. The Subjunctive in Clauses of Purpose. The conjunctions ἵνα and ὅπως are used with the subjunctive (present or aorist) in a telic (purpose) sense, translated in order that.

ταῦτα λέγω ἵνα ἐγὼ σώζω ὑμᾶς.

I say this in order that I might save you.

ἐξάγουσιν αὐτὸν ἵνα σταυρῶσιν αὐτόν.

They lead him out in order that they might crucify him.

ὁ κύριος ἀπέσταλκέν με ὅπως ἀναβλέψης.

The Lord has sent me in order that you may recover sight.

308. The Subjunctive in Clauses of Fearing. Clauses of fearing, caution, anxiety, introduced by the conjunction μή (lest) or ἵνα μή (in order that not), usually take the subjunctive mood, also μήποτε, lest, at some time, lest happily.

ὁ διάβολος αἶρει τὸν λόγον ἵνα μή πιστεύοντες ζῶσιν.

The devil takes away the word lest believing they might live.

μήποτε ἡ θόρυβος τοῦ λαοῦ

lest there shall be a tumult of the people

βλέπετε μή τις ὑμᾶς πλάνη

Take heed lest someone deceive you.

309. Negative with Subjunctive. The negative with two the subjunctive mood is μή.

ἵνα μη ῆ. . . , in order that he may not be. . .

310. Vocabulary.

ἀγνοέω, I not know, am ignorant

ἀκάθαρτος, ον, unclean

ἐπιπίπτω, I fall upon, come upon

θλίβω, I press, oppress.

ἵνα, (with subjunctive) in order that

κοιμάω, I fall asleep, pass., I am asleep; fig. dies

κερδάνω, I gain

μάστιξ, ἰγος, ἢ a whip, scourge

μεταξύ, adv. between. fig. affliction.

μή, conj. lest (with subjunctive)

ὅπως, (with subjunctive), in order that

προσκαρτερέω, I continue in or with

(with dative) wait on

στηρίζω (ίξω) I fix, place firmly

φανερός, ά, όν, manifest

ψευδομαρτυρία, ας, ἢ, false testimony

ὑποτάσσω, ξω... ὑπετάγην,

Second Aor. Pass., I place under, subject

311. Text A.

πλήθος πολλῦ (great) ἀκούντες ὅσα ποιεῖ πρὸς αὐτόν. καὶ εἶπεν τοῖς μαθητῆς αὐτοῦ ἵνα πολιάριον (boat) προσκαρτερῶσι αὐτῷ διὰ τὸν ὄχλον ἵνα μὴ θλίβωσιν αὐτόν· πολλοὺς γὰρ ἐθεράπευσεν ὥστε αὐτοῦ ἐπιπίπτειν αὐτῷ ἵνα αὐτοῦ ἅπτωνται ὅσοι εἶχον μάστιγας (afflictions) ...καὶ τὰ πνεύματα τὰ ἀκάθαρτα ὅταν αὐτόν ἐθεώρουν προσέπιπτον (προσπίπτω, I fall before) αὐτῷ καὶ ἔκραζον λέγοντα ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ. καὶ πολλὰ ἐπετίμα αὐτοῖς ἵνα μὴ αὐτόν φανερόν ποιῶσιν. καὶ ἀναβαίνει εἰς τὸ ὄρος καὶ προσκαλεῖται οὐς ἠθέλεν αὐτός, καὶ ἀπῆλθον πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ ἐποίησεν δώδεκα ἵνα ὦσιν μετ' αὐτοῦ καὶ ἵνα ἀποστέλλῃ αὐτοὺς κηρύσσειν. (Adapted from Mark 3: 8b – 13)

312. Text B.

1. καταβέβηκα οὐχ ἵνα ποιῶ τὸ θέλημα τὸ ἐμόν, ἀλλὰ τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με.
2. αὐτός ὁ υἱὸς ὑποταγήσεται τῷ ὑποτάξαντι αὐτῷ (himself) τὰ πάντα, ἵνα ἡ ὁ θεὸς πάντα ἐν παῖσιν.
3. φοβοῦμαι μὴ ἐλθόντες εὐρίσκωμεν ὑμᾶς κοιμῶντας.
4. μεταξὺ ἡμῶν καὶ ὑμῶν χάσμα (gulf) μέγα ἐστήρικται ὅπως οἱ θέλοντες διαβῆναι (διαβαίνω, I cross over) ἔνθεν (from here) πρὸς ὑμᾶς μὴ δύνωνται.
5. ὁ ἐωράκαμεν καὶ ἀκηκόαμεν ἀπαγγέλλομεν καὶ ὑμῖν, ἵνα καὶ ὑμεῖς κοινωνίαν ἔχητε μεθ' ἡμῶν.
6. οὐ γὰρ θέλω ὑμᾶς ἀγνοεῖν τὸ μυστήριον τοῦτο, ἵνα μὴ ἦτε ἐν ἑαυτοῖς φρόνιμοι.
7. τοῖς ὑπὸ νόμον ἐγενόμην ὡς ὑπὸ νόμον, μὴ ὦν αὐτὸς ὑπὸ νόμον ἵνα τοὺς ὑπὸ νόμον κερδάνω.
8. ἐζήτουν ψευδομαρτυρίαν ὅπως αὐτόν θανατῶσιν.

III. Translate.

1. The men fear lest the enemy coming should find the women sleeping.
2. The servants are waiting on the lord in order that the unclean may not press upon him.
3. The father falls upon the sons with a whip in order that they may be wise.
4. The daughter subjects herself to the father in order that she may dwell in peace.
5. When the ruler sleeps (in death) (Gen. Absolute), behold the only son commands all the people.

Corrected 6/9/06