

## Lesson 4

PREPOSITIONS

παρὸ ὑμῶν μένει καὶ ἐν ὑμῶν ἔσται.

He (the Holy Spirit) abides with you and shall be in you. John 14:17

28. Prepositions. Prepositions are words which denote time, place, direction, purpose, or some other such abstract idea, which are “placed before” substantives and connect them in an adjectival or adverbial sense to other words.

αἱ ἐκκλησῖαι αἱ ἐν τῇ Ἀσίᾳ, The churches in Asia

λέγει ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς, He speaks in the synagogues

Prepositions were originally adverbs used to modify verbs, but came to be called in as aid to the cases in expressing their relationships. The original or “root” idea of the preposition often helps in understanding its syntactical meaning. The proper way to understand the prepositional phrase “is first to consider the force of the case of the noun and then to add to this the root meaning of the preposition. The combination of the two ideas will generally explain the meaning of the phrase” (Nunn, Short Syntax of New Testament Greek, p. 29)

29. Cases with Prepositions. In English the object of a preposition is always in the objective case. In Greek practically all cases will be found used with prepositions. Some prepositions are used with only one case; e.g., εἰς (with acc., unto), ἀπό (with abl., from). Others are used with two cases; e.g., μετά (with gen., with; with acc., after). And a few are used with three or more cases. The student must not use the cases indiscriminately with any preposition. Because the gen. is used with μετά does not mean that it can be used with πρός which takes only the acc. The student must learn the case and meaning of each preposition with its case (or cases) from the vocabulary. It will be observed that a preposition may mean one thing with one case and another thing with another case.

30. Vocabulary. The following are the most frequent prepositions in the New Testament (200-500 times each), with their root meanings, cases, and the most frequent meanings with those cases.

ἀνά, UP (with acc. only) up to, to the number of; every, by (in the distributive sense)

ἀπό, OFF (with abl. only), from, off

διά, TWO (with gen.), through; (with acc.), on account of

εἰς, WITHIN (with acc. only), unto, into, for

ἐκ (ἐξ before vowels), OUT OF (with abl. only), out of, from

ἐν, WITHIN (with loc.) in, by; (often used with ins. sense of by)

ἐπί, UPON (with gen.), over, upon, at the time of; (with loc.) at on the basis of; (with acc.) on, to, against.

κατά, DOWN (with gen.), against; (with abl.) down from; (with acc.) down along, every (distributive), according to.

μετά, IN THE MIDST OF (with gen.), with; (with acc.), after

περί, AROUND (with gen.), about, concerning; (with acc.), around

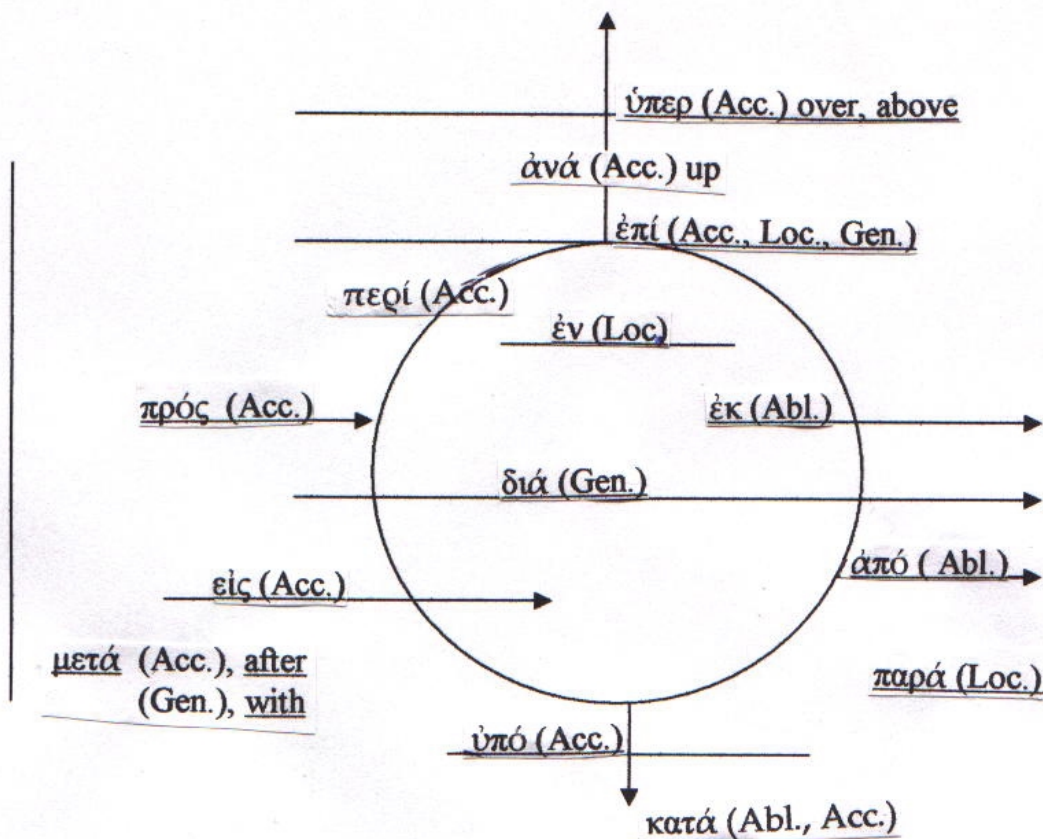
πρός, NEAR (with acc. only), to, toward, with

ὑπό, UNDER (with abl.), by (agency); (with acc.), under

παρά, BESIDE (with abl.) from the side of; (with loc.), at the side of; (with acc.), to the side of.

κώμη, ης, ῆ, village

### 31. Diagram of Local (place) Uses of Prepositions



32. Cases. Certain uses of cases with or without prepositions need special attention.

- a. Locative of Place Where. The locative case, used by itself or with the prepositions ἐν, ἐπί, or παρά, is used to denote the place where.

ἐν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ, in the assembly; ἐν Χριστῷ, in Christ

- b. Accusative of Place to Which. The accusative used by itself or with the prepositions εἰς, πρὸς, or παρά, denotes the extension to or toward a place.

καταβαίνουσε εἰς κώμην, They go down into the village.

- c. The Ablative of Place from Which. The ablative with prepositions ἐκ, ἀπό, παρά, (rarely by itself) means from.

σώζει ἀπὸ ἁμαρτίας, He saves from sin.  
ἐκ τῆς γῆς, out of the land

33. Exercises.I. Text A.

καὶ Ἰησοῦς μετὰ χαρᾶς ἀναβαίνει (goes up, from βαίνω, I go.) πρὸς τὴν θάλασσαν. καὶ οἱ ἀπὸ Γαλιλαίας (“Those from Galilee”) οἱ ἀπὸ Ἰουδαίας καὶ ἐκ Ἱεροσολύμων καὶ περὶ Τύρον καὶ Σιδῶνα (Proper names), βαίνουσι πρὸς Ἰησοῦν. Ἰησοῦς σώζει τὰς ἀσθενίας (sicknesses). μετὰ δὲ ἡμέραν βαίνει εἰς κωμὴν καὶ οἱ ἐκ συναγωγῆς εὐρίσκουσιν Ἰησοῦν ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ καὶ ἄγουσιν Ἰησοῦν εἰς τὴν συναγωγὴν.

II. Text B.

1. εἰς τὴν ἀλήθειαν, ἐκ τῶν οἰκιῶν, ἀπὸ τῆς γραφῆς, ἐν μαχαίραις, διὰ τῆς θαλάσσης, ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν.
2. μετὰ χαρᾶς, μετὰ ἕξ (six) ἡμέρας, διὰ τῶν γραφῶν, διὰ δικαιοσύνην.
3. οὕτως (thus) διδάσκω κατὰ ἐκκλησίαν.
4. περὶ τὴν γῆν, διὰ τὴν φωνήν, λέγει κατὰ τῆς ἐντολῆς τῶν γραφῶν.
5. βάλλετε μάχαιραν εἰς τὴν καρδίαν.
6. Ἰησοῦς λέγει ἐν παραβολαῖς πρὸς τὴν συναγωγὴν.
7. Ἰησοῦς σώζει τὰς ψυχὰς ἀπὸ ἀμαρτίας ἐν ἀλήθεια.
8. παρὰ τὴν θάλασσαν τῆς<sup>1</sup> Γαλιλαίας.

III. Translate (using prepositions).

1. After the hour, with glory, in glory, with authority, under sin.
2. They speak the truth with joy in the heart.
3. By the sea, under the sword, in the day, into the villages.
4. From Jerusalem, about the villages, toward the land.
5. The soul has peace and joy on account of righteousness.

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<sup>1</sup>Proper names are usually accompanied with the article in Greek.