

Dr. Shirley's Greek Courses

Grammar

Present and Aorist Active Participles

A Participle is a “verbal adjective” :

It is like a verb, in that it has Tense (past, present, perfect – future participles are rare in the NT) and like an adjective, in that it has to agree with the noun or pronoun which it qualifies (goes with) in Number (singular or plural), Case (Nominative, Accusative, etc.) and Gender.

1. the Present Participle Active and the Second Aorist Participle Active

| | | | | eg. of βαλλω – βαλων βαλουσα βαλον) | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Singular | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter | Plural | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter |
| Nom. | – ων | – ουσα | – ον | | – οντες | – ουσαι | – οντα |
| Acc. | – οντα | – ουσαν | – ον | | – οντας | – ουσας | – οντα |
| Gen. | – οντος | – ουσης | – οντος | | – οντων | – ουσων | – οντων |
| Dat. | – οντι | – ουση | – οντι | | – ουσιν | – ουσαις | – ουσιν |

| Singular | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter | Plural | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Nom. | λεγων | λεγουσα | λεγον | | λεγοντες | λεγουσαι | λεγοντα |
| Acc. | λεγοντα | λεγουσαν | λεγον | | λεγοντας | λεγουσας | λεγοντα |
| Gen. | λεγοντος | λεγουσης | λεγοντος | | λεγοντων | λεγουσων | λεγοντων |
| Dat. | λεγοντι | λεγουση | λεγοντι | | λεγουσιν | λεγουσαις | λεγουσιν |

2. the First Aorist Participle Active, with endings –ας –ασα –αν (λυσας – “having loosed”)

| Singular | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter | Plural | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter |
|----------|------------|-----------|------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|
| Nom. | λυ–σ–ας | λυ–σ–ασα | λυ–σ–αν | | λυ–σ–αντες | λυ–σ–ασαι | λυ–σ–αντα |
| Acc. | λυ–σ–αντα | λυ–σ–ασαν | λυ–σ–αν | | λυ–σ–αντας | λυ–σ–ασας | λυ–σ–αντα |
| Gen. | λυ–σ–αντος | λυ–σ–ασης | λυ–σ–αντος | | λυ–σ–αντων | λυ–σ–ασων | λυ–σ–αντων |
| Dat. | λυ–σ–αντι | λυ–σ–αση | λυ–σ–αντι | | λυ–σ–ασιν | λυ–σ–ασαις | λυ–σ–ασιν |

Greek is like English and German, in that verbs make their past tenses in different ways –

“Weak” verbs have endings added to the stem, eg. I call, I called. Greek calls these “**First Aorists**”

“Strong” verbs alter the stem, eg. I bring, I brought. Greek calls these **Second Aorists**.

“Irregular” verbs use several stems, eg. I go, I went. NT Greek has about 6 such verbs.

Common Second Aorists : (the endings are the same as the Imperfect)

| | Present | 2nd Aorist | |
|----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| I lead | ἄγω | ἤγαγον | I led |
| I sin | ἁμαρτανω | ἤμαρτον | I sinned |
| I die | ἀποθνησκω | ἄπεθανον | I died |
| I throw | βαλλω | έβαλον | I threw |
| I find | εὔρισκω | εὔρον | I found |
| I have | έχω | έσχον | I had |
| I leave | καταλειπω | κατελιπον | I left |
| I take | λαμβάνω | έλαβον | I took |
| I learn | μανθανω | έμαθον | I learned |
| I suffer | πασχω | έπαθον | I suffered |
| I drink | πινω | έπιον | I drank |
| I fall | πιπτω | έπεσον | I fell |
| I flee | φευγω | έφυγον | I fled |