

Chapter 26

The Future Tense

26.1 So far we have used verbs in the present tense, with a few examples of past tenses.

Now we come to the future tense - and there are no new endings to learn.

Regular Greek verbs form the future tense by adding a **-σ-** between the stem and the personal endings.

English can be confusing in its use of the Future, as either a neutral statement, or an express intention.

e.g. "I shall drown - no-one will save me" is a statement.
"I will drown - no-one shall save me." is a declaration of intent.

Greek usually does not have this ambiguity. To express the intention that something is to be done, Greek usually uses a Third Person Imperative or verbs such as **θελω** - I wish, want, **μελλω** - I am about to.

26.2 The Principal Parts of a Verb

In the back of most Greek dictionaries one will find a Table of Verbs, listing the way the stem of the verb changes between various tenses. In many languages, verbs have changed over the centuries, and now form various groups whose changes just have to be learnt.

For example, in English I bring, I brought I see, I saw I sing, I sang I do, I did

Because Greek dictionaries list verbs in the form of the First Person Present Indicative Active, and because the Present Stem is used so frequently in Greek, we tend to think of the Present Stem as being the main stem of the verb. However, historically, the Present Stem is often derived from an earlier form, called the Verb Stem. Similarly, some of the other tenses may be derived from the Verb Stem rather than the Present Stem. The lists of verbs given in dictionaries always list the tenses in a particular order.

There are six columns in the tables, listing various tenses, and if one knows the six forms for a verb one can build any part of that verb.

The first column is the Present stem - used for the Present tense and for one of the past tenses.

The second column gives the Future stem, which in many cases is the same as the Present stem.

Then there are four others, some of which are used much less frequently.

Most of them are recognizably related to the Present Stem, and will cause no difficulties when we meet them.

26.3 The basic pattern for the Future Indicative Active is

I	STEM-σ-ω	STEM-σ-ομεν	we
you (singular)	STEM-σ-εις	STEM-σ-ετε	y'all
he/she/it	STEM-σ-ει	STEM-σ-ουσιν	they

For **λωω**, this becomes

I shall loose	λωσω	λωσομεν	we shall loose
you will loose	λωσεις	λωσετε	y'all will loose
he/she/it will loose	λωσει	λωσουσιν	they will loose

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. **αὕτη ἀκουσει τους λογους του προφητου.** She will hear the words of the prophet.
2. **ἀκουσομεν την φωνην της ἀδελφης ;** Shall we hear the voice of the sister?
3. **ὁ κυριος ἀπολυσει τους δουλους.** The Lord will set the slaves free.
4. **ὁ Ἰησους θεραπευσει τον τυφλον.** Jesus will heal the blind man.
5. **οἱ μαθηται θεραπευσουσιν τους παραλυτικους.** The disciples will heal the paralytic.
6. **πιστευσομεν τῷ Ἰησου.** We will believe/trust in Jesus.
7. **οὐχ ὑπακουσομεν τοις δαιμονιοις.** We will not obey (be obedient to) the demons.
8. **ὁ γεωργος λυσει τον ἵππον ἐν τῷ ἀγρῳ.** The farmer will loose the horse in the field.
9. **οἱ στρατιωται ἀπολυσουσιν τους δεσμιους ;** Will the soldiers set the prisoners free?
10. **τα παιδια ὑπακουσουσιν τῷ διδασκαλῳ.** The children will obey the teacher.

26.4 The Future Indicative Active of Contract Verbs

Because the sigma comes between the personal ending and the ending vowel of the verb stem, the two vowels are insulated from one another, and contraction does not take place. However, for almost all contract verbs (except *καλεω* and its compounds) the ending vowel of the stem is broadened.

	α becomes η	ε becomes η	ο becomes ω	καλεω does not broaden the ε
	ἀγαπαω - I love	ποιεω - I do	δικαιοω - I justify	καλεω - I call
I	ἀγαπησω	ποιησω	δικαιωσω	καλεσω
you (sing.)	ἀγαπησεις	ποιησεις	δικαιωσεις	καλεσεις
he/she/it	ἀγαπησει	ποιησει	δικαιωσει	καλεσει
we	ἀγαπησομεν	ποιησομεν	δικαιωσομεν	καλεσομεν
y'all	ἀγαπησετε	ποιησετε	δικαιωσετε	καλεσετε
they	ἀγαπησουσιν	ποιησουσιν	δικαιωσουσιν	καλεσουσιν

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. ἀγαπησομεν τον θεον
μισησομεν δε τα έργα του πονηρου. | We shall love God, but
shall hate the works of the evil one. |
| 2. οὐκ ἀπειθησω τῷ κυριῷ
ἀλλὰ διακονησω αὐτῷ. | I shall not be disobedient to the Lord,
but shall serve him. |
| 3. ὁ θεος δικαιωσει ἡμας δια τον Ἰησουν. | God will justify us through Jesus. |
| 4. ὁ διδασκαλος καλεσει τους μαθητας. | The teacher will call the students. |
| 5. ὁ Μεσσιας πληρωσει
τους λογους των προφητων. | The Messiah will fulfil
the words of the prophets. |
| 6. οἱ στρατιωται ζητησουσιν τον ληστην. | The soldiers will seek the robber. |
| 7. φιλησετε τους ἀδελφους ; | Will you love the brothers? |
| 8. ζητησομεν τα προβατα ἐν τη ἐρημῳ. | We shall seek the sheep in the desert. |
| 9. ποιησει τα καλα
ἢ ἀκολουθησει τῷ πονηρῷ ; | Will you do good things,
or will you follow the evil one? |
| 10. περιπατησω ἐν τῷ ἱερῳ
και προσκυνησω τῷ θεῳ. | I shall walk (around) in the temple
and shall worship God. |

26.5 Verbs whose stems end in a guttural, labial, or dental

Some sounds do not combine easily with a sigma.

Gutturals, formed in the throat are **κ, γ, χ**

Gutturals combine with σ to give ξ

Labials, formed with the lips, are **π, β, φ**

Labials combine with σ to give ψ

Dentals, formed with tongue on the teeth, are **τ, δ, θ**

Dentals drop out when σ is added.

If the sigma is added to a Labial (**π, β, φ**) the Greeks have the letter **ψ** for the resulting sound.

On looking at the word, one does not see a sigma - but on saying the word one will hear the "hidden sigma".

e.g. Verb Stem *κρυπ-* (hide) Present Stem *κρυπτ-* Future Stem *κρυψ-*

Present Stems ending in *-σσ* (*-ττ* in Classical Greek) come from Verb Stems ending in a guttural (**κ, γ, χ**).

When the sigma for the Future is added, the result is a **ξ** sound - if one reads the word aloud one hears the "hidden sigma" e.g. Verb Stem *πραγ-* (do) Present Stem *πρασσ-* Future Stem *πραξ-*

Present Stems ending in *-ζω* usually come from Verb Stems ending in *-δ*. The **δ** (or **ζ**) drops out and is replaced by **σ**. An exception is *κραζω* (I cry out), the Verb Stem is *κραγ-* - the **γ** and **σ** give a **ξ** sound.

e.g. Verb Stem *βαπτιδ-* (baptize) Present Stem *βαπτιζ-* Future Stem *βαπτισ-*

e.g. Verb Stem *κραγ-* (cry out) Present Stem *κραζ-* Future Stem *κραξ-*

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ὁ Ἰωάννης βαπτίζει τὸν Ἰησοῦν.	John will baptize Jesus.
2. γράψω ταῖς ἐκκλησίαις.	I shall write to the Churches.
3. δοξάσομεν τὸν κύριον.	We shall glorify the Lord.
4. οἱ μαθηταὶ ἐλπίζουν ἐν τῷ κυρίῳ.	The disciples will hope in the Lord.
5. ὁ Ἰησοῦς φωτίζει τὸν κόσμον.	Jesus will give light to the world.
6. οἱ στρατιῶται φυλάξουσιν τὸν δεσμὸν ;	Will the soldiers guard the prisoner?
7. ὁ γεωργὸς κρύψει τὸ ἀργύριον ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ.	The farmer will hide the money in the field.
8. οἱ μαθηταὶ κηρύξουσιν τὸ εὐαγγέλιον.	The disciples will preach the Gospel.
9. ἡμεῖς πείσομεν αὐτόν.	We shall persuade him. (<i>Matt. 28:14</i>)
10. πέμψω τὸν υἱόν μου τὸν ἀγαπητόν.	I shall send my beloved son. (<i>Luke 20:13</i>)

NOTE : Sections 26.6, 26.7 and 26.8 may be postponed until later in the course.

26.6 The Prohibition : "thou shalt not"

The Greek of the New Testament reflects the Semitic culture in which it was written. One Hebrew idiom which persisted was the prohibition, translated into English as "Thou shalt not . . .", "You shall not . . ."

This uses a Second Person Future Indicative, with the negative οὐ.

e.g.	οὐ φονεύσεις	thou shalt not murder
	οὐ μοιχεύσεις	thou shalt not commit adultery
	οὐ κλέψεις	thou shalt not steal
	οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις	thou shalt not bear false witness
	οὐκ ἐπιόρκησεις	thou shalt not break an oath

Similarly, the Second Person Future Indicative is occasionally used without the οὐ to give a **command**

e.g. ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτὸν thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself

The prohibitions and command given above are from Matthew's Gospel (Matt. 5:21, 27, 33, 43, & 19:18-19) Mark and Luke (Mark 10:19, Luke 18:20), writing to a Roman audience, employ the more usual Greek constructions, which we shall meet later.

There are **no Practice** sentences for this Section.

Instead - **Learn the prohibitions and the command**, and attempt to put them into practice.

26.7 The Future Middle of Regular Verbs, and the Future of εἶμι

The Future Middle is made by exactly the same method as the Future Active, and the same rules for Contract Verbs and for gutturals, labials, and dentals apply.

εἶμι builds its Future with a similar set of endings, but NOTE - the Third Person singular is **ἔσται**.

NOTE - ἐρχομαι and its derivatives are irregular, and use another stem for the Future tense. (Chapter 28)

A sigma is inserted between the Stem and the Personal endings.

	πορεύομαι	δέχομαι	καυχάομαι	ἀρνεομαι	εἶμι	ἐρχομαι
	I go, travel	I receive	I boast	I deny, disown	I am	I come/go
I shall . .	πορεύσομαι	δέξομαι	καυχήσομαι	ἀρνήσομαι	ἔσομαι	ἔλευσομαι
you will . .	πορεύσῃ	δέξῃ	καυχῆσῃ	ἀρνήσῃ	ἔσῃ	ἔλευσῃ
he/she/it	πορεύσεται	δέξεται	καυχῆσεται	ἀρνήσεται	ἔσται	ἔλευσεται
we shall . .	πορεύσομεθα	δέξομεθα	καυχήσομεθα	ἀρνήσομεθα	ἔσομεθα	ἔλευσομεθα
y'all will . .	πορεύσεσθε	δέξεσθε	καυχήσεσθε	ἀρνήσεσθε	ἔσεσθε	ἔλευσεσθε
they will . .	πορεύσονται	δέξονται	καυχήσονται	ἀρνήσονται	ἔσονται	ἔλευσονται

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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|---|---|
| 1. ἡμεῖς οὐ καυχησομεθα. | We shall not boast. (2 Cor. 10:13) |
| 2. κἀγὼ καυχησομαι. | I too shall boast. (2 Cor. 11:18) |
| 3. ὑπερ δε ἐμαυτου οὐ καυχησομαι. | I shall not boast about myself. (2 Cor. 12:5) |
| 4. οἱ Φαρισαιοι οὐ δεξονται τον Ἰησουν. | The Pharisees will not accept Jesus. |
| 5. Κατα τον καιρον τουτον ἐλευσομαι
και ἐσται τη Σαρρα υἱος. | About this time I will come and
there will be a son for Sarah. (Rom. 9:9) |
| 6. συν ἐμοι πορευσονται. | They will travel with me. (1 Cor. 16:4) |
| 7. ἀρνησομαι κἀγὼ αὐτον. | I shall disown him also. (Matt. 10:33) |
| 8. εἰ ἀρνησομεθα,
κάκεινος ἀρνησεται ἡμας. | If we (shall) disown (him), he (that one)
also will disown us. (2 Tim. 2:12) |
| 9. προσευξη ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ; | Will you pray in the temple? |
| 10. ὁ κυριος ῥυσεται ἡμας ἀπο του πονηρου. | The Lord will rescue us from the evil one. |

26.8 The Dinosaur Verbs

In Section 21.6 we met the verbs which retain the ancient **-μι** ending for the First Person Singular Indicative Active. Although they use different endings in the Present tense, for the Future they use the same endings as the regular **-ω** verbs.

The **-μι** verbs use two forms of stem - the older short form, consisting of one or two letters, and a longer form made by duplicating one of the letters or by adding **-νυ** to the verb stem.

For the Future tense, the **-μι** verbs use the short stem.

	Short Stem	Long Stem	Present	Future
destroy	ὀλ-	ὀλλ-	ἀπολλυμι	ἀπολεσω
forgive	ἐ-	ἱε-	ἀφημι	ἀφησω
indicate, show	δεικ-	δεικνυ-	δεικνυμι	δειξω
give	δο-	διδο-	διδωμι	δωσω
stand, cause to stand	στα-	ἴστα-	ἴστημι	στησω
put, place	θε-	τιθε-	τιθημι	θησω
say	φα-, φη-	φα-, φη-	φημι	φησω

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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|---|--|
| 1. τί ποιησει τοις γεωργοις ἐκεينوις ;
λεγουσιν αὐτῷ, Κακους κακως
ἀπολεσει αὐτους. | What will he do to those farmers?
They say to him,
"He will destroy the baddies badly."
(<i>"He will utterly destroy those wicked men"</i>) (Matt. 21:41) |
| 2. ἐαν δε μη ἀφητε τοις ἀνθρωποις,
οὐδε ὁ πατηρ ὑμων ἀφησει ὑμας. | If you do not forgive men, neither will
your father forgive you. (see Matt. 6:15) |
| 3. θησω το πνευμα μου ἐπ' αὐτον. | I will put my Spirit upon him. (Matt. 12:18) |
| 4. και ἐαν αὐτος ἀμαρτανη εις σε
και ἐπιστρεφη προς σε λεγων,
Μετανω, ἀφησεις αὐτῷ. | And if he sins against you
and turns to you saying, "I repent",
You shall forgive him. (see Luke 17:4) |
| 5. και ειπεν ὁ θεος προς Ἀβραάμ, . . .
Δευρο εις την γην ἦν . . . σοι δειξῶ. | And God said to Abraham, "Come (in)to the
land which I shall show to you. (see Acts 7:3) |
| 6. και ειπεν αὐτῷ ὁ διαβολος, Σοι δωσω
την ἐξουσιαν ταυτην. | The devil said to him, "I will give to you
this authority. (Luke 4:6) |
| 7. και στησει τα . . . προβατα
ἐκ δεξιων αὐτου. | And he will stand (put) the sheep
on his right hand. (see Matt. 25:33) |
| 8. λεγει αὐτῷ ὁ Πητρος, Κυριε, . . .
την ψυχην μου ὑπερ σου θησω. | Peter says to him, "Lord, . . . I will lay (down)
my life for you. (John 13:37) |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 9. ἀποκρίνεται Ἰησοῦς, Τὴν ψυχὴν σου ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ θήσεις ; | Jesus answers, "Will you lay (down) your life for me?" (John 13:38) |
| 10. καὶ δώσω σοὶ τὸν στεφάνον τῆς ζωῆς. | I will give you the crown of life. (Rev. 2:10) |

26.9 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ὁ κύριος ἀγιάσει τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ.
2. οἱ ἀποστολοὶ κηρύττουσιν τὸ εὐαγγέλιον.
3. μετὰ ταῦτα ἀναστρέψω καὶ οἰκοδομήσω τὸν οἶκον Δαυίδ. (see Acts 15:16)
4. ἕκαστος γὰρ τὸ ἴδιον σταυρὸν βάστασει. (see Gal. 6:5)
5. τὰ λοιπὰ διατάξομαι. (see 1 Cor. 11:34)
6. εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου ἐπιστρέψω. (Matt. 12:44)
7. ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καθίσει ἐπὶ θρόνου δοξῆς αὐτοῦ. (see Matt. 25:31)
8. ὁ μισῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τούτῳ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον φυλάξει αὐτήν. (John 12:25)
9. πιστὸς δὲ ἐστὶν ὁ κύριος, ὃς φυλάξει ὑμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ. (see 2 Thess. 3:3)
10. ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὁ πιστευὼν εἰς ἐμέ τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ κάκεινος ποιήσει. (John 14:12)

26.10 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text, while saying aloud (John 1:1-5)

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.	In (the) beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.
οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἐν. (ὁ γέγονεν.) (ὁ γέγονεν) ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων. καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ ἡ σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν.	He (this one) was in the beginning with God all (things) happened (came into being) through him, not one thing (that happened) happened without him. (The thing that happened) In him was life, and the life was the light of men; and the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it (get it down)

26.11 New Testament Passages for reading and translation : Matt. 5:27-30, Matt. 19:16-22

In your Greek New Testament, read the passages aloud several times until you can read them without long pauses or stumbling. Then use the helps to translate them.

ἤκουσατε	you heard	(a simple past of ἀκούω - I hear)
ἔρρεθη	it has been said	(a Perfect Passive)
γυναίκα	woman	(Accusative of ἡ γυνή - woman)
πρὸς τὸν ἐπιθυμῆσαι	in order to desire	(from ἐπιθυμῶ - I desire, lust, covet)
ἐμοιχεύσεν	(he) committed adultery	(simple past of μοιχεύω - I commit adultery)
ἐξέλε	pick (it) out	(an Imperative of ἐξαιρέω - I pull out)
βάλε	throw	(an Imperative of βάλλω - I throw)
ἀποληται	(it) might/should be destroyed	(a Subjunctive of ἀπολλύμι - I destroy)
ἐν	one	(Neuter Nominative singular of εἷς, μία, ἓν - one)
τῶν μελῶν σου	of your limbs	(το μέρος - a part of the body, limb)
βληθη	(it) might/should be thrown	(a Subjunctive of βάλλω - I throw)
γεενναν	Gehenna, Hell	
	(Accusative of ἡ γέεννα - Gehenna, the garbage dump of Jerusalem)	
ἐκκοψον	cut (it) off	(an Imperative of ἐκκοπῶ - I cut off)
ἀπελθη	(it) might/should go away to	

εἰς	one (<i>Masculine Nominative singular of εἷς, μία, ἕν - one</i>)
προσελθων	having come to(wards)
σχω	I may have (<i>a Subjunctive of ἔχω - I have</i>)
εἰσελθειν	to enter into
τηρησον	keep (<i>an Imperative of τηρεω - I keep</i>)
ποιας ;	which? (<i>Feminine Accusative plural of ποιος -α -ον ; - of what sort?</i>)
τον πατερα	father (<i>Accusative of ὁ πατηρ - father</i>)
την μητερα	mother (<i>Accusative of ἡ μητηρ - mother</i>)
παντα ταυτα	all these things (<i>Neut. Nom./Acc. plural of πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν - each, all</i>)
ἐφυλαξα	I kept (<i>simple past of φυλασσω - I keep, guard</i>)
ἐφη	(he) said (<i>simple past of φημι - I say</i>)
εἶναι	to be (<i>Infinitive of εἶμι</i>)
πωλησον	sell (<i>an Imperative of πωλεω - I sell</i>)
τα ὑπαρχοντα	belongings (<i>a Neuter Plural Accusative Participle of ὑπαρχω - I am</i>)
δος	give! (<i>an Imperative of διδωμι - I give</i>)
ἐξεις	you will have (<i>Future of ἔχω - I have</i>)
ἀκουσας	having heard (<i>a Participle of ἀκουω - I hear</i>)
λυπουμενος	being made sad, being grieved (<i>Passive Participle of λυπεω - I grieve</i>)
κτηματα πολλα	many possessions (<i>το κτημα - possession, property</i>)
ἦν γαρ ἔχων	for he was having = for he had

26.12 Vocabulary to learn. This list includes some verbs which were in previous vocabularies, so that you may see how verbs fit into families.

Do not try to learn all the verbs at once. Sort them into groups and learn a few at a time.

ἀγιάζω	I sanctify	
βαστάζω	I carry, endure, bear	
δοξάζω	I praise, honor, glorify	
ἐκκόπτω	I cut off	
ἐλπίζω	I hope, expect	
ἐξαιρεω	I pull out	
ἐπιθυμέω	I desire, lust for, covet	
ἐπιορκέω	I break an oath	
ἐτοιμάζω	I prepare	
καθίζω	I sit down	
καυχάομαι	I boast	
κόπτω	I cut	
κράζω	I cry out	
κρύπτω	I hide (<i>hence crypt, cryptic</i>)	
μοιχεύω	I commit adultery	
πειθω	I persuade	Passive I obey, pay attention to
ἀπειθέω	I disobey, am an unbeliever	
πέμπω	I send	
σκανδαλίζω	I cause someone to lose faith	Passive I give up my faith, fall into sin
στρέφω	I turn, turn around	
ἀναστρέφω	I return	Passive I conduct myself, live, stay
ἐπιστρέφω	I turn back, turn around	
ὑποστρέφω	I return, turn back	
συμφέρω	(I am better, I profit)	
συμφέρει	it is better	

σώζω	I save, cure	
τάσσω	I appoint	
διατάσσω	I command, order, arrange	
ἐπιτάσσω	I give a command (to someone, to do something)	
	(takes Dative for the person commanded, and Infinitive for the action to be done)	
ὑποτάσσω	I put into subjection	Passive I obey, am subject to
ὑστερέω	I lack, am in need of	
φονεύω	I murder, put to death	
φυλάσσω	I guard, keep	(ἡ φυλακη - prison)
φωτίζω	I give light to, enlighten	
ψευδομαρτυρέω	I give false testimony	
ὁ νεανίσκος	young man	
τέλειος, -α, -ον	complete, perfect, mature	
κακῶς	badly	(Adverb, from κακος)
τί	what? why?	
ποῖος, -α, -ον ;	what? which? what kind of?	
ἤδη	already	
πλησίον	near	(takes Genitive)
ἔτι	still, yet	
δεῦρο	come, come here	

(do not attempt to use other cases of the following words yet

ἡ γυνή	woman, wife, lady	
το κτήμα	possession, property	
το μέλος	part of the body, limb	
ἡ μήτηρ	mother	
ὁ πλησίον	neighbor	
το σῶμα	body	
ἡ χεῖρ	hand	(hence chiropractor)
εἷς, μία, ἓν	one	
πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν	each, every	