

Chapter 57

The Pluperfect and the Future Pluperfect

57.1 In Chapter 56 we met the **Perfect** tense, which implies that something happened in the past, with consequences or some effect on conditions at the time of the statement.

Now we come to the **Pluperfect** (I had done something) and the **Future Perfect** (I will have done something).

1. I have finished my homework, so now I am going out to play. (Perfect)
2. I had finished my homework, so then I went out to play. (Pluperfect)
3. I will have finished my homework before the teacher arrives. (Future Perfect)

In both English and Greek, the Pluperfect implies a series of events, with all events moved back in the past, but the Pluperfect happening before the reference point in time. In sentence (2) the sequence is - I finished my homework (in the past), then I went out to play (in the past, but nearer the present than the previous event), (and now I am reporting it - present.)

The Future Perfect implies a similar series of events which are in the future. In sentence (3) the sequence is - I finish my homework (sometime in the future), and then the teacher arrives (later in the future) Future Perfects are rare in Greek, and only periphrastic forms appear in the GNT.

57.2 The Pluperfect Indicative Active is formed by adding an augment to the Perfect Active. However, writers quite often dropped the augment and relied on the personal endings to show the Pluperfect. A few verbs have Secondary forms, e.g. ἔρχομαι (ἐλήλυθειν) and γινομαι (ἐγεγονειν)

The basic pattern for the Perfect Indicative Active is

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| I | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειν | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειμεν | we |
| you (singular) | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κεις | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειτε | y'all |
| he/she/it | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κει | ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κεισαν | they |

For λωω, this becomes

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|
| I had loosed | ἐλέλυκειν | ἐλέλυκειμεν | we had loosed |
| you had loosed | ἐλέλυκεις | ἐλέλυκειτε | y'all had loosed |
| he/she/it had loosed | ἐλέλυκει | ἐλέλυκεισαν | they had loosed |

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. εἰ γὰρ ἐξ ἡμῶν ἦσαν,
μεμνηκεισαν ἂν μεθ' ἡμῶν. If they were from us, they (would)
have remained with us. (*1 John 2:19*)
2. οἱ γὰρ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπελήλυθεισαν
εἰς τὴν πόλιν. His disciples had gone away
into the town . . . (*John 4:8*)
3. καὶ σκοτία ἤδη ἐγεγονεὶ καὶ οὐπω
ἐλήλυθει πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς. Darkness had already come (happened) and
Jesus had not yet come to them (*John 6:17*)
4. ἀναστὰς δὲ . . . (ὁ Ἰησοῦς) ἐφάνη πρῶτον
Μαρία τῇ Μαγδαληνῇ, παρ' ἧς
ἐκβεβλήκει ἑπτὰ δαιμόνια. Having arisen, . . . Jesus appeared first to
Mary Magdalene, from whom
he had cast out seven demons. (*Mark 16:9*)
5. καὶ οἱ δώδεκα (ἦσαν) συν αὐτῷ καὶ . . .
Μαρία . . . ἀφ' ἧς δαιμόνια ἑπτὰ
ἐξελήλυθει. And the Twelve were with him, and Mary,
from whom seven evil spirits
had gone out. (*Luke 8:1-2*)
6. ἀπελθόντες δὲ εὗρον καθὼς
εἶρηκε αὐτοῖς. Having gone (there), they found (it) just as he
he had said to them. (*Luke 22:13*)
7. ἐγίνωσκεν γὰρ ὅτι διὰ φθόνον
παραδεδωκεισαν αὐτὸν
οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς. For he knew that the chief priests
had handed him over
out of envy. (*Mark 15:10*)

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| 8. (Παυλος και Βαρναβας) παρεθεντο αυτους τω κυριω εις ον πεπιστευκεισαν. | (Paul and Barnabas) committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Acts 14:23) |
| 9. ουπω δε εληλυθει ο Ιησους εις την κωμην. | Jesus had not yet come into the village. (John 11:30) |
| 10. ει δε εγνωκειτε τι εστιν, "Ελεος θελω και ου θυσιαν, ουκ αν καταδικασατε τους αναιτιους. (η θυσια = sacrifice) | But if you had known what it is (means), "I want mercy, and not sacrifice" you would not have condemned the innocent. (Matt. 12:7) |

57.3 The Pluperfect Indicative Middle and Passive is built upon the Pluperfect Stem (usually the same as the Perfect Active stem with an augment added). Similarly to the Perfect Middle/Passive, a thematic vowel (-ο- or -ε-) may go between the Stem and the endings, Similarly to the Perfect Middle/Passive, the Third Person Plural uses a periphrastic form - the Perfect Participle with ησαν. The Participle must agree (in gender) with the gender of the subject.

The basic pattern for the Pluperfect Indicative Middle and Passive is

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| I | έ- <i>PSTEM-μην</i> | έ- <i>PSTEM-μεθα</i> | we |
| you (singular) | έ- <i>PSTEM-σο</i> | έ- <i>PSTEM-σθε</i> | y'all |
| he/she/it | έ- <i>PSTEM-το</i> | Perfect Participle ησαν | they |

For λυω, this becomes

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------------|
| I had been loosed | ελελυμην | ελελυμεθα | we had been loosed |
| you had been loosed | ελελυσο | ελελυσθε | y'all had been loosed |
| he/she/it had been loosed | ελελυτο | λελυμενοι ησαν | they had been loosed |

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. πτωχος δε τις ονοματι Λαζαρος εβεβλητο προς τον πυλωνα αυτου. | A (certain) poor (man) by name Lazarus had been put near his doorway. (Luke 16:20) |
| 2. διερχομενος γαρ και αναθεωρων τα σεβασματα υμων ευρον και βωμον εν ω επεγεγραπτο, Αγνωστω θεω. (το σεβασμα. -τος = place or object of worship, from σεβομαι = I worship ο βωμος = altar, αγνωστος, -ον = unknown, from αγνοεω = I don't know) | (While I was) going through and observing your objects of worship I found an altar upon which had been written, "To an unknown god." (Acts 17:23) |
| 3. και κατεβη η βροχη και ηλθον οι ποταμοι και επνευσαν οι ανεμοι και προσεπεσεν τη οικια εκεινη και ουκ επεσεν, τεθεμελιωτο γαρ επι την πετραν. | And the rain came down, and the rivers came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. (Matt. 7:25) |
| 4. και ανασταντες εξεβαλον αυτον εξω της πολεως, και ηγαγον αυτον εως οφρυος του ορους εφ' ου η πολις ωκοδομητο αυτων, ωστε κατακρημνισαι αυτον (η οφρυς, -νος = brow of a hill κατακρημνιζω = I throw down (from a cliff) | And having risen up, they threw him out of the town and led him as far as the brow of the hill on which their town had been built so as to throw him down. (Luke 4:29) |
| 5. εξηλθεν ο τεθνηκως δεδεμενος τους ποδας και τας χειρας κειριας, και η οψις αυτου σουδαριω περιεδεδετο. | The dead man came out (with his) feet and hands (having been) bound with bandages and his face had been wrapped in a cloth. (John 11:44) |

(τεθνηκως = Perfect Participle of θνησκω - I die ο τεθνηκως = the "having died" man
δεδεμενος = Perfect Participle Passive of δεω - I bind η κειρια - bandage
η οψις, -εως - face, appearance το σουδαριον - kerchief περιδεω - I bind around, wrap)

6. ἤδη γὰρ συνετεθειντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα
ἐὰν τις αὐτὸν ὁμολογήσῃ Χριστὸν,
ἀποσυναγωγῶς γενήται. The Jews had already agreed that
if anyone confessed him (to be the) Christ
he should be put out of the synagogue.
(John 9:22)
- (*συνετεθειντο* - *Pluperfect Middle of συντιθημι* - *I put together, make an agreement*
ἀποσυναγωγῶς - *excommunicated, put out of the synagogue (denied membership)*
γενήται - *Aorist Subjunctive of γινομαι* - *I become, happen, am*)
7. Ἀπολελυσθαι ἐδύνατο ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος
εἰ μὴ ἐπεκεκλήτο Καίσαρα. This man could have been released
except (that) he had called upon Caesar.
(Acts 26:32)
- (*ἀπολελυσθαι* = *Perfect Infinitive Passive of ἀπολύω* - *I release, set free*
ἐπεκεκλήτο = *Pluperfect Middle of ἐπικαλέω* - *I call upon, appeal to*)

57.4 The Future Perfect in English has the form "I will have done something" - an action will be completed in the future. The Future Perfect in Greek is similar, though it is more often used with a passive force "something will have been done".

In classical Greek a Future Perfect Indicative Passive was built by adding -σ- with a thematic vowel (-ο- or -ε-) to the stem of the Perfect Middle

The basic pattern for the Future Perfect was

PTSTEM-σομαι -ση -σεται -σομεθα -σεσθε -σονται

However, even with Classical Greek, a Future Perfect was more often made periphrastically by using the Perfect Participle with the future tense of εἶμι.

Perfect Participle + ἔσομαι ἔση ἔσται ἔσομεθα ἔσεσθε ἔσονται

The few examples of Future Perfects found in the GNT are all periphrastic.

There are a few examples in the LXX which may be synthetic Future Perfects (one-word forms, built on a Perfect stem). These are mainly forms of κραζῶ (I cry out), e.g. κεκραξομαι. which, as a Future Perfect, may be translated as "I shall have cried out" but which seems to have a simple Future sense of "I shall cry out"

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. δώσω σοι τὰς κλεῖδας τῆς βασιλείας
τῶν οὐρανῶν, καὶ ὃ ἐὰν δήσῃς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς
ἔσται δεδεμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς
καὶ ὃ ἐὰν λύσῃς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται
λελυμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς,
(*δήσῃς* = *Aorist Subjunctive Active of δεω* - *I bind* - see Chapter 59) (Matt. 16:19)
(*λύσῃς* = *Aorist Subjunctive Active of λυω* - *I loose* - see Chapter 59)
- I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of
the heavens, and whatever you bind on the
earth will have been bound in the heavens
and whatever you loose on the earth will
have been loosed in the heavens.
2. Ἄμην λέγω ὑμῖν, Ὅσα ἐὰν δήσητε
ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται δεδεμένα ἐν οὐρανῶ,
καὶ ὅσα ἐὰν λύσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς
ἔσται λελυμένα ἐν οὐρανῶ.
(*δήσητε* = *Second Person Plural Aorist Subjunctive of δεω* - *I bind*) (Matt. 18:18)
(*λύσητε* = *Second Person Plural Aorist Subjunctive of λυω* - *I loose*)
- Amen, I say to you, "Whatever (things) you
may bind on the earth will have been bound
in heaven, and whatever you may loose on
the earth will have been loosed in heaven.
3. ἔσονται γὰρ ἀπὸ νῦν πεντε ἐν ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
διαμεμερισμένοι, τρεῖς ἐπὶ δυσὶν καὶ
δύο ἐπὶ τρισὶν.
- From now on there will be five (people) in
one house, (having been) divided three
against two and two against three.
(Luke 12:52)
4. πρὸς σε κυριε κεκραξομαι.
- I will cry out to you, Lord. (Ps. 29:8)

57.5 Sentences for reading and translation

1. και οὐδεις ἐπεβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτον την χειρα, ὅτι οὐπω ἐληλυθει ἡ ὥρα αὐτου. (John 7:30)
2. ειρηκει δε ὁ Ἰησους περι του θανατου αὐτου. (John 11:13)
3. πολλοι δε ἐκ των Ἰουδαιων ἐληλυθεισαν προς την Μαρθαν. (John 11:19)
4. και ἰδου ἀνὴρ Αἰθίοψ . . . ὃς ἐληλυθει προσκυνησων εἰς Ἱερουσαλημ. (Acts 8:27)
(προσκυνησων = Future Participle of προσκυνεω - I worship. In classical Greek, a Future Participle after a verb of motion indicates purpose - "had gone to Jerusalem to worship")

57.6 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text several times, while saying aloud (Rev.15:4)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| τίς σε οὐ μη φοβηθη, κυριε, | Who shall not fear thee, Lord, |
| και δοξασει το ὄνομα σου ; | and glorify thy name? |
| ὅτι μονος ὁσιος, | Because (thou) alone (art) holy, |
| ὅτι παντα τα ἔθνη ἤξουσιν | because all the nations shall have come |
| και προσκυνησουσιν ἐνώπιον σου, | and (shall) worship before thee, |
| ὅτι τα δικαιωματα σου ἐφανερωθησαν. | because thy righteous deeds have been revealed. |

57.7 There is no New Testament Passage for reading and translation.

The Practice Sentences have demonstrated almost all the examples of the Pluperfect which occur in the GNT, except for the Pluperfect of οἶδα - see Chapter 68

57.8 Vocabulary to learn

A. Continue to learn the first five Principal Parts of the verbs listed in Appendix D 01

B.

| | | |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| ἀναθεωρέω | I observe closely, reflect upon | |
| διαμερίζω | I divide | |
| καταδικάζω | I condemn | |
| ἡ βροχή | rain | (from βρεχω - I rain) |
| το δικαίωμα | righteous deed, requirement, commandment | |
| ἡ κλείς, κλειδος | key | (from κλειω - I shut, lock, close) |
| ὁ φθόνος | envy, spite, malice | |
| ἀναίτιος, -ον | guiltless, innocent | |
| οὐπω, μήπω | not yet | |