

## Chapter 12

### Second Declension Feminine Nouns First Declension Masculine Nouns Indeclinable Nouns

**NOTE :** This Chapter may be postponed until later in the course.

**12.1** We have already met the largest groups of Nouns in New Testament Greek.

In chapter 4 we met nouns which end in **-ος** and which are grammatically Masculine.

In chapter 6 we met nouns which end in **-ον** and which are grammatically Neuter.

In chapters 8 & 9 we met nouns which end in **-η** or **-α** and which are grammatically Feminine. Before proceeding with this chapter, please go back and review the endings for these nouns, and the way the Definite Article is declined with them.

We now meet three much smaller groups of nouns which reverse the normal pattern of " **-ο** signals masculine or neuter", and " **-η** or **-α** signals feminine", and then a group of words derived from foreign languages, mainly Hebrew, which do not decline at all.

**12.2 Second Declension Feminine Nouns** end in **-ος** but are grammatically feminine. There are very few of these nouns. The most frequently occurring are given in Vocabulary 12.10

NOTE that a feminine noun takes a feminine form of the Definite Article or of an Adjective.

e.g. ἡ πιστὴ παρθένος - the faithful virgin

The basic pattern for a Second Declension Feminine Noun can be demonstrated by ἡ παρθένος

|            | Singular     | Plural         |
|------------|--------------|----------------|
| Nominative | ἡ παρθένος   | αἱ παρθένοι    |
| Accusative | τὴν παρθένον | τὰς παρθένας   |
| Genitive   | τῆς παρθένου | τῶν παρθένων   |
| Dative     | τῇ παρθένῳ   | ταῖς παρθένοις |

**Practice** - until you can read and translate easily

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. ὁ ἄγγελος Γαβριὴλ λέγει τῇ παρθένῳ.                   | The angel Gabriel speaks to the virgin.       |
| 2. αἱ παρθένοι αἱ σοφαὶ ζητοῦσιν τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ. | The wise virgins seek the Kingdom of God.     |
| 3. ὁ Ἰωάννης ἦν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.                             | John was in the desert                        |
| 4. ἡ ὁδὸς ἐκ τῆς Αἰγύπτου διὰ τῆς ἐρήμου ἦν.             | The way out of Egypt was through the desert   |
| 5. τὰ παιδιά περιπατοῦσιν ἐν τῇ τρίβῳ πρὸς τοὺς ἀγρούς.  | The children walk in the path to the fields.  |
| 6. αἱ ὁδοί μου οὐχ αἱ ὁδοί σου εἰσίν, λέγει ὁ κύριος.    | My ways are not your ways, says the Lord.     |
| 7. ὁ Ἰωσήφ ἦν ἐν τῇ γῆ Αἰγύπτου.                         | Joseph was in the land of Egypt.              |
| 8. δίκαια καὶ ἀληθινὰ αἱ ὁδοί σου, κύριε ὁ θεός.         | Righteous and true (are) your ways, Lord God. |
| 9. ὁ Λουκᾶς βλέπει τὰς παρθένας ἐν τῇ τρίβῳ ;            | Does Luke see the virgins on the path?        |
| 10. ὁ Ἰησοῦς θεραπεύει τὰς νόσους ὑμῶν.                  | Jesus heals your diseases.                    |

### 12.3 First Declension Masculine Nouns ending in -ας or -ης

The Greek **-ας** ending was the way the Greeks heard the Hebrew "yahu" (Our God) ending of names which have come into English as, for example, Isaiah, Jeremiah.

First Declension Masculine Nouns ending in **-ας** include a group of men's names, and the word for a young man, **νεανίας**. Words in this group whose stems end in **-ε, -ι, or -ρ** all decline like **νεανίας**, and have a genitive singular ending in **-ου**. Words ending in other letters have a Genitive singular ending in **-α** which was a feature of the Doric dialect, and so is known as a Doric Genitive.

First Declension Masculine Nouns ending in **-ης** include some men's names, and a group of names of occupations or professions, e.g. **προφήτης**, a prophet.

Both **-ας** and **-ης** groups have Vocative Singulars ending in **-α**

|          |             |                |               |              |
|----------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Singular | Nom.        | ὁ προφήτης     | ὁ νεανίας     | ὁ Ἰούδας     |
|          | <b>Voc.</b> | <b>προφήτα</b> | <b>νεανία</b> | <b>Ἰούδα</b> |
|          | Acc.        | τὸν προφήτην   | τὸν νεανίαν   | τὸν Ἰούδαν   |
|          | Gen.        | τοῦ προφήτου   | τοῦ νεανίου   | τοῦ Ἰούδα    |
|          | Dat.        | τῷ προφήτῃ     | τῷ νεανίᾳ     | τῷ Ἰούδᾳ     |
| Plural   | Nom./Voc    | οἱ προφήται    | οἱ νεανίαι    |              |
|          | Acc.        | τούς προφήτας  | τούς νεανίας  |              |
|          | Gen.        | τῶν προφητῶν   | τῶν νεανιῶν   |              |
|          | Dat.        | τοῖς προφήταις | τοῖς νεανίαις |              |

**Practice** - until you can read and translate easily

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. προφήτα, λέγεις τοὺς λόγους τοῦ θεοῦ ;                             | Prophet, do you speak the words of God?                     |
| 2. οἱ νεανίαι ἀκούουσιν τοὺς λόγους τοῦ προφήτου.                     | The youths hear the words of the prophet.                   |
| 3. ἀναγινώσκομεν τὸ βιβλίον τοῦ Λουκᾶ.                                | We are reading Luke's book.                                 |
| 4. οἱ ψεῦσται οὐ λέγουσιν τὴν ἀλήθειαν.                               | The liars are not telling the truth.                        |
| 5. ὁ Βαραββᾶς ληστής ἦν.  | Barrabas was a robber.                                      |
| 6. ὁ κριτὴς οὐκ ἀγαπᾷ τοὺς ὀφειλέτας.                                 | The judge does not love the debtors.                        |
| 7. οἱ ὑποκριταὶ καὶ οἱ ψεῦσται υἱοὶ τοῦ Σατανᾶ εἰσίν.                 | The hypocrites and the liars are sons of Satan.             |
| 8. οἱ μαθηταὶ περιπατοῦσιν ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς τῆς δικαιοσύνης καὶ εἰρήνης. | The disciples walk in the paths of righteousness and peace. |
| 9. οἱ στρατιῶται οἱ Ῥωμαῖοι ζητοῦσιν τὸν τελώνην ;                    | Are the Roman soldiers seeking the tax-collector?           |
| 10. ὁ Ἰωάννης ὁ βαπτιστὴς ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ἦν.                             | John the Baptist was in the desert.                         |

### 12.4 The names of Jerusalem

There are two versions of the name Jerusalem (life is like that).

However, they are so similar to the English form that you will not mistake them for anything else.

Both forms may be used with, or without, the Definite Article.

The Hebrew form is Ἱερουσαλήμ, with a smooth breathing, and is pronounced "year-oo-sa-LAME".

Ἱερουσαλήμ is indeclinable, although it is treated as grammatically feminine.

The Greek form is Ἱεροσόλυμα, with a rough breathing, and is pronounced "here-oh-SOL-um-ah".

Ἱεροσόλυμα can be grammatically either neuter plural or feminine singular.

Matthew, Mark, and John use the Greek form more frequently.

Paul and Luke use both the Greek and the Hebrew forms.

It may seem strange that a city should be thought of as plural, but Thyatira, **Θυάτειρα**, is also neuter plural, and Athens and Colossae are treated as feminine plural : **Ἀθῆναι, Κολοσσαί**.

**Practice** - until you can read and translate easily

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Ἱεροσόλυμα καὶ ἡ Ἰουδαία ἀκούουσιν<br>τῷ βαπτιστῇ.           | Jerusalem and Judea listen<br>to the Baptizer.          |
| 2. ὁ προφήτης περιπατεῖ ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις.                   | The prophet is walking in Jerusalem.                    |
| 3. οἱ Φαρισαῖοι ἐκβάλλουσιν τοὺς μαθητὰς<br>ἐκ τῶν Ἱεροσολύμων. | The Pharisees throw the disciples<br>out of Jerusalem.  |
| 4. οἱ Λευῖται ζητοῦσιν τὸ ἱερόν<br>ἐν τῇ Ἱερουσαλήμ.            | The Levites seek the Temple<br>in Jerusalem.            |
| 5. οἱ στρατιῶται σταυροῦσιν τὸν Ἰησοῦν<br>ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ.        | The soldiers crucify Jesus<br>in Jerusalem.             |
| 6. ἡ Ἱερουσαλήμ ἁγία ἐστίν.                                     | Jerusalem is holy.                                      |
| 7. αἱ παρθενοὶ τῆς Ἱερουσαλήμ<br>κλαίουσιν ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς αὐτῆς. | The virgins of Jerusalem<br>are weeping in her streets. |
| 8. ἡ συναγωγή τῶν Λευιτῶν<br>ἐν τῇ Ἱεροσόλυμα ἦν.               | The synagogue of the Levites<br>was in Jerusalem.       |
| 9. Ἱερουσαλήμ, οὐ λαμβάνεις τοὺς προφήτας.                      | Jerusalem, you do not accept the prophets.              |
| 10. περιπατῶ ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ πρὸς τὴν Ἱερουσαλήμ.                     | I am walking on the road to Jerusalem.                  |

### 12.5 Indeclinable Nouns and other words

The Greek New Testament includes some names and other words taken directly from Aramaic, for which there was no convenient Declension. These words are left undeclined, but if there is a Definite Article or an Adjective with such a word, the Article and/or Adjective is declined to fit the grammatical function of the word in the sentence.

**Practice** - until you can read and translate easily

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Δαυὶδ βλέπει τὸν κλέπτην.                             | David sees the thief.                              |
| 2. ἡ παρθένος βλέπει τὸν Δαυὶδ ;                         | Does the virgin see David?                         |
| 3. οἱ υἱοὶ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ἦσαν.                  | The sons/children of Israel were in the desert.    |
| 4. ἀναγινώσκωμεν τὸ βιβλίον<br>τοῦ προφήτου Δανιήλ.      | We are reading the Book<br>of the prophet Daniel.  |
| 5. ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, Ὁ θεὸς ἅγιος ἐστίν.              | Truly, truly, I say to you "God is holy".          |
| 6. οὐαὶ ὑμῖν, Ἱεροσόλυμα .                               | Woe to you, Jerusalem!                             |
| 7. ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις τοῦ Νῶε<br>οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἀδίκαιοι ἦσαν. | In the days of Noah<br>(the) men were unrighteous. |
| 8. ὁ Ἀνδρέας καὶ ὁ Κηφᾶς<br>ἐν τῇ Καφαρναοὺμ ἦσαν ;      | Were Andrew and Cephas<br>in Capernaum?            |
| 9. τὸ μνημεῖον τοῦ Δαυὶδ<br>ἐν τῇ Ἱεροσόλυμα ἦν.         | The tomb of David<br>was in Jerusalem.             |
| 10. οἱ ἐργάται ποιοῦσιν τὸ μνημεῖον τοῦ Ἰουδα.           | The workmen make the tomb of Judah/Judas.          |

### 12.6 Sentences for reading and translation

1. αὐτὸς ὁ κύριος βλέπει τοὺς κριτὰς.
2. ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγει τῷ Σατανᾶ ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.
3. ὁ θεὸς καλεῖ τοὺς υἱοὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἐκ τῆς Αἰγύπτου.
4. οἱ Λευῖται ζητοῦσιν τὸν Ἰωάννην τὸν βαπτιστὴν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ;
5. οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι οὐκ ἀγαπῶσιν τοὺς Σαμαρίτας.
6. ὁ Ἰωάννης τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ βαπτίζει.
7. οἱ νεανῖαι ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς τοῦ κυρίου περιπατοῦσιν.
8. ὁ τελώνης ψεύστης ἐστίν καὶ οἱ στρατιῶται ζητοῦσιν αὐτόν.
9. οἱ προφῆται τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ πιστοὶ καὶ ἅγιοι ἦσαν.
10. Μιχαὴλ ὁ ἄγγελος λέγει τῷ Δανιήλ τῷ προφήτῃ.

## 12.7 Writing Practice : Write the Greek, while saying aloud (Matt. 6:9-13)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς,<br>ἀγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου,<br>ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,<br>γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου,<br>ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς.<br>τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον<br>δοῦς ἡμῖν σήμερον·<br>καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν<br>ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφήκαμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν·<br>καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν, | Our Father, the (one) in the heavens,<br>let your name be sanctified,<br>let your kingdom come,<br>let your will / wish happen (come to pass),<br>just as in heaven (so) also on earth.<br>Our bread of / for the day<br>give to us today;<br>and remit/forgive (to) us our debts/guilt,<br>just as we also have forgiven our debtors:<br>and don't bring us into a testing (time), |
|---|---|

μὴ is another word for "no, not". εἰσενέγκῃς is a part of a verb meaning "to bring, to carry" that we will meet later. Used with μὴ it is a way of saying "Don't start to bring/carry into"

## 12.8 Re-read Matthew 1:1-16

Notice the use of the Definite Article. Some names decline, others do not.

## 12.9 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : Matthew 3:1-3, 5-6

In your Greek New Testament, read the passage aloud several times until you can read it without long pauses or stumbling. Then use the translation helps and Vocabulary 11.10 to translate it.

The passage uses the "Historical Present" - although they are describing an event which took place in the past, some of the verbs are in the present tense to make the account more vivid to the reader.

|                 |                              |   |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| ἐκεῖναις        | those                        | ( feminine, dative plural - describing ἡμέραις )  |
| παραγίνεται     | (he) comes, appears, happens |   |
| κηρύσσων        | preaching                    | ( masculine nominative singular participle of κηρύσσω - I proclaim)   |
| λέγων           | saying                       | ( masculine nominative singular participle of λέγω - I say)   |
| μετανοεῖτε      | repent !                     | ( a second person plural Imperative of μετανοιέω - I repent )   |
| ἤγγικεν         | (it) has come near.          | ( the Perfect of ἐγγίζω - "I approach, draw near")  |
| οὗτος           | this                         | ( masculine, nominative singular, describing ὁ ῥηθεις)  |
| ὁ ῥηθεις        | "the thing said"             |   |
| λέγοντος        | saying                       | ( masculine genitive singular participle of λέγω - I say)   |
| βοῶντος         | shouting, bawling            | ( from βοάω - I shout, bawl - originally referring to a calf bawling for its mother. βοῦς - ox, cow. hence "bovine" )         |
| ἐτοιμάσατε      | prepare !                    | ( a second person plural Imperative of ἐτοιμάζω - I prepare)  |
| εὐθείας         | straight                     | ( feminine accusative plural)   |
| ποιεῖτε         | make !                       | ( a second person plural Imperative of ποιέω - I do, act, make)   |
| ἐξεπορεύετο     | (he/she/it) went out         | ( a past tense of ἐκπορεύομαι - I go out)   |
|                 |                              | ( although the form of the verb is third person singular, it refers to the neuter plural Ἱεροσόλυμα.)                         |
| πᾶσα            | each, every                  | ( feminine nominative singular of πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν - each, every, all )   |
| ἐβαπτίζοντο     | (they) were baptized         | ( a past passive form of βαπτίζω - I baptize)   |
| ὁ ποταμός       | river                        | ( a hippopotamus is a river-horse, ἵππος - horse.   |
|                 |                              | Mesopotamia is the land "between, in the middle of" - μέσσοσς - the Rivers Tigris and Euphrates.)                             |
| ἐξομολογούμενοι | confessing                   | ( masculine nominative plural participle of ἐξομολογέω - "I agree, consent". In the form used in the text - "admit, confess") |

## 12.10 Vocabulary to learn

|               |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|
| ἡ βίβλος      | book, scroll, parchment   |   |
| ἡ ἔρημος      | desert, wilderness  | ( the word "hermit" is derived from an older English word "eremite", denoting someone who lived in the desert.) |
| ἡ ὁδός        | way, road   | ( the Exodus was "The way out")   |
| ἡ νόσος       | disease, sickness   |   |
| ἡ παρθένος    | virgin, (the Parthenon was dedicated to Athena, the virgin daughter of Zeus and the patron goddess of Athens) |   |
| ἡ περίχωρος   | surrounding region  | (from περί - "around", and χώρα - "region")   |
| ἡ τρίβος      | path  |   |
| ὁ βαπτιστής   | baptizer, Baptist   |   |
| ὁ ἐργάτης     | worker  |   |
| ὁ κλέπτης     | thief   | ( a <b>thief</b> is one who steals secretly)  |
| ὁ κριτής      | judge   |   |
| ὁ Λευίτης     | Levite  |   |
| ὁ ληστής      | robber  | ( a <b>robber</b> is one who steals violently)  |
| ὁ μαθητής     | disciple, student   |   |
| ὁ ὀφειλέτης   | debtor, offender, one who is guilty (from ὀφείλω - I owe, am obligated)                                       |   |
| ὁ προφήτης    | prophet   |   |
| ὁ στρατιώτης  | soldier   | ( "strategy" is how one uses one's army - ἡ στρατία - and soldiers.)  |
| ὁ τελώνης     | tax-collector   |   |
| ὁ ὑποκριτής   | hypocrite   |   |
| ὁ ψεύστης     | liar  | ( hence all the English words beginning "pseudo-")  |
| ὁ νεανίας     | youth, young man  |   |
| τὸ πάσχα      | Passover  | ( does not decline)   |
| ὑπ', ὑφ', ὑπό | by, under   | ( takes Genitive)   |

**12.11 Names for reference :** These include names occurring 10 or more times in the New Testament. A few Third Declension and other names will be given later.

τὰ Ἱεροσόλυμα, ἡ Ἱερουσαλήμ Jerusalem

### Feminine, Second Declension :

|                    |                     |                  |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| ἡ Αἴγυπτος Egypt   | ἡ Δαμασκός Damascus | ἡ Ἔφεσος Ephesus |
| ἡ Κόρινθος Corinth | ἡ Τύρος Tyre        |                  |

### Masculine, First Declension :

|                              |                |                     |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| ὁ Εὐφράτης Euphrates (river) | Ἡρώδης Herod   | ὁ Ἰορδάνης Jordan   |
| Ἰωάννης John                 | Λευίτης Levite | Σαμαρίτης Samaritan |
| Ἄνανίας Ananias              | Ἀνδρέας Andrew | Ἐζεκίας Hezekiah    |
| Ζαχαρίας Zechariah           | Ἡλίας Elijah   | Ἡσαΐας Isaiah       |
| Μεσσίας Messiah              |                |                     |

### Masculine, First Declension, with a Doric Genitive :

|                   |                 |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Ἀγρίππας Agrippa  | Ἄντιπᾶς Antipas | Βαρναβᾶς Barnabas   |
| Βαραββᾶς Barrabas | Θωμᾶς Thomas    | Ἰούδας Judah, Judas |
| Κηφᾶς Cephas      | Λουκᾶς Luke     | Σατανᾶς Satan       |

**Masculine, Second Declension :**

Ζεβεδαῖος Zebedee  
Φῆστος Festus

Ναζωραῖος Nazarene

Ῥωμαῖος Roman

**Feminine, First Declension :**

Ἀντιόχεια Antioch  
Βηθανία Bethany  
Ἰουδαία Judeah  
Σαμάρεια Samaria

Ἀσία Asia (Turkey)  
Γαλιλαία Galilee  
Μαγδαληνή Magdalene

Ἀχαΐα Achaia  
Ἰόππη Joppa (Jaffa)  
Μακεδονία Macedonia

**Adjective :**

Γαλιλαῖος, -α, -ον Galilean

**Indeclinable :**

Ἀβραάμ Abraham  
Δαυίδ David  
Ἰωσήφ Joseph  
Μιχαήλ Michael  
ἡ Σιών Zion

Γαβριήλ Gabriel  
Ἰσραήλ Israel  
ἡ Καφαρναούμ Capernaum  
Ναθαναήλ Nathanael  
Συμεών Simeon (*Aramaic form of Simon*)

Δανιήλ Daniel  
Ἰσαάκ Isaac  
Λευί Levi  
Νῶε Noah

Ἄλληλουϊά Alleluia (*Let us praise JAH - God*)

ἀμήν Amen, true, yeah !

οὐαὶ Woe !

ῥαββί (my) Master, Teacher