Chapter 22

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The Present Middle - Deponent Verbs
ἔρχομαι - I come/go   ἄρχομαι - I begin
γίνομαι - I am, I happen, I become   ἐγένετο - it happened

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22.1 So far we have met verbs in the Active Voice - the subject of the sentence does the action of the verb. Now we come to the Middle Voice, which is similar to the English Reflexive, except that Greek uses a set of personal endings added to the verb stem, rather than a reflexive pronoun.

In the **Active Voice**, the action of the verb goes from the subject to the object :
    e.g. "The dog chases the cat."   "The students were reading the book."

In the **Passive Voice**, the action of the verb is received by the subject :
    e.g. "The cat is being chased by the dog."   "The book was being read by the student."

In the **Middle Voice**, the subject is involved in both the action and the reception of the verb.
Some English verbs can be used with a "Middle" sense, but we are usually unaware of this when we use them.
    e.g. "The dog lies (itself) down."   "I get (myself) up."   "Move (yourself) out of the way!"

22.2 The Present Indicative Middle
For the Present tense, the Greek Middle endings are exactly the same as those for the Passive, so when we learn this set, we learn both the Present Middle and the Present Passive.

	Singular	Plural	
I	STEM-**ομαι**	STEM-**ομεθα**	we
you	STEM-**ῃ**	STEM-**εσθε**	you
he/she/it	STEM-**εται**	STEM-**ονται**	they

Chant the sequence   **-ομαι -ῃ -εται**   **-ομεθα -εσθε -ονται**   until it is as familiar as the sequence we learned for the Active   **-ω -εις -ει**   **-ομεν -ετε -ουσιν**
The only endings likely to give trouble are the -εται -ονται pair.
It helps to remember that the ending with the fewer letters goes with the fewer people.

Most of the verbs that we have learned so far are not used with Middle endings - we seldom see them used in a reflexive sense, with Middle endings. However, there are some verbs, often to do with motion, for which there is no Active set of endings - they only use the Middle set. These verbs are called **Deponent Verbs**. Because the personal endings for the Middle are the same as those of the Passive, at first glance Deponent Verbs look as if they should be translated as a Passive. However, they only make sense when translated as Active.

"A Deponent Verb is a Verb which looks Passive, but is translated as Active"

22.3 Deponent Verbs - ἔρχομαι and its compounds
One of the most frequent Deponent verbs in the New Testament is ἔρχομαι - I come, I go, I move myself. English uses two verbs, "I come", and "I go", where Greek only uses one. The English "I come" implies movement towards an observer; "I go" implies movement away from an observer. The movement is the same in both cases, so Greek logically uses just one verb.

	Singular	Plural	
I come/go	ἔρχομαι	ἐρχόμεθα	we come/go
you come/go	ἔρχῃ	ἔρχεσθε	you come/go
he/she/it comes/goes	ἔρχεται	ἔρχονται	they come/go

ἔρχομαι is very versatile, in that it combines with prepositions to give the direction of the movement. The preposition is attached to the front of the stem, and the verb is listed in its "compound" form in dictionaries.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ἐρχόμεθα κηρύσσοντες τὸ εὐαγγέλιον. We come/go, preaching the Gospel.
2. ὁ Παῦλος ἔρχεται μαρτυρῶν τῷ Ἰησοῦ. Paul comes/goes, witnessing to Jesus.
3. εἰσέρχομαι εἰς τὸν οἶκον. I enter the house.
4. ἐξερχόμεθα ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ. We come/go out of the temple.
5. οἱ ἅγιοι προσέρχονται πρὸς τὸν ἱερόν. The saints approach the temple.
6. ἔρχεται ὁ ἄγγελος ἔχων τὸ βιβλίον. The angel with (having) the book
                                                    comes/goes/arrives.
7. ὁ Πέτρος καὶ ὁ Μάρκος διέρχονται Peter and Mark go/come
    διὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ποιοῦντες τὰ καλά. through the Galilee doing good (deeds).
8. ἀπέρχῃ ἀπὸ τῆς κώμης ; Are you coming/going from the village?
9. οὐκ ἔρχομαι ἵνα τὸν κόσμον κρίνω. I do not come to judge the world.
10. ὁ Παῦλος ἀνέρχεται εἰς τὴν Ἰερουσαλήμ. Paul goes up (in)to Jerusalem.

22.4 The simple past tense of ἔρχομαι and its compounds

ἔρχομαι is similar to λέγω, in that it uses more than one verb stem to build its various tenses.

The simple past tense of ἔρχομαι is not deponent, but uses the ἠλθ- stem with a normal active past set of endings. We have already learned some of these endings in Section 17.3.

"he/she/it went/came" = ἦλθεν, and "we went/came" = ἤλθομεν.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ὁ Ἰωάννης ἦλθεν κηρύσσων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ. John came/went preaching in the desert.
2. ὁ Ἰησοῦς προσῆλθεν τῷ Ἰωάννῃ. Jesus came/went to(wards) John.
3. ἐγὼ καὶ Λουκᾶς εἰσήλθομεν Luke and I went/came
    εἰς τὴν συναγωγήν. into the synagogue.
4. οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς φυλακῆς. This man came/went out of the prison.
5. προσῆλθεν τὸ παιδίον ἐκεῖνο τῷ Ἰησοῦ ; Did that child come/go to(wards) Jesus?
6. ἡ χήρα οὐκ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὴν κώμην. The widow did not come/go into the village.
7. ὁ γεωργὸς ἐξῆλθεν ἐκ τῆς κώμης The farmer came/went out of the village
    καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς. and came/went into the fields.
8. προσήλθομεν τῷ Ἰησοῦ. We came/went to Jesus.
9. ὁ Παῦλος ἀνῆλθεν ἐπὶ τὸ πλοῖον. Paul went up (went to sea) on the boat.
10. ὁ διάβολος προσῆλθεν καὶ εἶπεν τῷ Ἰησοῦ, The devil came/went to Jesus and said,
    Εἰ υἱὸς εἶ τοῦ θεοῦ . . . "If you are a/the Son of God . . . "

22.5 The Present Indicative Middle of Contract Verbs

The -έω, -άω, and -όω verbs contract the vowels as usual. The most frequent Deponent Contract verbs in the New Testament are φοβέομαι - I fear, I am afraid, and ἀρνέομαι - I deny

I am afraid	φοβοῦμαι	φοβούμεθα	we are afraid
you are afraid	φοβῇ	φοβεῖσθε	you are afraid
he/she/it is afraid	φοβεῖται	φοβοῦνται	they are afraid

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ὁ Ἡρῴδης φοβεῖται τὸν λαόν. Herod fears the people.
2. οὐ φοβοῦμαι τὰ κακὰ I do not fear (the) bad things,
    ὅτι ὁ κύριος μετά μου ἐστίν. because the Lord is with me.
3. φοβούμεθα τοὺς στρατιώτας τοὺς Ῥωμαίους. We fear the Roman soldiers.
4. οἱ Φαρισαῖοι φοβοῦνται τοὺς ὄχλους ; Are the Pharisees afraid of the crowds?
5. φοβῇ τὸν κριτὴν ὅτι λῃστὴς εἶ. You fear the judge, because you are a robber.

6. φοβεῖσθε ὅτι οἱ ἐχθροὶ ὑμῶν ἰσχυροί εἰσιν.	You are afraid, because your enemies are strong.

7. ὁ Πέτρος ἀρνεῖται τὸν Ἰησοῦν
    ὅτι φοβεῖται τὸν λαόν.
	Peter denies Jesus
	        because he fears the people.

8. οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἀρνοῦνται
    τὴν ἀλήθειαν τοῦ εὐαγγελίου.
	The sinners deny
	        the truth of the Gospel.

9. ἀρνοῦμαι τοὺς πειρασμοὺς τοῦ κόσμου.	I deny (reject) the temptations of the world.
10. ἀρνεῖσθε τὸν κόσμον καὶ τὸν διάβολον ;	Do you deny the world and the devil?

22.6 Deponent Verbs - other verbs, using Vocabulary 22.13

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ὁ Πέτρος ἀποκρίνεται τῷ Ἰησοῦ
    λέγων, Σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ.
	Peter answers Jesus,
	        saying, "You are the Son of God."

2. εἰσπορεύομαι εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν.	I am travelling (in)to Galilee.
3. ἐκπορευόμεθα ἐκ τῆς γῆς Ἰσραήλ.	We are travelling out of the land of Israel.
4. οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἐκπορεύονται πρὸς Ἰωάννην.	The sinners go out to(wards) John.

5. οἱ Σαδδουκαῖοι ἀποκρίνονται καὶ λέγουσιν,
    Οὐ φοβούμεθα τὴν προφήτην.
	The Sadducees answer and say,
	        "We do not fear the prophet."

6. ὁ νεανίας πορεύεται πρὸς τὴν Ἰερουσαλήμ.	The young man travels to(wards) Jerusalem.
7. πορεύεσθε σὺν αὐτοῖς ;	Are you travelling with them?
8. ὁ Ἰωάννης ἀποκρίνεται, Οὐκ εἰμὶ ὁ Ἠλίας.	John answers, "I am not Elijah."
9. πορούῃ πρὸς ταύτην τὴν κώμην ;	Are you travelling to this village?
10. Οὐ. πορεύομαι πρὸς ἑτέραν κώμην.	No, I am travelling to another village.

NOTE : Sections 22.7, 22.8 and 22.9 may be postponed until later in the course.

22.7 γίνομαι and its compounds

γίνομαι is another of the most frequent verbs in the New Testament. It can be translated as "I become, I happen, I am", and is one of the copulative verbs (review sections 5.5 and 5.6).

The Present stem of γίνομαι, "γιν-" has the sense of continuous action (rather than something which happens just once, or which has already been completed), so translations should show that, if possible.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. γινόμεθα μαθηταὶ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ.	We are becoming disciples of Jesus.
2. οὐ γίνεσθε δέσμιοι τοῦ Σατανᾶ.	You are not becoming prisoners of Satan.
3. γίνονται ψεῦσται καὶ λῃσταὶ ;	Are they becoming liars and robbers?
4. οὗτος ὁ νεανίας γίνεται ἄπιστος.	This young man is becoming faithless.
5. αὐτοὶ οὐ γίνονται ἄδικοι ἀλλὰ δίκαιοι.	They are not becoming unrighteous, but righteous.
6. γίνομαι καινὸς ἄνθρωπος ἐν Χριστῷ.	I am becoming a new man in Christ.
7. γίνῃ πλούσιος ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ.	You are becoming rich in the Kingdom of Heaven.

8. ὁ Ἰησοῦς παραγίνεται διδάσκων καὶ
    θεραπεύων ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς.
	Jesus comes teaching and
	        healing in the synagogues.

9. οἱ μαθηταὶ παραγίνονται ἀπαγγέλλοντες
    τὸ εὐαγγελίον τοῦ Χριστοῦ.
	The disciples come, proclaiming
	        the Gospel of Christ.

10. ὁ Ἰωάννης παραγίνεται κηρύσσων
    καὶ βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.
	John comes preaching
	        and baptizing in the desert.

22.8 The simple past tense of γίνομαι

At this point it will be good to learn the way of saying that something "happened" in the past.

γίνομαι changes its stem to **γεν-** when indicating things which happened once, or which were completed in the past. For now, we will learn the most frequently used part of γίνομαι

ἐγένετο = it happened, it became, it came to pass, he/she/it/ was, there was

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.	John was baptizing in the desert. *(Mark 1:4)*
2. καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν ἐκείναις ταῖς ἡμέραις ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἀπὸ Ναζαρὲτ τῆς Γαλιλαίας.	And it happened in those days (that) Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee. *(Mark 1:9)*
3. καὶ φωνὴ ἐγένετο ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν.	And there was a voice from the heavens. *(Mark 1:11)*
4. καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο.	And the Word became flesh. *(John 1:14)*
5. καὶ σεισμὸς . . . ἐγένετο ἐν τῇ θαλάσσῃ.	And there was a storm on the sea. *(see Matt. 8:24)*
6. σκότος ἐγένετο ἐπὶ . . . τὴν γῆν.	Darkness was over the land. *(see Matt. 27:45)*
7. καὶ ἐγένετο φωνὴ ἐκ τῆς νεφέλης.	And there was a voice out of the cloud. *(Mark 9:7)*
8. ταῦτα ἐν Βηθανίᾳ ἐγένετο πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, ὅπου ἦν ὁ Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων.	These (things) happened in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing. *(John 1:28)*
9. καὶ καθὼς ἐγένετο ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Νῶε, . . .	And just as it was in the days of Noah . . . *(Luke 17:26)*
10. ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ λέγειν αυτὸν ταῦτα . . .	And it came to pass, while he was saying these things .
(see Sections 19.1 and 19.6 for this use of the Infinitive)	*(Luke 11:27)*

22.9 Verbs which have both Active and Middle forms

ἄρχω, ἄρχομαι   ἐνδύω, ἐνδύομαι

Most verbs have either an Active or a Middle Voice, but a few verbs have both. Usually the difference between Active and Middle is equivalent to the difference between transitive and reflexive in English. For example, ἐνδύω - "I clothe someone" and ἐνδύομαι - "I clothe myself".

One verb which has different meanings in the Active and Middle is ἄρχω - I rule, ἄρχομαι - I begin. The ἀρχ- stem has a sense of "being number one" - either as a leader, or as an originator.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ἄρχομαι κηρύσσειν τὸ εὐαγγέλιον.	I start to preach the Gospel.
2. ὁ Ἡρῴδης ἄρχει τῶν Ἰουδαίων.	Herod rules (over) the Jews.
3. ἐνδυόμεθα ἱμάτια καθαρά.	We put on clean clothes.
4. ἐνδύομεν τοὺς πτωχοὺς ἱματίοις καθαροῖς.	We clothe the poor in/with clean clothes.
5. ὁ Παῦλος ἄρχεται γράφειν τὴν ἐπιστολήν.	Paul starts to write the letter.
6. ἀρχόμεθα ἀκολουθεῖν τῷ Ἰησοῦ ;	Are we beginning to follow Jesus?
7. ὁ Πέτρος καὶ ὁ Μάρκος ἄρχονται διδάσκειν ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς.	Peter and Mark are starting to teach in the synagogues.
8. οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὐκ ἄρχεται ἀναγινώσκειν τὸ βιβλίον εἰκεῖνο.	This man is not starting to read that book.
9. ἄρχεσθε διακονεῖν ταῖς ἐκκλησίαις ;	Are you starting to serve the churches?
10. οἱ στρατιῶται ἐνδύουσιν τὸν Ἰησοῦν τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ.	The soldiers clothe Jesus (in/with) his (own) clothes.

22.10 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰσέρχεται εἰς τὴν Ἰερουσαλήμ.
2. ὁ Ἰωάννης ἀποκρίνεται λέγων, Οὐ πορεύομαι εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν.
3. ἀρχόμεθα διδάσκειν καὶ κηρύσσειν τὴν ἀγγελίαν τῆς βασιλείας.
4. οἱ μαθηταὶ προσέρχονται τῷ ἱερῷ καὶ εἰσέρχονται εἰς τὸν ἱερόν.
5. ὁ ἀδελφὸς εἰσέρχεται εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν ἀλλ' ἡ ἀδελφὴ ἐξέρχεται ἐκ τῆς οἰκίας.
6. οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἀρνοῦνται τὴν ἀλήθειαν τοῦ εὐαγγελίου.
7. ὁ Ἰησοῦς παραγίνεται παρὰ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ καλεῖ τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ.
8. ἡμεῖς ἐρχόμεθα κηρύσσοντες καὶ διδάσκοντες τὸ εὐαγγέλιον
        ἀλλ' ὑμεῖς ἀρνεῖσθε τὴν ἀλήθειαν.
9. φοβεῖσθε τούτους τοὺς στρατιώτας ; Ναί, φοβούμεθα αὐτούς.
10. γινόμεθα πτωχοὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἀλλὰ πλούσιοι ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν.

22.11 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text, while saying aloud   (John 1:1-3)

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος,	In (the) beginning was the Word
καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν,	and the Word was with God
καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.	and the Word was God.
οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.	He (this one) was in the beginning with God
πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο,	all (things) happened (came into being) through him,
καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ	and without him
ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἕν. (ὃ γέγονεν.)	not one thing (that happened) happened .

If you look at John 1: 3 in your printed New Testament, you will probably see some superscript notations
around the last two words, directing you to notes at the foot of the page.

There is an ambiguity in the punctuation here (not in the words, but just where the break should come).
The sentence could stop at "οὐδὲ ἕν." (not one), in which case the sentence would read "not one thing
happened without Him.", and the following "ὃ γέγονεν" would start the next sentence.
Or the sentence could continue to "ὃ γέγονεν", in which case it could be translated as above.
The footnotes (if they are given in your GNT) show which translations follow which option.

22.12 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : John 12:20-26
In your Greek New Testament, read the passage aloud until you can read without long pauses or stumbling.
Then use the helps to translate it

Ἕλληνές	Greeks	(The Greek name for Greece is Ἑλλάς. hence Hellenic, Hellenistic)
τινες	some	(Masculine plural of τις - someone, describing Ἕλληνές)
ἐκ τῶν ἀναβαινόντων	amongst those going up	(Genitive plural participle of ἀναβαίνω - I go up)
προσκυνήσωσιν	they might worship	(a subjunctive of προσκυνέω - I worship)
ἐν τῇ ἑορτῇ	at the Feast	(in this instance, the Passover)
ἠρώτων	they were asking	(a past tense of ἐρωτάω - I ask)
ἰδεῖν	to see	
ἐλήλυθεν	(it) has come	
δοξασθῇ	(he) might be glorified	(a passive subjunctive of δοξάζω - I glorify)
ὁ κόκκος	seed, ear of grain	
τοῦ σίτου	of grain	
πεσὼν	having fallen	(a participle of πίπτω - I fall)
ἀποθάνῃ	(it) should/might die	(a subjunctive of ἀποθνήσκω - I die)
πολὺν	much, a lot of	(from πολύς, πολλή, πολύ - much, many, describing καρπόν)
ἀπολλύει	(he) destroys/loses	(from ἀπόλλυμι - I destroy)
φυλάξει	he will keep	(Future of φυλάσσω - I keep)

ἐὰν . . διακονῇ	if (he/she) would serve, be of service to	(διακονέω - I am of service to)
ἔσται	he/she will be	(Future of εἰμί - I am)
τιμήσει	he will honor	(Future of τιμάω - I honor)

22.13 Vocabulary to learn

ἀποκρίνομαι	I answer, reply to	(takes Dative) (from ἀπό + κρίνω, I judge)
	(in order to give an answer, one must judge the circumstances and then give one's decision)	
ἀρνέομαι	I deny	
ἄρχομαι	I begin	(ἡ ἀρχή - beginning)
ἄρχω	I rule	(takes Dative)
γίνομαι	I become, happen, am	
παραγίνομαι	I arrive, appear, come	
ἐνδύω	I dress, clothe (someone else)	
ἐνδύομαι	I put on (clothing)	
ἔρχομαι	I come/go, move myself	
ἀνέρχομαι	I come/go up, go up on a ship (from land to sea)	
ἀπέρχομαι	I come/go away from	
διέρχομαι	I come/go through	
εἰσέρχομαι	I come/go into, enter	
ἐξέρχομαι	I come/go out, exit, leave	
κατέρχομαι	I come/go down, come down to land (from a ship)	
παρέρχομαι	I come/go by, pass, pass by	
περιέρχομαι	I come/go around, sail around	
προέρχομαι	I come/go before, go ahead of	
προσέρχομαι	I come/go towards	(takes Dative)
συνέρχομαι	I come/go with	
πορεύομαι	I travel, proceed, go	
διαπορεύομα	I go through, go by	
εἰσπορεύομαι	I come/go in, enter	
ἐκπορεύομαι	I come/go out from	
ἐμπορεύομαι	I make a profit of, exploit	
ἐπιπορεύομαι	I come to, upon	
παραπορεύομαι	I pass by, go through	
φοβέομαι	I fear, am afraid	
φέρω	I bear, carry	
	(in a legend, St. Christopher got his name because he carried the child Jesus across a river)	
ἡ Βηθανία	Bethany	
ἡ σάρξ	flesh	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
ὁ σεισμός	earthquake, storm (on the sea)	(Hence seismic)
τὸ σκότος	darkness	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
πέραν	across, on the other side	(takes Genitive)
πλούσιος, -α, -ον	rich	(Hence plutocrat)
πολύς, πολλή, πολύ	much, many	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)