

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 θέλω - I wish, want, μέλλω - 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 λύω, this becomes :

I shall loose	λύσω	λύσομεν	we shall loose
you will loose	λύσεις	λύσετε	y'all will loose
he/she/it will loose	λύσει	λύσουσιν	they will loose

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. αὕτη ἀκούσει τοὺς λόγους τοῦ προφήτου. She will hear the words of the prophet.
2. ἀκούσομεν τὴν φωνὴν τῆς ἀδελφῆς ; Shall we hear the voice of the sister?
3. ὁ κύριος ἀπολύσει τοὺς δούλους. The Lord will set the slaves free.
4. ὁ Ἰησοῦς θεραπεύσει τὸν τυφλόν. Jesus will heal the blind man.
5. οἱ μαθηταὶ θεραπεύσουσιν τοὺς παραλυτικούς. The disciples will heal the paralytics.
6. πιστεύσομεν τῷ Ἰησοῦ. We will believe/trust in Jesus.
7. οὐχ ὑπακούσομεν τοῖς δαιμονίοις. We will not obey (be obedient to) the demons.
8. ὁ γεωργὸς λύσει τὸν ἵππον ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ. The farmer will loose the horse in the field.
9. οἱ στρατιῶται ἀπολύσουσιν τοὺς δεσμίους ; Will the soldiers set the prisoners free?
10. τὰ παιδιά ὑπακούσουσιν τῷ διδασκάλῳ. 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 *καλέω* and its compounds) the ending vowel of the stem is broadened.

	α becomes η	ε becomes η	ο becomes ω	καλέω does not broaden the ε
	ἀγαπάω - I love	ποιέω - I do	δικαιώω - I justify	καλέω - I call
I	ἀγαπήσω	ποιήσω	δικαιώσω	καλέσω
you (sing.)	ἀγαπήσεις	ποιήσεις	δικαιώσεις	καλέσεις
he/she/it	ἀγαπήσει	ποιήσει	δικαιώσει	καλέσει
we	ἀγαπήσομεν	ποιήσομεν	δικαιώσομεν	καλέσομεν
y'all	ἀγαπήσετε	ποιήσετε	δικαιώσετε	καλέσετε
they	ἀγαπήσουσιν	ποιήσουσιν	δικαιώσουσιν	καλέσουσιν

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. ἀγαπήσομεν τὸν θεὸν
μισήσομεν δὲ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ πονηροῦ. | We shall love God, but
shall hate the works of the evil one. |
| 2. οὐκ ἀπειθήσω τῷ κυρίῳ
ἀλλὰ διακονήσω αὐτῷ. | I shall not be disobedient to the Lord,
but shall serve him. |
| 3. ὁ θεὸς δικαιώσει ἡμᾶς διὰ τὸν Ἰησοῦν. | God will justify us through Jesus. |
| 4. ὁ διδάσκαλος καλέσει τοὺς μαθητάς. | The teacher will call the students. |
| 5. ὁ Μεσσίας πληρώσει
τοὺς λόγους τῶν προφητῶν. | The Messiah will fulfil
the words of the prophets. |
| 6. οἱ στρατιῶται ζητήσουσιν τὸν ληστήν. | The soldiers will seek the robber. |
| 7. φιλήσετε τοὺς ἀδελφούς ; | Will you love the brothers? |
| 8. ζητήσομεν τὰ πρόβατα ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ. | We shall seek the sheep in the desert. |
| 9. ποιήσεις τὰ καλὰ
ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις τῷ πονηρῷ ; | Will you do good things,
or will you follow the evil one? |
| 10. περιπατήσω ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ
καὶ προσκυνήσω τῷ θεῷ. | 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**

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

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

Gutturals combine with σ to give ξ

Labials combine with σ to give ψ

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 κράζω (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 βαπτίσει 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 φωτίσει τὸν κόσμον.	Jesus will give light to the world.
6. οἱ στρατιῶται φυλάξουσιν τὸν δέσμιον ;	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. (Matt. 28:14)
10. πέμψω τὸν υἱόν μου τὸν ἀγαπητόν.	I shall send my beloved son. (Luke 20:13)

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 ἐπιорκήσεις	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 σεαυτόν. 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 εἰμί

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.

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

NOTE - ἔρχομαι 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	ἀρνέομαι	εἰμί	ἔρχομαι
	I go, travel	I receive	I boast	I deny, disown	I am	I come/go
I shall . .	πορεύσομαι	δέξομαι	καυχήσομαι	ἀρνήσομαι	ἔσομαι	ἐλεύσομαι
you will . .	πορεύσῃ	δέξῃ	καυχήσῃ	ἀρνήσῃ	ἔσῃ	ἐλεύσῃ
he/she/it	πορεύσεται	δέξεται	καυχήσεται	ἀρνήσεται	ἔσται	ἐλεύσεται
we shall . .	πορευσόμεθα	δεξόμεθα	καυχησόμεθα	ἀρνησόμεθα	ἐσόμεθα	ἐλευσόμεθα
y'all will . .	πορεύσεσθε	δέξεσθε	καυχήσεσθε	ἀρνήσεσθε	ἔσεσθε	ἐλεύσεσθε
they will . .	πορεύσονται	δέξονται	καυχήσονται	ἀρνήσονται	ἔσονται	ἐλεύσονται

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. ἡμεῖς οὐ καυχησόμεθα. | We shall not boast. (2 Cor. 10:13) |
| 2. κἀγὼ καυχήσομαι. | I too shall boast. (2 Cor. 11:18) |
| 3. ὑπὲρ δὲ ἑμαυτοῦ οὐ καυχήσομαι. | I shall not boast about myself. (2 Cor. 12:5) |
| 4. οἱ Φαρισαῖοι οὐ δέξονται τὸν Ἰησοῦν. | The Pharisees will not accept Jesus. |
| 5. Κατὰ τὸν καιρὸν τοῦτον ἐλεύσομαι
καὶ ἔσται τῇ Σάρρα υἱός. | About this time I will come and
there will be a son for Sarah. (Rom. 9:9) |
| 6. σὺν ἐμοὶ πορεύσονται. | They will travel with me. (1 Cor. 16:4) |
| 7. ἀρνήσομαι κἀγὼ αὐτόν. | I shall disown him also. (Matt. 10:33) |
| 8. εἰ ἀρνησόμεθα,
κάκεινος ἀρνήσεται ἡμᾶς. | If we (shall) disown (him), he (that one)
also will disown us. (2 Tim. 2:12) |
| 9. προσεύξῃ ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ; | Will you pray in the temple? |
| 10. ὁ κύριος ῥύσεται ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ. | 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-	ἀπόλλυμι	ἀπολέσω
forgive	ἐ-	ἱε-	ἀφήμι	ἀφήσω
indicate, show	δεικ-	δεικνυ-	δείκνυμι	δείξω
give	δο-	διδο-	δίδωμι	δώσω
stand, cause to stand	στα-	ίστα-	ἵστημι	στήσω
put, place	θε-	τιθε-	τίθημι	θήσω
say	φα-, φη-	φα-, φη-	φημί	φήσω

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. τί ποιήσει τοῖς γεωργοῖς ἐκείνοις ;
λέγουσιν αὐτῷ, Κακοὺς κακῶς
ἀπολέσει αὐτούς. | 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. ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἀφήτε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις,
οὐδὲ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἀφήσει ὑμᾶς. | If you do not forgive men, neither will
your father forgive you. (see Matt. 6:15) |
| 3. θήσω τὸ πνεῦμά μου ἐπ' αὐτόν. | I will put my Spirit upon him. (Matt. 12:18) |
| 4. καὶ ἐὰν αὐτὸς ἀμαρτάνῃ εἰς σὲ
καὶ ἐπιστρέφῃ πρὸς σὲ λέγων,
Μετανοῶ, ἀφήσεις αὐτῷ. | And if he sins against you
and turns to you saying, "I repent",
You shall forgive him. (see Luke 17:4) |
| 5. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ θεὸς πρὸς Ἀβραάμ, . . .
Δεῦρο εἰς τὴν γῆν ἣν . . . σοι δεῖξω. | And God said to Abraham, "Come (in)to the
land which I shall show to you. (see Acts 7:3) |
| 6. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ διάβολος, Σοὶ δώσω
τὴν ἐξουσίαν ταύτην. | The devil said to him, "I will give to you
this authority. (Luke 4:6) |
| 7. καὶ στήσει τὰ . . . πρόβατα
ἐκ δεξιῶν αὐτοῦ. | And he will stand (put) the sheep
on his right hand. (see Matt. 25:33) |
| 8. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Πέτρος, Κύριε, . . .
τὴν ψυχὴν μου ὑπὲρ σοῦ θήσω. | Peter says to him, "Lord, . . . I will lay (down)
my life for you. (John 13:37) |

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| 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 σοι τὸν στέφανον 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 ἀπόστολοι κηρυξουσιν τὸ εὐαγγέλιον.
3. μετὰ ταῦτα ἀναστρέψω καὶ οἰκοδομήσω τὸν οἶκον Δαυίδ. (see Acts 15:16)
4. ἕκαστος γὰρ τὸ ἴδιον σταυρὸν βαστάσει. (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 δόξης 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 πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ κάκεῖνος 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. οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. (ὃ γέγονεν.) (ὃ 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.	In (the) beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. 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)
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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.

ἠκούσατε	you heard	(a simple past of ἀκούω - I hear)
ἔρρέθη	it has been said	(a Perfect Passive)
γυναῖκα	woman	(Accusative of ἡ γυνή - woman)
πρὸς τὸν ἐπιθυμῆσαι	in order to desire	(from ἐπιθυμέω - I desire, lust, covet)
ἐμοίχευσεν	(he) committed adultery	(simple past of μοιχεύω - I commit adultery)
ἔξελε	pick (it) out	(an Imperative of ἐξαιρέω - I pull out)
βάλε	throw	(an Imperative of βάλλω - I throw)
ἀπόληται	(it) might/should be destroyed	(a Subjunctive of ἀπόλλυμι - I destroy)
ἓν	one	(Nominative singular neuter of εἷς, μία, ἓν - one)
τῶν μελῶν σου	of your limbs	(τὸ μέλος - a part of the body, limb)
βληθῆ	(it) might/should be thrown	(a Subjunctive of βάλλω - I throw)
γέενναν	Gehenna, Hell	
	(Accusative of ἡ γέεννα - Gehenna, the garbage dump of Jerusalem)	
ἔκκοψον	cut (it) off	(an Imperative of ἐκκόπτω - I cut off)
ἀπέλθῃ	(it) might/should go away to	

εἷς	one (Nominative singular masculine of εἷς, μία, ἓν - one)
προσελθὼν	having come to(wards)
σχῶ	I may have (a subjunctive of ἔχω - I have)
εἰσελθεῖν	to enter into
τήρησον	keep (an Imperative of τηρέω - I keep)
ποίας ;	which? (Feminine Accusative plural of ποῖος -α -ον ; - of what sort?)
τὸν πατέρα	father (Accusative of ὁ πατήρ - father)
τὴν μητέρα	mother (Accusative of ἡ μήτηρ - mother)
πάντα ταῦτα	all these things (Neut. Nom./Acc. plural of πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν - each, all)
ἐφύλαξα	I kept (simple past of φυλάσσω - I keep, guard)
ἔφη	(he) said (simple past of φημί - I say)
εἶναι	to be (Infinitive of εἶμι)
πώλησον	sell (an Imperative of πωλέω - I sell)
τὰ ὑπάρχοντα	belongings (a Neuter Plural Accusative Participle of ὑπάρχω - I am)
δοῦ	give! (an Imperative of δίδωμι - I give)
ἔξεις	you will have (Future of ἔχω - I have)
ἀκούσας	having heard (a Participle of ἀκούω - I hear)
λυπούμενος	being made sad, being grieved (Passive Participle of λυπέω - I grieve)
ἦν γὰρ ἔχων	for he was having = for he had
κτῆματα πολλὰ	many possessions (τὸ κτῆμα - possession, property)

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
ἐξαιρεῶ	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 (hence crypt, cryptic)
μοιχεύω	I commit adultery
πειθῶ	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 (<i>to someone, to do something</i>) (<i>takes Dative for the person commanded, and Infinitive for the action to be done</i>)	
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	(<i>ἡ φυλακή - prison</i>)
φωτίζω	I give light to, enlighten	
ψευδομαρτυρέω	I give false testimony	
ὁ νεανίσκος	young man	
τέλειος, -α, -ον	complete, perfect, mature	
κακῶς	badly	(<i>Adverb, from κακός</i>)
τί	what? why?	
ποῖος, -α, -ον ;	what? which? what kind of?	
ἤδη	already	
πλησίον	near	(<i>takes Genitive</i>)
ἔτι	still, yet	
δεῦρο	come, come here	

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

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