

Chapter 53

The Aorist Indicative Middle

53.1 In chapters 22 and 23 we met the Present Indicative Middle and Passive, and Deponent Verbs.

In chapter 30 we met the Imperfect Indicative Middle and Passive.

In chapters 31, 32 and 33 we met the First and Second Aorists Indicative Active.

It will be useful to review those chapters before proceeding to the material of this chapter.

Aorists have different endings for the Middle and Passive voices.

In this chapter we shall work with the various forms of the Aorist Middle.

53.2 The First Aorist Indicative Middle

First Aorist forms are used with verbs which use the same stem for the Aorist and the Present tenses.

Because the stems are the same, a set of different endings have to be used for the Aorist.

These have the typical **-σα-** of the First Aorist :

The basic pattern for the **First Aorist Indicative Middle** is :

Person	Singular	Plural
1	ἐ-STEM-σάμην	ἐ-STEM-σάμεθα
2	ἐ-STEM-σω	ἐ-STEM-σασθε
3	ἐ-STEM-σατο	ἐ-STEM-σαντο

The **-σω** ending of the Second Person Singular is a contraction of **-σασο**

The **σ** of the endings will combine with gutturals (**κ, γ, χ**), labials (**π, β, φ**), and dentals (**τ, δ, θ**) at the end of the stem. To review these combinations, see chapter 26.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- Τὸν μὲν πρῶτον λόγον ἐποίησάμην περὶ πάντων . . . ὧν ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς ποιεῖν τε καὶ διδάσκειν.
I (made) wrote the first (word) account about everything which Jesus began to do and to teach. (*Acts 1:1*)
- καὶ οὐκ ἐδέξαντο αὐτὸν ὅτι τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ ἦν πορευόμενον εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ.
(*he had set his face towards Jerusalem*) (*Luke 9:53*)
And they did not receive him because his face was traveling into Jerusalem
- καὶ ἐκτείνας τὴν χεῖρα ἤψατο αὐτοῦ.
And having stretched out his hand he touched him. (*Matt. 8:3*)
- ὁμεῖς δὲ τὸν ἅγιον καὶ δίκαιον ἠρνήσασθε, καὶ ἠτήσασθε ἄνδρα φονέα.
But you denied the holy and righteous (man) and asked for a murderer man. (*Acts 3:14*)
- ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἀπεκρίνατο αὐτοῖς, Ὁ πατήρ μου ἕως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται, καὶ ἐγὼ ἐργάζομαι.
But Jesus answered them, "My father works until now, and I am working. (*John 5:17*)
- Γνωρίζω δὲ ὑμῖν, ἀδελφοί, τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ὃ εὐηγγελισάμην ὑμῖν.
I make known to you, brethren, the Gospel which I proclaimed to you. (*1 Cor. 15:1*)
- ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς κηρῦσσειν καὶ διδάσκειν.
From then Jesus began to preach and to teach. (*Matt. 4:17*)
- ἐν δὲ τῷ νόμῳ ἡμῖν Μωϋσῆς ἐνετείλατο τὰς τοιαύτας λιθάζειν.
In the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such (women). (*John 8:5*)
- ἐτέροις τε λόγοις πλείοσιν διεμαρτύρατο.
He testified with many other words. (*Acts 2:40*)
- ὁ νυμφίος ἐγεύσατο τὸν οἶνον.
The bridegroom tasted the wine.

53.3 The Second Aorist Middle - used for verbs which have a different stem for the Aorist.

Because the stem is different, the same endings as the Imperfect Indicative Middle are used :

The basic pattern for the **Second Aorist Indicative Middle** is

Person	Singular	Plural
1	ἐ-STEM-όμην	ἐ-STEM-όμεθα
2	ἐ-STEM-ου	ἐ-STEM-εσθε
3	ἐ-STEM-ετο	ἐ-STEM-οντο

Note : the -ΟΥ ending of the Second Person Singular is a contraction of -ε-Ο

The most common Second Aorist Middle in the GNT is that of γίνομαι (I become, happen, am)

I became, was	ἐγενόμην	ἐγενόμεθα	we became, were
you became, were	ἐγένου	ἐγένεσθε	you became, were
he/she/it became, was	ἐγένετο	ἐγένοντο	they became, were

Note : γίνομαι is a copulative verb - it does not have an object, but a complement (see chapter 5)

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ. John was baptizing in the desert. (*Mk.1:4*)
2. καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν ἐκείναις ταῖς ἡμέραις ἧλθεν Ἰησοῦς ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ τῆς Γαλιλαίας. And (it happened that) in those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee. (*Mk.1:9*)
3. Τότε ἤρξατο ὀνειδίζειν τὰς πόλεις ἐν αἷς ἐγένοντο αἱ πλεῖσται δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οὐ μετενόησαν. Then he began to reproach the cities in which the most of his (acts of) power took place, because they did not repent. (*Matt.11:20*)
4. Δοκεῖτε ὅτι οἱ Γαλιλαῖοι οὗτοι ἀμαρτωλοὶ παρὰ πάντας τοὺς Γαλιλαίους ἐγένοντο ; Do you suppose that these Galileans were sinners beyond all the Galileans? (*Luke 13:2*)
5. εἰ οὖν ἐν τῷ ἀδίκῳ μαμωνᾷ πιστοὶ οὐκ ἐγένεσθε, τὸ ἀληθινὸν τίς ὑμῖν πιστεύσει ; If, then, you were not faithful in unrighteous mammon (wealth), who will entrust the true (thing) to you? (*Luke 16:11*)
6. Εὖγε, ἀγαθὲ δοῦλε, ὅτι ἐν ἐλαχίστῳ πιστὸς ἐγένου, ἴσθι ἐξουσίαν ἔχων ἐπάνω δέκα πόλεων. Well done, good servant, because you were faithful in the least (thing), have (be having) authority over ten cities. (*Luke 19:17*)
(ἴσθι - Imperative of εἰμί - see chapters 18 and 49)
7. ἐγένοντο δὲ φίλοι ὁ τε Ἡρώδης καὶ ὁ Πιλάτος ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ μετ' ἀλλήλων. On the same day, Herod and Pilate became friends with one another. (*Luke 23:12*)
8. ἐπύθετο οὖν τὴν ὥραν παρ' αὐτῶν ἐν ἧ ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ κομψότερον ἔσχεν. Then he enquired of them the hour in which his lad was (had) better. (*John 4:52*)
(κομψότερον - Neuter comparative of κόμμος, fine, = "better")
9. δοκεῖτε ὅτι εἰρήνην παρεγενόμην δοῦναι ἐν τῇ γῆ ; Do you suppose that I came to give peace on the earth ? (*Luke 12:51*)
10. Ὁρθροῦ δὲ πάλιν παρεγένετο εἰς τὸ ἱερόν, καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἤρχετο πρὸς αὐτόν. Early in the morning he went again into the temple, and all the crowd was coming to(wards) him. (*John 8:2*)

53.4 Aorist Middle Participles

First Aorists use the endings	STEM-σάμενος	STEM-σαμενη	STEM-σάμενον
Second Aorists use the endings	STEM-όμενος	STEM-ομένη	STEM-όμενον

Remember that Participles do not take an augment. The σ of the First Aorist endings combines with gutturals (κ, γ, χ), labials (π, β, φ), and dentals (τ, δ, θ) at the end of the stem. To review these combinations, see chapter 26.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. καὶ ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ γενόμενος ἐπηρώτα αὐτοῦς, Τί ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ διελογίζεσθε ; And having come in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" (Mark 9:33)
2. ἀνοίξας δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος τὸ στόμα αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς γράφης ταύτης εὐηγγελίσατο αὐτῷ τὸν Ἰησοῦν. Philip, having opened his mouth and having begun from this writing/scripture he preached the gospel of Jesus to him. (Acts 8:35)
3. καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τοὺς δώδεκα μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν πνευμάτων ἀκαθάρτων. And having summoned his twelve disciples he gave them authority (over) evil spirits. (Matt. 10:1)
4. τότε νηστεύσαντες καὶ προσευξάμενοι . . . αὐτοῖς ἀπέλυσαν. Then having fasted and prayed . . . for them, they sent them away. (Acts 13:3)
5. ἀναβὰς καὶ ἀσπασάμενος τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, κατέβη εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν. Having gone up and having greeted the church, he went down to Antioch (Acts 18:22)
6. καὶ γευσάμενος οὐκ ἠθέλησεν πιεῖν. And having tasted, he did not wish to drink. (Matt. 27:34)
7. καὶ δεξάμενος ποτήριον εὐχαριστήσας εἶπεν, Λάβετε τοῦτο . . . And having received a cup and having given thanks, he said "Take this . . ." (Luke 22:17)
8. Ὅψιας δὲ γενομένης προσήνεγκαν αὐτῷ δαιμονιζομένους πολλούς. When it was evening (evening having happened) they brought many demoniacs to him. (Matt. 8:16)
9. ὁ δὲ ἑκατόνταρχος καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ . . . ἰδόντες τὸν σεισμόν καὶ τὰ γενόμενα . . . εἶπον, Ἀληθῶς θεοῦ υἱὸς ἦν οὗτος. The centurion and those with him, having seen the earthquake and the things which happened, said "Truly, this was the Son of God." (see Matt. 27:54)
10. καὶ γενομένης ὥρας ἕκτης σκότος ἐγένετο ἐφ' ὅλην τὴν γῆν. The sixth hour having come, there was darkness over all the land. (Mark 15:33)

53.5 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ἦν δε καὶ ὁ Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων . . . καὶ παρεγίνοντο καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο. (John 3:23)
2. καὶ Μαριάμ εἰσηλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον . . . καὶ ἠσπάσατο τὴν Ἐλισάβετ. (see Luke 1:40)
3. καὶ ἐγένετο ὅτε ἐτέλεσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἐξεπλήσσοντο οἱ ὄχλοι ἐπὶ τῇ διδαχῇ αὐτοῦ. (Matt. 7:28)
4. παρεγένετο δὲ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἡ μήτηρ . . . αὐτοῦ. (Luke 8:19)
5. ξένος ἦμην καὶ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνὸς καὶ περιεβάλετέ με, ἠσθένησα καὶ ἐπεσκεψασθέ με, ἐν φυλακῇ ἦμην καὶ ἤλθατε πρὸς με. (ἦμην = First Person Singular Imperfect of εἶμί) (Matt. 25:35-36)
6. Ἄλλ' οὐκ ἐχρησάμεθα τῇ ἐξουσίᾳ ταύτῃ. (1 Cor. 9:12)
7. ὁ θεὸς γε τοῦ ἰδίου υἱοῦ οὐκ ἐφείσατο, ἀλλὰ ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πάντων παρέδωκεν αὐτόν. (see Rom. 8:32)
8. Πέτρος καὶ Ἰωάννης προσηύξαντο περὶ αὐτῶν. (see Acts 8:15)
9. ὁ θεὸς ἐκ θανάτου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς καὶ ῥύσεται καὶ ἔτι ῥύσεται. (see 2 Cor. 1:10)
10. καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος πάλιν τὸν ὄχλον ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς, Ἀκούσετέ μου. (Mark 7:14)

53.6 Writing Practice : Write several times, while saying the Greek aloud (Rev. 15:3-4)

Μεγάλα καὶ θαυμαστὰ τὰ ἔργα σου,	Great and wonderful (are) thy works
κύριε ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ,	Lord God Almighty,
δίκαιαι καὶ ἀληθιναὶ αἱ ὁδοί σου,	Just and true (are) thy ways,
ὁ βασιλεὺς τῶν ἐθνῶν,	King of the nations.
τίς σε οὐ μὴ φοβηθῆ, κύριε,	Who shall not fear thee, Lord,
καὶ δοξάσει τὸ ὄνομά σου ;	and glorify thy name?

53.7 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : Luke 10:38-42

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

ὑπεδέξατο	she received	(Aorist Middle of ὑποδέχομαι - I receive a guest)
τῆδε = τῆ δὲ	to her	
παρακαθεσθεῖσα	having sat down near	
	(Aorist Passive Participle, Feminine, of παρακαθίζω - I sit down beside)	
περιεσπᾶτο	(she) was distracted	
	(from περισπᾶω - I drag around; Passive - I am distracted)	
ἐπιστᾶσα	having stood beside	(Aorist Participle Feminine of ἐφίστημι - I stand beside)
συναντιλάβηται	she might share	(Aorist Subjunctive of συναντιλαμβάνω - I take a share)
ἀποκριθεὶς	having answered	(Aorist Participle Middle of ἀποκρίνομαι - I answer)
θορυβάζῃ	you are troubled	
μερίδα	portion	(Accusative singular of τὸ μέρος, -ίδος - portion)
ἀφαιρεθήσεται	it will be taken away	(Future Passive of ἀφαιρέω - I take away)

53.8 Vocabulary to learn - the list includes some deponent verbs which we have met before.

ἄπτομαι	I touch (takes Genitive)
ἄρνέομαι	I deny (contract verb)
ἄρχομαι	I begin
ἀσπάζομαι	I greet
γεύομαι	I taste
δέχομαι	I receive
διαμαρτύρομαι	I testify, warn solemnly
ἐκπλήσσομαι	I am amazed, astonished
ἐντέλλομαι	I command
ἐπισκέπτομαι	I look on, inspect
ἐργάζομαι	I work
εὐαγγελίζομαι	I bring good news, preach the gospel
εὐαγγελίζω	I preach the gospel, evangelize (both Active and Middle forms occur)
λογίζομαι	I reckon
προσκαλέομαι	I call to, summon
πυνθάνομαι	I enquire (Aorist stem πυνθ-)
ρύομαι	I rescue, deliver
φείδομαι	I spare, refrain from
χράομαι	I make use of, deal with (a person)
λιθάζω	I stone, put to death by stoning
ἡ ὄψια	evening
ὁ φονεύς	murderer (φονεύω = I murder)