# Introductory NT Greek

Week 7

#### Week 7

- "English"
  - Elementary Logic
- Greek
  - Conditional Clauses

#### Conditional Statements

- A conditional statement is a statement consisting of an 'if' clause and a 'then' clause.
  - If Aiden dies his hair blue, then he will look amazing.
- When discussing a conditional statement logically (semantically), the 'if' part is called the antecedent and the 'then' part is called the consequent.

#### Cause/Effect

- In a cause/effect relationship, the consequent is directly caused by the antecedent.
  - If Evie licks a red panda, then she will end up with fur on her tongue. Yuck!
  - Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. (2 Tim. 2:21)

### Equivalence

- In an equivalence relationship, the antecedent and the consequent are just different ways of saying the same thing.
  - If I live in Denver, I live in the "mile-hi City"
  - But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. (Romans 11:6)

#### Evidence/Inference

- In an evidence/inference relationship, the antecedent provides supporting evidence that we should believe the consequent.
  - Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. (Romans 6:8)
  - But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you (Matt 6:30)

# Simple Conditional Statements

- A simple conditional statement is one of the form "If A, then B."
  - If Aiden dies his hair blue, then he will look amazing.
  - If I live in Denver, then I live in the 'mile-hi' city.
- If A is true (Aiden dies his hair blue hair), then B is true (he will look amazing).
- · If A is false, what do we know about B?
- Answer: Nothing. We must look for more information to answer that question.

#### Converses

- Given a simple statement "If A, then B", its converse is the statement, "If B, then A".
  - Statement: If in Denver, then in the 'mile-hi' city.
  - Converse: If in the 'mile-hi' city, then in Denver.
  - Statement: If in Denver, then in Colorado.
- Converse: If in Colorado, then in Denver.
- If a statement is true, what can we say about the truth of the converse?
- Logically, the truth of a converse is unknown.

# Simple Conditional Statements

- · A more interesting example:
  - If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. (1 Tim 3:1)
- If someone does not aspire to the office of overseer, what can we say about the work he desires to do?
- (Converse) If someone desires to do a fine work, does that say they want to be an overseer?

# Simple Conditional Statements

- · Another example:
  - If you show partiality, you commit sin. (James 2:9)
- If one does not show partiality, what can we say about whether or not they are sinning?
- (Converse) If one commits sin, what can we say about whether or not they are showing partiality?

# What Scripture Doesn't Say

 It is important to correct interpretation that we be able to identify what God's word tells us and what it does not.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God (Rom 8:14)

- If one is not led by the Spirit, are they a son of God?
- Nope, but this verse does not say that.
  We have to look elsewhere for support.

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- Yep, but this verse does not say that.
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# **Complex Conditional Statements**

- A complex conditional statement is one that has more than one condition in the 'if' clause. It has the form "If A and B, then C".
  - If you run to the right and get into the end zone, we'll get a touchdown.
- The relationship between each antecedent and the consequent may be different.
  - If you run to the right, we'll get a touchdown (evidence/inference)
  - If you get into the end zone, we'll get a touchdown (equivalence)
- Do I have to run right to score? Why not?

# Complex Conditional Statements

- · A more interesting example:
  - If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)
- Causal: If you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
- Evidence/inverence: If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, you will be saved.
- Do we have to confess with our mouths to be saved? How about "making Jesus our Lord?"

## Where does it just say, "believe"?

- · John 1:12-13
- John 7:38
- John 3:14
- John 8:24
- John 3:16
- John 11:25-26
- John 3:18
- · Acts 10:43
- John 3:36a
- · Acts 13:38-39
- John 5:24
- · Acts 16:29-31
- John 6:35
- Romans 1:16
- John 6:40
- Romans 5:14
- John 6:47
- ... to name a few

## What Are They Saying?

- A conditional clause may be used to express many different things. While phrased logically, it may be much more expressive.
- It may be used pedagogically to engage the audience – to draw them in. Paul does this.
  - If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. [11] But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. (Romans 8:10-11)

#### What Are They Saying?

- A conditional statement may be used to exhort
  - Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love each other. (1 John 4:11)
- · Or it may be used to rebuke
  - Lord, If you had been here, my brother would not have died. (John 11:21)
- and mock
  - If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross (Matt 27:40)

### What Are They Saying?

- A conditional statement may be used to persuade.
  - If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will be your judges. [28] But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Matt 12:27-28)

## What Are They Saying?

- · Or even to express utter agony.
  - If it is possible, let this cup pass from me. (Matt 26:39)
- The bottom line is that we use conditional statements every day. They are not limited to the spectrum of cold logic and reason.

## **Conditional Clauses**

- Greek has four distinct classes of conditional clauses.
- It is easy to determine which class is being used – independent of context!
- The only room for overlap is between a handful of first and second class conditions.
- When discussing clauses gramatically (syntactically), the 'if' part is called the protasis and the 'then' part is called the apodosis.

#### First Class Conditions

- In a first class conditional clause, the main verb in the protasis ('if' clause) is presented in the indicative mood.
- Some have taken that to mean that it is true and should be translated as 'since.'
- · This holds up in some cases.
  - Beloved, if [since] God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (1 John 4:11)
  - If [since] there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. (1 Cor 15:44)

## The Fallacy of 'Since'

- Since your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you... (Matt 5:30)
- ... "Lord, since it is You, command me to come to You on the water." (Matt 14:28)
- ... "Since you have faith like a mustard seed, you would say..." (Luke 17:6)
- ... "Since you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." (Luke 23:37)
- The Jews then gathered around Him, and were saying to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? Since You are the Christ, tell us plain! (John 10:24)

# The Fallacy of 'Since'

- My Father, since it is possible, let this cup pass from me . . . (Matt 26:39)
- For since Abraham was justified by works, he has a basis for boasting . . . (Rom 4:2)
- For since those who follow the law are heirs, faith is canceled out and the promise is voided (Rom 4:14)
- Now since there is no resurrection from the dead, neither has Christ been raised (1 Cor 15:13)
- For since justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing. (Gal 2:21)

## The Fallacy of 'Since'

- In addition to the counter-examples, it must be noted that the Greeks had two separate words for since (ἐπει, ἐπειδη) and they are used regularly in the NT.
- The protasis in the indicative does not mean that the author believes it to be true. Why?

# Translating First Class Conditional Statements

- By using the indicative mood in the protasis, the author is presenting it as true for the sake of argument.
  - Now, if there is no resurrection from the dead [and let's assume that's true for the sake of argument], neither has Christ been raised. (1 Cor 15:13)
  - If your right hand makes you stumble [and let's assume that it is for the sake of argument], cut it off and throw it from you (Matt 5:30)

#### Second Class Conditions

- A second class conditional statement presents a perceived untruth for the sake of argument.
  - If they had understood, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. (1 Cor 2:8)
  - Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me (John 5:46)

#### Second Class Conditions

- The protasis may, in fact, present something that is true. The perception of untruth is from the speaker's perspective.
  - Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner." (Luke 7:39)

#### Third Class Conditions

- A third class condition, by construction alone, asserts less about its condition than do the first or the second class conditional statements.
- What is common to all third class conditions is that the consequent is not being asserted as true, merely as probable, possible, or hypothetical.

#### Third Class Conditions

- The condition may be probable
  - Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits. (Hebrews 6:1-3)

#### Third Class Conditions

- It may be unlikely:
  - If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? (John 3:12)
- · It may be hypothetical:
  - If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (1 Cor. 13:2)
- Or it may just express a general truth.
  - If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble (John 11:8)

#### Fourth Class Conditions

- A fourth class condition expresses an unlikely possible future condition.
- There are no complete fourth class conditions in the new testament. The few fourth class conditions present have either the 'if' part or the 'then' part implied.
  - Even if you should suffer for righteousness,
    [you are] blessed. (1 Pet. 3:14)

#### Homework

Diagramming.

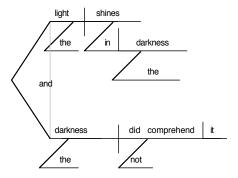
Type	Type of Condition	Type of Condition Possibility of Being Realized	Protasis ("if")			otasis Apodosis ("then")			N.T. Examples
			Conditional Word	Mood	Tense	Conditional Word	Mood	Tense	
First Class	Class	Assumes the	દા	indicative	any tense		any mood	any tense	Matt. 12:27-28
Simp,	'Simple Condition'	reality of premise	(negative: ov)						Luke 4:3
$\frac{-Pr_{\epsilon}}{h}$	Presumed True	for the sake of	(Not accurate to						Romans 6:5
for the	for the Sake of	argument, whether	translate as						Galatians 5:18
Argument *(pp. 690-69.	Argument' *(pp. 690-694)	actually true or not.	(· )						Colossians 3:1
	Second Class	Assumes the	દા	indicative	past tense:	( xv)	indicative	past tense:	a) Present
	ned	premise as untrue	(negative: μή)			(usually)			<u>Time</u> :
	Contrary to Fact	for the sake of							Luke 7:39
	<u>tion</u> '	argument, whether			a) imperfect			a) imperfect	John 5:46
	a) in present time	actually untrue or			b) aorist			b) aorist	b) Past Time:
b) in past ti (pp. 694-696)	b) in past time pp. 694-696)	not.							Mark 13:20 1 Cor 2:8
	Third Class	Fulfillment is	έαν	subjunctive			any mood	any tense	a) Future More
	More Probable	uncertain, but still	(negative: μή)	ı			ı		Probable:
	Future Condition'	likely.							Matt. 4:9
	a) 'Future Likely'	a) Specific							Mark 5:28
	'Probable', or	situation in			a) any tense				Hebrews 6:3
	'Hypothetical'	future time,							Hypothetical:
<u></u>	Condition	OR 							1 Cor. 13:2
ru	Present	Only hypothetical			b) present				b) Present Gen:
	General	b) Generic							Matt.6:22-23
	Condition	situation in							John 11:9
(pp. 69 (pp. 69	(5''' Class Condition) (pp. 696-698)	present time							2 Timothy 2:5
	Fourth Class	Possible	દો	optative	present or	χ̈́	optative	present or	1 Peter 3:14, 17
	'Less Probable	fulfillment; "if			aorist			aorist	Luke 1:62
Futur	Future Condition'	perhaps this							Acts 17:18
Only partial	partial	should occur, then							
forma	formations in NT.	···							
(pp. 699-701)	9-/01)		,	;		,			

\* Page numbering refers to the major section where this topic is discussed in "Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics" by Daniel B. Wallace. Conditional Sentences, By Corey Keating, Version 2.6, October 2004, <a href="https://www.ntgreek.org">www.ntgreek.org</a> Adapted from the Chart in "Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics" by Daniel B. Wallace, pg 689

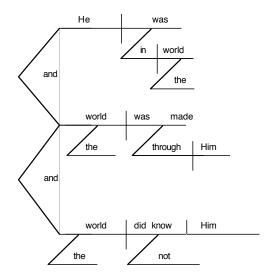
### Week 6 Homework Answers

#### Diagram

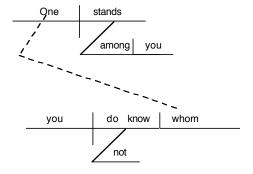
1. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:5)



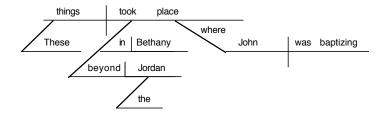
2. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not know him. (John 1:10)



3. ...among you stands One whom you do not know. (John 1:26)



These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. (John 1:28)



### Week 7 Homework

### Diagram

1.	The Passover	of the Jews	was near,	and Jesus	went up	to Jerusalem.	(John 2:13
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2. He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. (John 2:14)

3. And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables (John 2:15)