

Chapter 9

First Declension Feminine Nouns ending in -α

9.1 In chapter 8 we met First Declension Feminine nouns ending in -η. There are also some First Declension Feminine nouns which end in -α. They use the same endings in the plural, but vary slightly in the singular. The Definite Article keeps the forms we learned in Section 8.3

9.2 For nouns in -α, If the stem of the noun ends in a **vowel or a rho** the pattern is

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	STEM- α	STEM- αι
Accusative	STEM- αν	STEM- ας
Genitive	STEM- ας	STEM- ων
Dative	STEM- α	STEM- αις

Note that the Dative singular has a *iota*-subscript, and that the Genitive plural is -ων.

Note that the Genitive singular and the Accusative plural are identical. The rest of the sentence will show how the word functions in the sentence.

For καρδία (heart) this becomes

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	καρδία	καρδίαι
Acc.	καρδιαν	καρδιας
Gen.	καρδιας	καρδιων
Dat.	καρδία	καρδιαις

9.3 For nouns in -α, If the stem of the noun ends in a **consonant other than rho** the pattern is

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	STEM- α	STEM- αι
Acc.	STEM- αν	STEM- ας
Gen.	STEM- ης	STEM- ων
Dat.	STEM- η	STEM- αις

Note that the Dative singular has a *iota*-subscript, and that the Genitive plural is -ων.

Note also the change to an -η in the Genitive and Dative singular endings.

For δοξά (glory) this becomes

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	δοξά	δοξάι
Acc.	δοξαν	δοξας
Gen.	δοξης	δοξων
Dat.	δοξη	δοξαις

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- αὕτη ἀναγινωσκει την ἐπιστολὴν
τῆ ἐκκλησια. She reads the letter
to the congregation.
- οἱ Σαδδουκαιοι ἀκουουσιν την μαρτυριαν
των ἀποστολων
ἀλλ' οὐ λαμβανουσιν αὐτην. The Sadducees hear the witness
of the apostles
but they do not accept it.
- ὁ Ἰησους φανεροι την δοξαν αὐτου
και την ἐξουσιαν αὐτου. Jesus reveals his glory
and his authority.
- ἐστιν το πλοιον ἐπι τη θαλασση ; Is the boat on the sea?

5. ζητετε την βασιλειαν του ουρανου ;	Are you seeking the kingdom of heaven?
6. Ναι, ζητουμεν την βασιλειαν του θεου και την διακονιαν αυτου.	Yes, we are seeking the kingdom of God and his service.
7. ο Ίησους διδασκει την αληθειαν εν παραβολαις.	Jesus teaches the truth in parables.
8. ζητουμεν την σοφιαν και την αληθειαν.	We seek wisdom and truth.
9. η αγαπη του θεου η αρχη της σοφιας εστιν.	The love of God is the beginning of wisdom.
10. εχουσιν τας εντολας του κυριου εν ταις καρδιας αυτων ;	Do they have the commandments of God in their hearts?

9.4 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ζητουμεν την βασιλειαν του θεου και την ειρηνην αυτου.
2. αυτη ακουει την φωνην της αδελφης εν τη οικια.
3. αυται βλεπουσιν την βασιλειαν του θεου και την δοξαν αυτου επι της γης ;
4. η διδαχη του Ίησου αληθεια και αγαπη εστιν.
5. τα εργα του διαβολου αδικια και αμαρτια εισιν.
6. η εκκλησια καλει και παρακαλει τας αδελφας.
7. η αδελφη διδασκει την αληθειαν εν παραβολαις, ο δε λαος εν τη συναγωγη ου λαμβανει την διδαχην αυτης.
8. ησαν αι αδελφαι εν τω ιερω ; Ου, αυται εν τη οικια ησαν.
9. η γλωσσα της αδελφης λεγει λογους της σοφιας και αληθειας.
10. τα εργα του διαβολου αμαρτια και αδικια εισιν, αλλα τα εργα του θεου εισιν αληθεια και δικαιοσυνη.

9.5 Writing Practice : Write the Greek, while saying aloud (Matt. 6:9-11)

πατερ ημων ο εν τοις ουρανοις,	Our Father, the (one) in the heavens,
αγιασθητω το ονομα σου,	let your name be sanctified,
ελθετω η βασιλεια σου,	let your kingdom come,
γενηθητω το θελημα σου,	let your will / wish happen (come to pass),
ως εν ουρανω και επι γης.	just as in heaven (so) also on earth.
τον αρτον ημων τον επιουσιον	Our bread of / for the day
δος ημιν σημερον·	give to us today;

δος (give!) is an Imperative of δίδωμι - I give

9.6 New Testament Passages for reading and translation

Matthew 4:23, Matthew 6:33, Mark 12:30, 1 John 3:18, 2 John 1:1-3

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

περιηγεν	he went around
ολη τη Γαλιλαια	in the whole (of) Galilee
διδασκων	teaching (a participle of διδασκω - I teach)
κηρυσσων	preaching (a participle of κηρυσσω - I preach, proclaim)
θεραπευων	healing (a participle of θεραπευω - I heal)
πασαν νοσον	every disease
πασαν μαλακιαν	every sickness
ζητετε	seek ! (an Imperative of ζητεω - I seek)
(the Imperative here has the same form as the 2nd person plural indicative active)	
πρωτον	first

ταυτα παντα	all these (things)
προστεθησεται	will be added
υμιν	to you (<i>plural</i>)
αγαπησεις	you shall love (<i>Future of αγαπαω - I love</i>)
εξ ολης	out of all = with all
η διανοια	intelligence, mind, understanding
της ισχυος	(of) the strength (<i>Genitive of η ισχυς - strength</i>)
μη αγαπωμεν	let us not love
μηδε	neither
εκλεκτη κυρια	to the elect lady (<i>notice that these two words are in the Dative - this indicates the person to whom the letter is addressed. "κυρια" is the feminine form of "κυριος"</i>)
ους	whom (<i>plural</i>)
μονος	alone, only
παντες	every(one)
οι εγνωκοτες	"(the ones) having known" = knowing, those who know
την μενουσαν	remaining (<i>literally "having remained"</i>) (<i>"την μενουσαν" is describing "την αληθειαν"</i>)
εν ημιν	in us
μεθ' ημων	with us (<i>μεθ' is the form of μετα which comes before a vowel with a rough breathing</i>)
εσται	it will be
εις τον αιωνα	to the (end of) the age
χαρις	grace (a gracious gift from God)
ελεος	mercy
του πατρος	the Father (<i>Genitive</i>)
παρα του θεου πατρος	from God (the) Father

9.7 Vocabulary to learn

η αδικια	unrighteousness
η αληθεια	truth
η αμαρτια	sin
η βασιλεια	kingdom
η γενεα	generation (<i>from γενναω - I beget</i>)
η διακονια	service (<i>from διακονεω - I serve, am of service to</i>)
η εκκλησια	congregation, church (<i>people, not building</i>) (<i>The members of an εκκλησια were called out of the secular world, into a fellowship of Christians</i>)
η εξουσια	authority, power
η καρδια	heart (<i>hence words beginning with cardio-)</i>
η μαρτυρια	witness (<i>from μαρτυρεω - I bear witness</i>)
η οικια	house, household (<i>there are two Greek words, both meaning "house, household" : ο οικος and η οικια</i>)
η σοφια	wisdom
η ημερα	day (<i>a Hemerocallis is a Daylily. Something ephemeral only lasts a few days</i>)
η ωρα	hour
η γλωσσα	tongue (<i>hence "glossolalia" - speaking in tongues</i>)
η δόξα	glory

ἡ θάλασσα	sea	
σήμερον	today	
διά, δι'	through, by means of	(with Genitive);
διά, δι'	on account of	(with Accusative)
μετά, μετ', μεθ'	with, among	(with Genitive)
μετά, μετ', μεθ'	after, behind	(with Accusative)
παρά	from, of	(with Genitive)
παρά	with, near	(with Dative)
παρά	beside, alongside	(with Accusative)

Do not worry about the various ways of translating prepositions (such as δια, μετα, παρα, προς).
Use whichever translation best fits with the sense of the sentence.

We will have a whole chapter on prepositions later.