

## 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-σαμην	ἐ-STEM-σαμεθα
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

- Τον μεν πρωτον λογον ἐποιησαμην περι παντων . . . ὧν ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησους ποιειν τε και διδασκειν. I (made) wrote the first (word) account about everything which Jesus began to do and to teach. (*Acts 1:1*)
- και οὐκ ἐδέξαντο αὐτον ὅτι το προσωπον αὐτου ἦν πορευομενον εις Ἱερουσαλημ. (he had set his face towards Jerusalem) (*Luke 9:53*) And they did not receive him because his face was traveling into Jerusalem
- και ἐκτεινας την χειρα ἤψατο αὐτου. And having stretched out his hand he touched him. (*Matt. 8:3*)
- ὕμεις δε τον ἅγιον και δικαιον ἠρνησασθε, και ἠτησασθε ἄνδρα φονεα. But you denied the holy and righteous (man) and asked for a murderer man. (*Acts 3:14*)
- ὁ δε Ἰησους ἀπεκρινατο αὐτοις, Ὁ πατηρ μου ἕως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται, κάγω ἐργάζομαι. But Jesus answered them, "My father works until now, and I am working. (*John 5:17*)
- Γνωριζω δε ὑμιν, ἀδελφοι, το εὐαγγελιον ὃ εὐηγγελισαμην ὑμιν. I make known to you, brethren, the Gospel which I proclaimed to you (*1 Cor. 15:1*)
- ἀπο τοτε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησους κηρυσσειν και διδασκειν. From then Jesus began to preach and to teach. (*Matt. 4:17*)
- ἐν δε τῷ νομῷ ἡμιν Μωϋσης ἐνετειλατο τας τοιαυτας λιθαζειν. In the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such (women). (*John 8:5*)
- ἐτεροις τε λογοις πλειοσιν διεμαρτυρατο. He testified with many other words. (*Acts 2:40*)
- ὁ νυμφιος ἐγευσατο τον 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-ομην	ἐ-STEM-ομεθα
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 γινομαι (I become, happen, am)

I became, was	ἐγενομην	ἐγενομεθα	we became, were
you became, were	ἐγενοου	ἐγενεσθε	you became, were
he/she/it became, was	ἐγενετο	ἐγενοντο	they became, were

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

**Practice** - until you can read and translate easily

- ἐγενετο Ἰωαννης βαπτιζων ἐν τη ἐρημῳ. John was baptizing in the desert. (*Mk.1:4*)
- και ἐγενετο ἐν ἐκειναις ταις ἡμεραις και ἦλθεν Ἰησους ἀπο Ναζαρετ της Γαλιλαιας. And (it happened that) in those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee. (*Mk.1:9*)
- Τοτε ἤρξατο ὀνειδίζειν τας πολεις ἐν αἰς ἐγενοντο αἱ πλεισται δυναμεις αὐτου, ὅτι οὐ μετενοησαν. 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*)
- Δοκειτε ὅτι οἱ Γαλιλαιοι οὗτοι ἀμαρτωλοι παρα παντας τους Γαλιλαιους ἐγενοντο ; Do you suppose that these Galileans were sinners beyond all the Galileans? (*Luke 13:2*)
- εἰ οὖν ἐν τῷ ἀδικῷ μαμωνᾷ πιστοι οὐκ ἐγενεσθε, το ἀληθινον τίς ὑμῖν πιστευσει ; If, then, you were not faithful in unrighteous mammon (wealth), who will entrust the true (thing) to you? (*Luke 16:11*)
- Εὐγε, ἀγαθε δουλε, ὅτι ἐν ἐλαχιστῷ πιστος ἐγενου, ἰσθι ἐξουσιαν ἔχων ἐπάνω δεκα πολεων. Well done, good servant, because you were faithful in the least (thing), have (be having) authority over ten cities. (*Luke 19:17*)  
( ἰσθι - Imperative of εἶμι - see chapters 18 and 49 )
- ἐγενοντο δε φιλοι ὁ τε Ἡρωδης και ὁ Πιλατος ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ μετ' ἀλλήλων. On the same day, Herod and Pilate became friends with one another. (*Luke 23:12*)
- ἐπυθετο οὖν την ὥραν παρ' αὐτων ἐν ἧ ὁ παις αὐτου κομψοτερον ἐσχεν. Then he enquired of them the hour in which his lad was (had) better. (*John 4:52*)  
( κομψοτερον - neuter comparative of κομψος, fine = "better" )
- δοκειτε ὅτι εἰρηνην παρεγενομην δουναι ἐν τῇ γῆ ; Do you suppose that I came to give peace on the earth ? (*Luke 12:51*)
- Ἵρθρου δε παλιν παρεγενετο εἰς το ἱερον, και πας ὁ λαος ἤρχετο προς αὐτον. 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-σαμενος	STEM-σαμενη	STEM-σαμενον
Second Aorists use the endings	STEM-ομενος	STEM-ομενη	STEM-ομενον

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. και ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ γενομενος ἐπηρώτα αὐτούς, Τί ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ διελογίζεσθε ; And having come into the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" (Mark 9:33)
2. ἀνοιξας δε ὁ Φίλιππος το στομα αὐτου και ἀρξαμενος ἀπο της γραφης ταυτης εὐηγγελισατο αὐτῷ τον Ἰησουν. Philip, having opened his mouth and having begun from this writing/scripture he preached the gospel of Jesus to him. (Acts 8:35)
3. και προσκαλεσαμενος τους δωδεκα μαθητας αὐτου ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσιαν πνευματων ἀκαθαρτων. And having summoned his twelve disciples he gave them authority (over) evil spirits. (Matt. 10:1)
4. τοτε νηστευσαντες και προσευξαμενοι . . . αὐτοῖς ἀπελυσαν. Then having fasted and prayed . . . for them, they sent them away. (Acts 13:3)
5. ἀναβας και ἀσπασαμενος την ἐκκλησιαν, κατεβη εἰς Ἀντιοχειαν. Having gone up and having greeted the church, he went down to Antioch (Acts 18:22)
6. και γευσαμενος οὐκ ἠθελησεν πιειν. And having tasted, he did not wish to drink. (Matt. 27:34)
7. και δεξαμενος ποτηριον εὐχαριστησας εἶπεν, Λαβετε τουτο . . . And having received a cup and having given thanks, he said "Take this . . ." (Luke 22:17)
8. Ὅψιας δε γενομενης προσηνεγκαν αὐτῷ δαιμονιζομενους πολλους. When it was evening (evening having happened) they brought many demoniacs to him. (Matt. 8:16)
9. ὁ δε ἑκατονταρχος και οἱ μετ' αὐτου . . . ἰδοντες τον σεισμον και τα γενομενα . . . εἶπον, Ἀληθως θεου υἱος 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. και γενομενης ὥρας ἑκτης σκοτος ἐγενετο ἐφ' ὅλην την γην. The sixth hour having come, there was darkness over all the land. (Mark 15:33)

### 53.4 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ἦν δε και ὁ Ἰωαννης βαπτίζων . . . και παρεγινοντο και ἐβαπτίζοντο. (John 3:23)
2. και Μαριαμ εἰσηλθεν εἰς τον οἶκον . . . και ἠσπασατο την Ἐλισαβετ. (see Luke 1:40)
3. και ἐγενετο ὅτε ἔτελεσεν ὁ Ἰησους τους λογους τουτους ἐξεπλησσοντο οἱ ὄγλοι ἐπι τη διδαχη αὐτου. (Matt. 7:28)
4. παρεγενετο δε προς αὐτον ἡ μητηρ . . . αὐτου. (Luke 8:19)
5. ξενος ἡμην και συνηγαγετε με, γυμνος και περιεβαλετε με, ἠσθενησα και ἐπεσκεψασθε με, ἐν φυλακη ἡμην και ἦλθατε προς με. (ἡμην = First Person Singular Imperfect of εἶμι ) (Matt. 25:35-36)
6. Ἄλλ' οὐκ ἐχρησαμεθα τη ἐξουσιᾳ ταυτη. (1 Cor. 9:12)
7. ὁ θεος γε του ἰδίου υἱου οὐκ ἐφεισατο, ἀλλα ὑπερ ἡμων παντων παρεδωκεν αὐτον. (see Rom. 8:32)
8. Πητρος και Ἰωαννης προσηυζαντο περι αὐτων. (see Acts 8:15)
9. ὁ θεος ἐκ θανατου ἐρρυσατο ἡμας και ῥυσεται και ἐτι ῥυσεται. (see 2 Cor. 1:10)
10. και προσκαλεσαμενος παλιν τον ὄγλον ἐλεγεν αὐτοῖς, Ἄκουσετε μου. (Mark 7:14)

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

Μεγάλα και θαυμαστα τα ἔργα σου,	Great and wonderful (are) thy works
κυριε ὁ θεος ὁ παντοκρατωρ,	Lord God Almighty,
δικαιαι και ἀληθιναι αἱ ὁδοὶ σου,	Just and true (are) thy ways,
ὁ βασιλευς των ἔθνων,	King of the nations.
τίς σε οὐ μη φοβηθη, κυριε,	Who shall not fear thee, Lord,
και δοξασει το ὄνομα σου ;	and glorify thy name?

**53.6 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.

ὑπεδεξατο	she received	( Aorist Middle of ὑποδεχομαι - I receive a guest )
τηδε = τη δε	to her	
παρακαθесθεισα	having sat down near	
	( Aorist Passive Participle, Feminine, of παρακαθιζω - I sit down beside )	
περισπατο	(she) was distracted	
	( from περισπαω - I drag around; Passive - I am distracted )	
ἐπιστασα	having stood beside	( Aorist Participle Feminine of ἐφιστημι - I stand beside )
συναντιλαβηται	she might share	( Aorist Subjunctive of συναντιλαμβανω - I take a share )
ἀποκριθεις	having answered	( Aorist Participle Middle of ἀποκρινομαι - I answer )
θορυβαζη	you are troubled	
μεριδα	portion	( Accusative singular of το μερος, -ιδος - portion )
ἀφαιρεθησεται	it will be taken away	( Future Passive of ἀφαιρω - I take away )

**53.7 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 )