

Chapter 14

ὅτι

Direct and Indirect Statements

14.1 We have already met several conjunctions - words which link clauses and phrases into longer sentences. The word **ὅτι** has three common uses

- as a conjunction, meaning "because, for, since"
- to introduce an Indirect Statement
- to introduce a Direct Statement

14.2 **ὅτι** as a conjunction indicates a causal relationship between two clauses.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. αἰτῶ ἄρτον ὅτι πεινῶ. | I ask for bread because I am hungry. |
| 2. ὁ Πέτρος βαπτίζει τὸν Ῥωμαῖον
ὅτι οὗτος πιστεύει ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ. | Peter baptizes the Roman
because he believes in Christ. |
| 3. ἀγαπῶμεν τὸν θεὸν ὅτι αὐτὸς ἀγαπᾷ ἡμᾶς. | We love God because he loves us. |
| 4. οἱ λαοὶ ζητοῦσιν τὸν Ἰησοῦν
ὅτι βλέπουσιν τὰ σημεῖα αὐτοῦ. | The people seek Jesus
because they see his signs. |
| 5. ζῶμεν ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ζῆ. | We live because Jesus lives. |
| 6. ἔχουσιν εἰρήνην ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἀγαπᾷ αὐτούς. | They have peace since God loves them. |
| 7. ὁ Ἰουδᾶς ἀργύριον ζητεῖ ὅτι κλέπτης ἐστίν. | Judas seeks money because he is a thief. |
| 8. ἀναγινώσκομεν τὸ βιβλίον ἅγιον ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ
εὐρίσκομεν τοὺς λόγους τοῦ θεοῦ. | We read the holy book, because in it
we find the words of God. |
| 9. οὗτος τηρεῖ τὸν νόμον τῶν Ἰουδαίων
ὅτι Φαρισαῖος ἐστίν. | He (this guy) keeps the law of the Jews
because he is a Pharisee. |
| 10. ὁ Ἡρώδης διώκει τὸν Ἰωάννην
ὅτι οὗτος προφήτης ἐστίν. | Herod persecutes John
because he is a prophet. |

14.3 Indirect statements - also known as **Dependent statements**

often follow verbs of saying, thinking, feeling, hearing, seeing, hoping, judging, learning, perceiving
e.g. "He says that the student is reading.", They thought (that) the dog was barking.

English often uses "that" to introduce the Indirect statement. Greek uses **ὅτι** in a similar manner. There is, however, one difference between English and Greek usage : When the main statement is in the past tense, English changes the tense of the dependent statement to the past also. Greek keeps the tense of the dependent statement in its original form - it remains what the original speaker or thinker said or thought at the time.

e.g. in English, we write "He said that the student was reading."
What he actually said was "The student is reading."
So Greek would write "He said that the student is reading."
εἶπεν ὅτι ὁ μαθητὴς ἀναγινώσκει.

So far the only past tenses we have used have been the Third Person singular and plural of εἶμι - I am :

ἦν - he/she/it was, ἦσαν - they were.

Now we meet part of the simple past tense of λέγω - I say. λέγω is irregular, in that it does not keep the same stem throughout its tenses, but, like the English verb "I go (present), I went (past)", uses stems from several verbs. λέγω uses the λέγ- stem for the Present tense, but an εἶπ- stem for the simple past tense.

εἶπεν - he said, εἶπομεν - we said.

There are only ten such "weirdo verbs" in the New Testament

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. λέγει ὅτι ὁ μαθητὴς ἀναγινώσκει. | He says that the disciple is reading. |
| 2. γινώσκω ὅτι οὗτοι οἱ μαθηταὶ πιστεύουσιν τῷ Ἰησοῦ. | I know that these disciples believe in Jesus. |
| 3. εἶπεν ὅτι ὁ ἵππος ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ ἐστίν. | He said that the horse was in the field. |
| 4. λέγουσιν ὅτι οἱ ἵπποι ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ εἰσίν. | They say that the horses are in the field. |
| 5. εἶπομεν ὅτι τὸ παιδίον οὐκ ἔχει τὸ βιβλίον. | We said that the child did not have the book. |
| 6. ὁ μαθητὴς λέγει ὅτι σὺ ἔχεις τὸ ποτήριον. | The disciple says that you have the cup. |
| 7. αὐτὸς ὁ θεὸς λέγει ὅτι αὐτὸς ἀγαπᾷ ὑμᾶς. | God Himself says that he loves you. |
| 8. ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν ὅτι αὐτός ἐστιν ἡ ὁδὸς καὶ ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια. | In that hour Jesus said that he was the way and the life and the truth. |
| 9. μετὰ ταῦτα γινώσκουμεν ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἀγαπᾷ ἡμᾶς. | After these things we know that God loves us. |
| 10. ὁ ὄχλος εἶπεν ὅτι Ἰωάννης ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ ἐστίν. | The crowd said that John was in the desert. |

14.4 Direct statements

Direct statements give us the words that were actually said or thought at the time of the utterance.

e.g. The child said, "I want a cookie." The student thought, "This book is good."

English uses quotation marks to indicate the statement.

Greek has no quotation marks. A direct quotation in Greek usually starts with a capital letter; it is set off from the preceding clause by a comma, and may also be preceded by a ὅτι. In this case the ὅτι is not translated, and acts merely as a quotation mark - grammatically it is called a "ὅτι recitative".

Greek does not have a mark for the end of a quotation - sometimes the text is ambiguous as to where a quotation ends. For example, John 3:10 starts a speech by Jesus, which may run through verse 21 - or it may stop earlier and be followed by a commentary by John.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. ὁ γεωργὸς λέγει,
Τὸ καλὸν δένδρον ποιεῖ καρπὸν καλόν. | The farmer says,
"The good tree produces good fruit" |
| 2. ὁ δέσμιος εἶπεν,
Οὐκ ἀγαπῶ τούτους τοὺς δεσμούς. | The prisoner said,
"I do not love these chains." |
| 3. λέγομεν, Οὐ γινώσκομεν
τὸν ἀριθμὸν τῶν ἵππων. | We say, "We don't know
the number of (the) horses." |
| 4. εἶπομεν, Ὁ μισθὸς τοῦ ἐργάτου μικρὸς ἐστίν. | We said, "The workman's wage is small." |
| 5. ὁ νυμφίος εἶπεν,
Ὁ γάμος ἐν Κανᾷ ἐστίν. | The bridegroom said,
"The wedding is in Cana." |
| 6. ὁ προφήτης λέγει, Ὁ ζήλος τοῦ κυρίου
ταῦτα ποιεῖ. | The prophet says, "The zeal of the Lord
does these things." |
| 7. ἐκεῖνος λέγει, Οὐκ εἰμι ἁμαρτωλός, ἄλλοι δὲ
λέγουσιν, Δέσμοι τοῦ θανάτου ἐσμέν. | He (that one) says, "I am not a sinner."
but others say, "We are prisoners of death." |
| 8. ὁ φίλος τοῦ προφήτου εἶπεν, Οὗτος
ἀπαγγελεῖ τοῖς ὄχλοις τὸν θυμὸν τοῦ θεοῦ. | The friend of the prophet said, "He (this one)
announces the wrath of God to the crowds." |
| 9. ὁ προφήτης εἶπεν τοῖς νεκροῖς,
Ἵμεῖς ἔχετε ζωὴν αἰώνιον ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ. | The prophet said to the dead (men)
"You have eternal life in Christ." |
| 10. εἶπομεν τῷ ἁμαρτωλῷ,
Σὺ εἶ νεκρὸς ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις σου. | We said to the sinner,
"You are dead in your sins." |

14.5 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ὁ Παῦλος εἶπεν, Ὁ μισθὸς τῆς ἀμαρτίας θάνατος ἐστίν.
2. ὁ στρατιώτης λέγει τῷ χιλιάρχῳ ὅτι οἱ ἵπποι ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ εἰσίν.
3. ὁ πονηρὸς εἶπεν τῷ Ἰησοῦ ὅτι Ἐγὼ βλέπω τούτους τοὺς λίθους ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.
4. οἱ γεωργοὶ αἰτοῦσιν τὸν μισθὸν αὐτῶν ὅτι τὰ δένδρα ποιοῦσιν καρπούς.
5. οἱ δέσμοι λέγουσιν ὅτι τοὺς ἄρτους κακοὺς εἰσίν.
6. ὁ ὄχλος εἶπεν ὅτι ὁ βαπτιστὴς βαπτίζει τοὺς τελώνας ἐν τῷ ποταμῷ.
7. οἱ ψευῆσαι λέγουσιν, Οὐκ ἔχομεν ἀμαρτίαν, ἀλλ' ὁ κριτὴς λέγει, Ὑμεῖς οὐ λέγετε τὴν ἀλήθειαν.
8. εἶπομεν τῷ στρατιώτῃ ὅτι οἱ ἐχθροὶ ἡμῶν διώκουσιν ἡμᾶς.
9. ὁ κριτὴς ἀκούει ὅτι ὁ νεανίας ὀφειλέτης ἐστίν καὶ ἀργύριον οὐκ ἔχει.
10. ὁ τυφλὸς λέγει τῷ Ἰησοῦ, Γινώσκω ὅτι Μεσσίας εἶ σύ.

14.6 Writing Practice : Write the Greek, while saying aloud (Matt. 6:9-13)

πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, ἀγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου, ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου, γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου, ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς.	Our Father, the (one) in the heavens, let your name be sanctified, let your kingdom come, let your will / wish happen (come to pass), just as in heaven (so) also on earth.
τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον δὸς ἡμῖν σήμερον · καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφήκαμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν · καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν, ἀλλὰ ρῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ, ὅτι σοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία	Our bread for the day give to us today; and remit/forgive (to) us our debts/guilt, just as we also have forgiven our debtors: and don't bring us into a testing, but rescue us from the evil one, since yours is the kingdom,

14.7 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : John 1:19-22

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.

ἀπέστειλαν	(they) sent	(a past tense of ἀποστελλῶ - I send)
ἱερεῖς	priests	(Accusative plural of ὁ ἱερεὺς - priest)
ἐρωτήσωσιν	(they) might ask	(from ἐρωτάω - I ask)
ὡμολόγησεν	he confessed openly	(a past tense of ὁμολογέω - I declare openly)
ἠρνήσατο	he denied	(a past tense of ἀρνέομαι - I deny)
ἠρώτησαν	they asked	(a past tense of ἐρωτάω - I ask)
τί οὖν ;	What, then?	
ἀπεκρίθη	he answered	(a past tense of ἀποκρίνομαι - I reply, answer)
εἶπαν	they said	(this is a variant spelling of the more usual εἶπον)
ἀπόκρισιν	an answer	(Accusative of ἡ ἀπόκρισις - answer)
δῶμεν	we may give	(from δίδωμι - I give)
τοῖς πέμψασιν	"to the ones having sent" = "to those who sent"	(from πέμπω - I send)
περὶ σεαυτοῦ	about yourself	

14.8 Vocabulary to learn

ὁ ἀριθμός	number
ὁ γάμος	wedding, marriage
ὁ γεωργός	farmer (<i>someone who works the earth, γῆ + ἔργον</i>)
ὁ δέσμιος	prisoner
ὁ δέσμος	fetter, chain
ὁ ζῆλος	zeal, jealousy
ὁ θησαυρός	store-house, treasure (<i>an English thesaurus is a collection of words</i>)
ὁ θυμός	rage, anger, passion
ὁ ἵππος	horse (<i>a hippodrome was a place for horse and chariot races</i>)
ὁ καρπός	fruit
ὁ κόπος	toil, hard labor
ὁ λίθος	stone (<i>hence "lithograph"</i>)
ὁ μισθός	pay, wage(s), reward
ὁ ναός	shrine, temple, sanctuary
ὁ νυμφίος	bride-groom
ὁ πειρασμός	testing, temptation
ὁ πόλεμος	war, conflict
ὁ ποταμός	river (<i>a hippopotamus is a "river-horse"</i>)
ὁ σταυρός	cross (<i>from σταυρόω - I crucify</i>)
ὁ στέφανος	crown
ὁ χιλιάρχος	tribune (<i>Roman official, in charge of 1,000 men, χίλιοι -αι -α = 1,000</i>)
ὁ ἱερεὺς	priest (<i>nominative singular. Do not attempt to use other cases yet.</i>)
ἔρωτάω	I ask (for information)
ὁμολογέω	I declare, confess
πέμπω	I send
ὅτε	when
ὅτι	that, because, for, since
οὕτως	then
περί	about, concerning (<i>with Genitive</i>)
περί	around, about (<i>with Accusative</i>)
τίς ;	who? (<i>masculine nom. singular. Do not attempt to use other cases yet.</i>)