

Chapter 23

The Present Passive

23.1 In sections 22.1 and 22.2 we met examples of the Passive Voice, and learned the personal endings for both the Middle and the Passive in the Present tense.

With a verb in the Passive there is a Subject, but no Object. The Agent (the person or thing doing the action to the subject) is usually shown by ὑπό + Genitive of the Agent.

23.2 The basic pattern for the **Present Indicative Passive** is

	Singular	Plural	
I	STEM-ομαι	STEM-ομεθα	we
you	STEM-η	STEM-εσθε	you
he/she/it	STEM-εται	STEM-ονται	they

For λύω, this becomes

I am being loosed	λύομαι	λύόμεθα	we are being loosed
you are being loosed	λύη	λύεσθε	y'all are being loosed
he/she/it is being loosed	λύεται	λύονται	they are being loosed

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. ὁ Ἰησοῦς βαπτίζεται ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἰωάννου. | Jesus is being baptized by John. |
| 2. τὸ εὐαγγέλιον κηρύσσεται ὑπὸ τοῦ Λουκᾶ. | The gospel is being preached by Luke. |
| 3. οἱ δέσμοι ἀπολύονται
ὑπὸ τῶν στρατιωτῶν ; | Are the prisoners being released
by the soldiers? |
| 4. ἀγοράζεσθε ὑπὸ τοῦ κυρίου. | You are being bought/redeemed by the Lord. |
| 5. οἱ ἐχθροὶ ἀποκτείνονται ἐν τῇ κώμῃ. | The enemies are being killed in the village. |
| 6. ὁ Χριστὸς ἐγείρεται ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν. | Christ is being raised from the dead. |
| 7. λεπροὶ καθαρίζονται,
καὶ νεκροὶ ἐγείρονται. | Lepers are being cleansed,
and the dead are being raised. (<i>Matt. 11:5</i>) |
| 8. οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι συναγόνται
ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ. | The Jews are being gathered together
in the temple. |
| 9. ἄγγελος φαίνεται ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ. | An angel appears in heaven. |
| 10. πείθομαι ὑπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ. | I am being tempted by the evil one. |

23.3 Contract verbs obey the usual rules for combining vowels. So we have

	τιμάω - I honor	φιλέω - I love	πληρόω - I fill
I am being	honored τιμῶμαι	loved φιλοῦμαι	filled πληροῦμαι
you are being	honored τιμᾶ	loved φιλεῖ	filled πληροῖ
he/she/it is being	honored τιμᾶται	loved φιλεῖται	filled πληροῦται
we are being	honored τιμώμεθα	loved φιλούμεθα	filled πληροῦμεθα
you are being	honored τιμᾶσθε	loved φιλεῖσθε	filled πληροῦσθε
they are being	honored τιμῶνται	loved φιλοῦνται	filled πληροῦνται

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. ἀγαπῶμαι ὑπὸ τῶν ἀδελφῶν. | I am loved by the brothers. |
| 2. οἱ λόγοι τοῦ προφήτου πληροῦνται. | The words of the prophet are being fulfilled. |
| 3. ὁ στρατιώτης τιμᾶται ὑπὸ τοῦ χιλιάρχου. | The soldier is being honored by the tribune. |
| 4. φιλεῖσθε ὑπὸ τῶν παιδίων. | You are loved by the children. |

5. ὁ Ἰησοῦς σταυροῦται ὑπὸ τῶν στρατιωτῶν.	Jesus is being crucified by the soldiers.
6. καλῆ ὑπὸ τοῦ διδασκάλου.	You (singular) are being called by the teacher.
7. οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι πλανῶνται ὑπὸ τῶν Σαδδουκαίων.	The Jews are being led astray by the Sadducees,
8. οἱ λόγοι λαλοῦνται ὑπὸ τοῦ προφήτου.	The words are being spoken by the prophet.
9. ζητούμεθα ὑπὸ τῶν τέκνων.	We are sought by the children.
10. τὸ ἔργον τελειοῦται ὑπὸ τῶν ἐργατῶν.	The work is being completed by the workmen.

23.4 Sentences for reading and translation

- οἱ μαθηταὶ καλοῦνται ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ.
- ἡμεῖς παρακαλούμεθα ὑπὸ τοῦ διδασκάλου.
- τὸ βιβλίον ζητεῖται ὑπὸ τῆς ἀδελφῆς.
- καρποὶ καλοὶ ποιοῦνται ὑπὸ τοῦ δένδρου τούτου.
- τὰ βιβλία ἀναγινώσκονται ὑπὸ τῶν μαθητῶν ;
- οἱ πτωχοὶ οὐ φιλοῦνται ὑπὸ τῶν Φαρισαίων.
- ὁ μαθητὴς βαπτίζεται ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἰωάννου.
- ἡ ἐπιστολὴ γράφεται ὑπὸ τοῦ Παύλου.
- τὰ τεκνία διδάσκονται ὑπὸ τοῦ διδασκάλου ;
- αὕτη διδάσκεται ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ αὐτῆς.

23.5 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text, while saying aloud (John 1:1-4)

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος,	In (the) beginning was the Word
καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν,	and the Word was with God
καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.	and the Word was God.
οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.	He (this one) was in the beginning with God
πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο,	all (things) happened (came into being) through him,
καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ	and without him
ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. (ὃ γέγονεν.)	not one thing (that happened) happened
(ὃ γέγονεν) ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν,	(The thing that happened) In him was life,

As noted in chapter 22, the punctuation at "ὃ γέγονεν" is ambiguous. As originally written, there were no spaces between letters, and no punctuation marks. Translators have to decide where to make the sentence end. However, the basic meaning of the passage is clear - "Nothing happened without him. In him was life"

23.6 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : Matthew 11:2-6

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.

ἀκούσας	having heard	(a participle of ἀκούω - I hear)
τὸ δεσμοτήριον	prison	
πέμψας	having sent	(a participle of πέμπω - I send)
ὁ ἐρχόμενος	the one coming = he who is to come	
προσδοκῶμεν	we expect, look for	(from προσδοκάω - I expect)
ἀποκριθεὶς	having answered	(a participle of ἀποκρίνομαι - I answer)
πορευθέντες	having gone (in this context "go and")	(a participle of πορεύομαι - I go)
ἀπαγγείλατε	tell	(an Imperative of ἀπαγγέλλω - I announce, tell)
οἱ χωλοὶ	the lame	(from χολός, -η, -ον - lame)
οἱ κωφοὶ	the deaf, deaf mute	(from κωφός, -η, -ον - deaf, deaf mute)

23.7 Vocabulary to learn

ἀγοράζω	I buy, ransom	(<i>The Agora in Athens was the market place</i>)
ἀποκτείνω	I kill, murder, put to death	
ἀπολύω	I release, set free, send away	(<i>from ἀπό + λύω</i>)
ἐγείρω	I raise	
ἐτοιμάζω	I prepare, get something ready	
εὐαγγελίζω	I preach the good news	Passive - <i>I hear the good news</i>
καθαρίζω	I cleanse, purify	(<i>καθαρός, -α, -ον = pure</i>)
πειθω	I persuade, convince	Passive - <i>I am persuaded, I obey</i>
πειράζω	I tempt, try, put to the test	(<i>ὁ πειρασμός = temptation, time of testing</i>)
σκανδαλίζω	I cause someone to stumble, offend	
σπείρω	I sow (seed)	
φαίνω	I shine, give light	Middle and Passive - <i>I appear, am revealed, am seen</i>
ἢ or ἤ	or	
ἢ . . . ἢ	either . . . or	
ὑπό (with Genitive)	by, by means of, at the hands of	
ὑπό (with Accusative)	under, below	(<i>a hypodermic needle goes "under" the skin</i>)