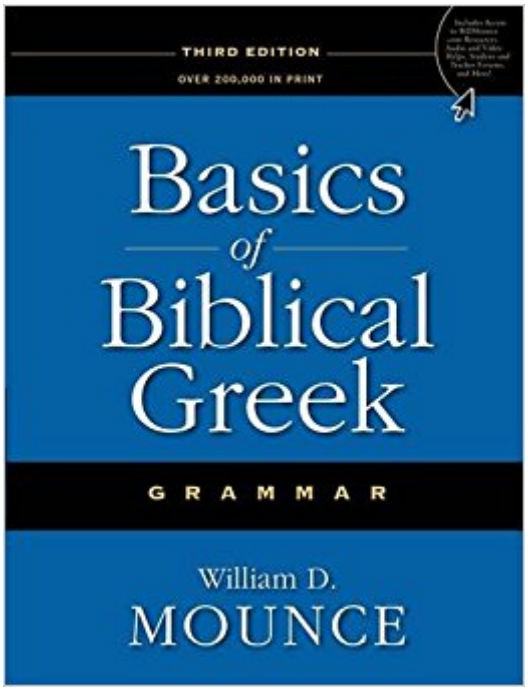
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Basics Of Biblical Greek Grammar



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Synopsis

First published in 1993, Basics of Biblical Greek is the most popular introduction to the field, used in universities and seminaries around the world. Over 200,000 students have learned biblical Greek under its guidance. This significant third edition has been carefully developed in consultation with instructors, students, self-learners, and homeschoolers.Users can now take advantage to the many improvements made at the bookÃ¢â ¬â„¢s website, www.Teknia.com, where they will findÃ¢â ¬â ¢for freeÃ¢â ¬â ¢an online course, walking students through every chapter; vocabulary flashcards; video and audio helps; Greek fonts; quizzes for each chapter; fun songs and games; and much, much more.Now in a larger size, with an attractive 2-color design, the third edition adds an element of fun, with encouragement, songs, and more, which appear in the margins. Chapter 35 has been split into two chapters, Ã¢â ¬Å“half-time reviewÃ¢â ¬Â• sections have been added to every chapter, and new exegesis sections are now included. These and other improvements serve to enhance the learning experience and will continue BBGÃ¢â ¬â„¢s legacy as the premier introduction to biblical Greek.

Book Information

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: Zondervan; 3rd ed. edition (November 28, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310287685

ISBN-13: 978-0310287681

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.1 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 127 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #5,196 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Language Studies #10 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Foreign Language Study & Reference > Instruction #917 inÃ Â Books > Religion & Spirituality

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“As a linguist and former Wycliffe translator, MounceÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Basics of Biblical Greek has been my preferred textbook for 15 years, both in the classroom and online. His systemic, morphological approach helps students visualize important elements that parts of speech share, instead of merely struggle with how they differ. Consequently, he has somewhat reduced rote memory work. His (optional) separation of the noun system from the verb system reduces confusion

on key endings. His workbook is equally impressive, quickly engaging and motivating students with translating actual Bible verses---even some of the LXX and the Fathers. I highly recommend it!' Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary---Charlotte -- Joel HarlowÃ¢â ¬Å“One factor that makes Basics of Biblical Greek a superior textbook for teaching the elements of Greek is the additional resources that are available to accompany the textbook. I have found that for students learning Greek for the first time the companion resources become essential tools for learning. Additional resources such as the workbook, vocabulary cards, pronunciation assistance, laminated study guide, and free mini-lectures by Bill Mounce---just to name a few---support what I am doing in the classroom.Ã¢â ¬Â• North Park University -- Joel Willitts

First published in 1993, Basics of Biblical Greek is the most popular introduction to the field, used in universities and seminaries around the world. Over 200,000 students have learned biblical Greek under its guidance. This significant third edition has been carefully developed in consultation with instructors, students, self-learners, and homeschoolers. Users can now take advantage to the many improvements made at the book's website, www.Teknia.com, where they will find---for free---an online course, walking students through every chapter; vocabulary flashcards; video and audio helps; Greek fonts; quizzes for each chapter; fun songs and games; and much, much more. Now in a larger size, with an attractive 2-color design, the third edition adds an element of fun, with encouragement, songs, and more, which appear in the margins. Chapter 35 has been split into two chapters, 'half-time review' sections have been added to every chapter, and new exegesis sections are now included. These and other improvements serve to enhance the learning experience and will continue BBG's legacy as the premier introduction to biblical Greek.

On the strength of reviews, I bought Black's Learn to Read New Testament Greek and Mounce's Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar and tried to read them together. But I quickly gave up on that as both books follow a very different course and studying them together is just not possible. Because Mounce's book has a separate workbook, which I did not buy, I decided to start with Black as it comes with exercises. This review compares both books and is written primarily for people studying Greek on their own.These are the advantages Black has over Mounce:1) It's much cheaper. Not only is the book much cheaper than Mounce's but when you add in Mounce's workbook, the difference in price is very significant. Please note that there are no exercises at all in Mounce apart from the workbook.2) Black's book is very nicely sized and lightweight. During the months I studied it, I carried it around with me everywhere and every time I had to wait for something, like in line at

the supermarket cashier or while waiting for my wife as she performed her perennial shopping rites, out came the book. This would not have been possible with Mounce. The book is just too unwieldy; in fact, the postal service even refused to deliver the book from and I had to go pick it up! Reason given: "Large package".3) The most important advantage Black has over Mounce is that his book is perfectly suited to the beginner. I cannot imagine how a book on Greek grammar can be simplified further without sacrificing vital content. I think Mounce is just way too difficult for the beginner. This is especially true in the second half of the book, on verbs. Verbs are the most difficult thing to learn in basic Greek and I'm afraid many beginners will drown if they try to take on Mounce.4) Closely related to 3) is Black's organizational genius. His book is not just easy to study but it's made easier by the way he organizes his material. I cannot understand it but Mounce is very much inclined to tell you about something and then ask you to wait for further explanation later. Look at the way he deals with the middle voice. He tells you the form of the middle/passive voice and then tells you to wait for later chapters where he will explain what the middle voice is! If I had used Mounce as my first book, I would have torn my hair out or more likely, given up on Greek altogether. The same goes for vocabulary lists. Black's vocabulary follows closely the chapter content. For example, if he has just taught you second declension nouns, he will then give you a list of second declension nouns to memorize, arranged nicely in their sub-categories. Mounce's vocabulary lists have no order at all. You may think this is a small thing to bring up but my memory seems to associate words I learn together and learning words from the same type really helps my recall.5) Again, related to 3), is the way Black writes. If you want to know what concise means, read his book. He does not waste a single word. This makes his book ideal for reviewing your lessons. In comparison, Mounce's book feels overwritten and bloated. There's quite a bit of repetition. He has a sectional overview, a chapter overview, a mid-lesson review and a final review! This, especially when added to the lack of organization, makes finding a piece of information very hard.6) I really don't like the cartoon professor in Mounce. I just don't see the point of having it. I know he's trying to add some light-hearted humor but it's hard enough trying to memorize hundreds of Greek words without being taught modern Greek words as well. Some of you may adore the professor though.7) The most difficult thing in basic Greek grammar is the participle. Black's chapter on participles is a model of concise clarity. He gives many examples of the use of participles in simple sentences he creates himself that allow the student to try translating them. Mounce's examples come form the New Testament and are much harder to work on.These are the advantages Mounce has over Black:1) There's a great deal more Greek in Mounce than in Black, a lot more details.2) Mounce is very concerned with his readers. He makes a lot of effort to encourage his students. His warmth is very

touching.3) Even though I think Black's vocabulary lists make memory work easier, Mounce's vocabulary has some weighty, secret weapons. For one thing, Mounce teaches you all the words that occur 50 times or more in the New Testament. Black cares less about the frequently recurring words. Because I use the Reader's Edition of the UBS Greek New Testament which gives, at the bottom of the page, definitions of words that occur less than 30 times in the New Testament, I am sometimes surprised to find that I know words that are explained. Not that knowing less frequently occurring words is a disadvantage of course but it's better for beginners to learn the high-frequency words first and Mounce concentrates on those.Another thing about Mounce's vocabulary that I like is the care he lavishes in explaining details pertaining to the words he asks you to memorize. Some of this information is valuable.4) Even though Black's conciseness is much appreciated, at times he can be a bit too concise. For example, after spending months almost killing myself learning the different paradigms for the various tenses of verbs, I was totally dismayed when I reached the last chapter and found a new type of verbs, the -mi verbs, with a whole new set of paradigms to memorize. In this last chapter, Black just pretty much gives the various paradigms in table form and then asks you to memorize some of them. Mounce, as usual gives more details, details which are much needed to encourage the distressed student. He says (on Page 319),"There is good news and bad news about these verbs. The bad news is that their forms change so drastically that they can become almost unrecognizable. The good news is that there are very few of them. The bad news is that these few mi verbs are common. The good news is that most of the changes occur only in the present tense."A few paragraphs later he adds, "But even those people who use Greek regularly have trouble in reproducing the mi verb paradigms from rote memory." This was sufficient to lift my spirits and made me continue studying!Throughout his book, Black came across as a master-teacher making the path as easy as possible for his students to travel. Mounce is more of the scholar with a passion that he wishes to share with his students. My advice to you, if, like me, you do not enjoy the benefits of the classroom, is to study Black thoroughly, master it and then let Mounce add to your knowledge.

I just finished working through this book. This book, and the workbook which you can get separately gets you to the point where have foundation knowledge of how the language works, and can perform translations from Biblical Greek into English. Throughout the course you learn all vocabulary words used in the New Testament 50 times or more, which comes to about 300 words.This book, all its exercises go from Greek to English. I do not remember any exercise going from English to Greek. This can be a strength or a weakness. It is a weakness because you will

miss out on an effective type of exercise. However, This is actually a strength for self study because going from English to Greek would make it this course unfeasible. I experienced this when I attempted to use Luschings "An Introduction to Ancient Greek," which seems more ambitious and more effective, if you can get through it. Which you probably won't if you are attempting it through self study precisely because of the English to Greek exercises. Of course, having gone through Mounce's book, Luschning's book now looks much easier.If you want to have a foundation on Biblical Greek, this book, along with the Workbook, you cannot go wrong with this Book, especially if you are doing this on your own.

I have been interested in studying Greek for several years. I have tried about four different books over the course of the last three years, but have found them difficult to use. This book lays out everything in an orderly fashion and has great online helps available to use, many of which are given for no additional cost.If you are seriously trying to learn this language though, I recommend getting the companion workbook. This book is well worth its price. The money I spent on the other cheaper books was wasted.

I learned Greek using Machen's grammar from the 1920's. This beginning Greek grammar is a breath of fresh air. Instead of learning endless paradigms, Mounce has you learn a few rules of morphology, and then you can figure out the paradigms. It has an excellent workbook that you must purchase in order to get the most out of this book. There is also a free website which includes all the workbook answers, a vocabulary drill program that works well, and assorted other helps. (I found the website unnecessary except for the workbook answers, but you might find it helpful.)The text is filled with examples from the New Testament, with occasional early Church Fathers and Septuagint. A very few of the examples are made-up.For anyone who is trying to learn New Testament Greek, or wanting to brush up after several years of disuse.

I purchased this book when I realized that I had forgotten the Greek alphabet in the 63 years since I studied Kone Greek as a college freshman. The book serves me well in my somewhat desultory self-taught refresher. In fact, the book provides much in the form of derivation of words. Although titled, "Biblical Greek" it is objective in its approach.

This plus to this textbook is not in the textbook itself; it is just a textbook. Instead it is the online extras Mounce gives us to work with, without which this would be not only difficult but extremely

boring to me as someone who has tremendous problems with learning languages to begin with.

Excellent 101course on koine Greek grammar. Be sure to her the 3rd edition of the workbook. Learn to read your New Testament in the language it was written. Also you will then find the Septuagint easy and learning any other language will become intuitive. I am now multilingual!

Make sure you have a Greek teacher - unless you are great at teaching yourself a foreign language. This book breaks it down better than any book on the market. Easy to read. If taking a class, you will most likely need the workbook that goes with this and once again a Greek teacher!

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