



**COVENANT BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

— + —
INFORMED SCHOLARSHIP • PASTORAL HEART

NT16 • Greek of 1 John
Prof. Timothy L. Decker, Ph.D.
Professor of Biblical Languages
1 Credit Hours

Instructor: Dr. Timothy Decker

Date: Fall 2024

Course Description

Greek of I John (aka Greek 2.5) is a one-credit course that is meant to help students who have just completed Greek II to stay in their Greek NT over the summer semester and prepare them for the strenuous Greek III (Intermediate Greek) course. It is also meant to help former Greek students get reinitiated back into their Greek NT and the grammar of Greek by taking up a fairly simple NT book like 1 John. This course is to review and refresh the beginning grammar covered in as well as make use of concepts and terms that will be employed in intermediate Greek.

Educational Objectives

The instructor will guide students toward achieving a firm grasp of the Koine Greek language. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate ability to translate smoothly from Greek into English in weekly homework assignments.
2. Demonstrate ability to parse all Greek words in quizzes.
3. Have memorized all the vocabulary words in 1 John in vocab quizzes and translations.
4. Explain, diagram, and speak about the syntax of 1 John in homework assignments and class time.
5. Sight-read and translate 1 John in class and for the final exam.
6. Become acquainted with reading the text from ancient Manuscripts, including both majuscules and minuscules.

Required Course Texts

Novum Testamentum Graece: Nestle Aland 28th Edition. [it must be this edition as we will also be talking about textual variants and use the NA²⁸ apparatus]

Merkle, Benjamin L., and Robert L. Plummer. *1 John: A New Testament Greek Reader*. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2024.

Plummer, Robert L., and E. Roderick Elledge. *1-3 John*. EGGNT. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2024.

Previous Course Texts to be Used and Referred Often

Merkle, Benjamin and Robert L. Plummer. *Beginning with New Testament Greek*. Nashville: B&H, 2020. ISBN: 978-1433650567.

Köstenberger, Andreas, et al. *Going Deeper with New Testament Greek: An Intermediate Study of the Grammar and Syntax of the New Testament*, Revised Edition. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2020. ISBN: 978-1535983204.

Huffman, Douglas S. *The Handy Guide to New Testament Greek: Grammar, Syntax, and Diagramming*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2012. ISBN: 978-0825427435

Danker, Frederick William, ed. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2000. [BDAG] ISBN: 0-226-03933-1. [NOTE: It does not have to be the 3rd edition. You may get any edition you can find or would like to purchase. However, I would encourage you to buy a used copy of the 2nd edition on Amazon since you can get it for MUCH cheaper than the new 3rd edition.]

Course Requirements

Assessments:

1. Students will demonstrate their ability to translate *Koine* Greek sentences and to parse assigned words through the various translation exercises, vocab quizzes, and parsing quizzes.
2. All vocab and parsing quizzes will be taken on Pathway.
3. Translation exercises will be graded by fellow students. Each student will have a partner, and they will each review one another's translation assignment. They will share their notes on accuracy, and report on Pathway of their partner's completion of the assignment.
4. Students will read through the *1 John Reader* and the *1 John* EGGNT and submit a percentage of completion on Pathway.
5. Students will take a final translation exam wherein they will be asked to translate any portion from 1 John with no helps or aids. Only their GNT may be used. The portion of text will be revealed at the start of the exam, and the students will record themselves translating the passage with their GNT in hand (visibly on the screen). The exam starts when the video begins and the student discovers the passage to be translated. The video must then be submitted on the Pathway assignment created.

Online Students:

For this class we are going to use Zoom as it will allow online students to be able to participate and interact more with the instructor. Learning a new language requires interaction and the ability to ask questions. Hopefully this medium will allow for such engagement. For the first class, try to arrive in the Zoom meeting room early to work out all of the bugs.

Contacting Professor:

You may send the professor a direct message through Pathway, email his personal address, or text messages (or phone call if necessary). However, if questions arise concerning specific assignments, then the student needs to contact the professor in the comments portion of the specific assignment in question.

Attendance:

Without prior approval, your attendance to the live class meetings is required. Students must contact the Professor to request an approved absence. He/she must also watch the recorded lecture later.

Grading Plan:

The course grade will be based on the following grading plan (though this may be changed at instructor's discretion):

- Vocab & Parsing Quizzes = 30%
- Translation Exercises = 20%
- Reading *1 John Reader* = 5%
- Reading EGGNT = 5%
- Online Interaction & Participation = 5%
- Final Exam = 30%

Academic Performance

No student will be deemed to have successfully completed the work in any course who does not achieve a cumulative grade of 75% or above for his course work. The letter equivalents for the percentile grades assigned are as follows:

A – 95-100%	B+ – 87-89%	B- – 80-83%	C – 74-76%
A- – 90-94%	B – 84-86%	C+ – 77-79%	C- – 70-73%

Class Schedule

Week 1: 1 John 1:1–10

6/1/25–6/7/25 (Class Thur, June 5)

- Before Class:
 - Read through 1 John 1:1–10 in Greek and translate as much as you can in your head.
 - [Recommended] Review ch. 2 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 53–54, 57–58 in *Handy Guide*
 - Be ready to review and translate 1 John 1:1–10 in class.
 - Memorize Vocab from ch. 1
- After Class:

- Take Vocab quiz 1 by the end of the week.
- With your GNT out, Read *1 John Greek Reader* chs. 1–2 (1 John 1:1–4, 5–10)
- Read through EGGNT of 1 John 1:1–10

Week 2: 1 John 2:1–14

6/8 – 6/14 (Class Thur, June 12)

- Before Class:
 - First, read through 1 John 2:1–14 in Greek as much as you can in your head.
 - Translate the same passage, submitting it to your partner. Also review your partner’s submission.
 - With your GNT out, Read *1 John Greek Reader* chs. 3–4 (1 John 2:1–6, 7–14)
 - [Recommended] Review chs. 3–4 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 54–57 in *Handy Guide*
 - Be ready to review and translate in class.
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 2a
- After Class:
 - Take vocab & parsing quiz ch. 2a by the end of the week.
 - Read through EGGNT of 1 John 2:1–14

Week 3: Diagramming, Sermon Preparation, & Preaching Outlines

6/15 – 6/21 (Class Thur, June 19)

- Before Class
 - [Recommended] Review pp. 231–233 in *Beginning Greek* and *Handy Guide* part 3, esp. “phrase diagramming”
 - Return to 1 John 1:1–4. Attempt to diagram it ahead of time and be ready to discuss the diagram in class.
 - Return to 1 John 2:12–14. Attempt to diagram it ahead of time and be ready to discuss the diagram in class.
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 2b.
- After Class
 - Take Vocab quiz ch. 2b by the end of the week.

Week 4: 1 John 2:15–3:3

6/22 – 6/28 (Class Thur, June 26)

- Before Class:
 - First, read 1 John 2:15–3:3 in Greek as much as you can in your head.
 - Translate the same passage, submitting it to your partner. Also review your partner’s submission.
 - Read *1 John Greek Reader* p. 134 on “Diagramming”
 - With your GNT out, Read chs. 5–6 in *1 John Greek Reader* (1 John 2:15–3:3)
 - [Recommended] Review chs. 5–6 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 59–61, 70–73 in *Handy Guide*
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 3a
- After Class
 - Take vocab & parsing quiz ch. 3a by end of the week.

- Read through EGGNT of 1 John 2:15–3:3
- Attempt to Diagram 1 John 2:15–17;
 - Compare your diagram with EGGNT
 - Keep your original, but revise a new version after studying EGGNT (you may or may not agree with Plummer’s diagrams, so be ready to explain)
 - Submit Diagram on Pathway and compare with fellow students.
 - Charitably review and/or comment on 2 other students’ diagrams.

6/29 – 7/5 NO CLASS

Week 5: 1 John 3:4–24

7/6 – 7/12 (Class Thur, July 10)

- Before Class
 - First, read 1 John 3:4–24 in Greek as much as you can in your head.
 - Translate the same passage, submitting it to your partner. Also review your partner’s submission.
 - With your GNT out, Read chs. 7–9 in *1 John Greek Reader* (1 John 3:4–24)
 - [Recommended] Review chs. 7–9 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 61–69 in *Handy Guide*
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 3b
- After Class
 - Take vocab & parsing quiz ch. 3b by end of the week.
 - Read through EGGNT of 1 John 3:4–24
 - Attempt to Diagram 1 John 3:4–10;
 - Compare your diagram with EGGNT
 - Keep your original, but revise a new version after studying EGGNT (you may or may not agree with Plummer’s diagrams, so be ready to explain)
 - Submit Diagram on Pathway and compare with fellow students.
 - Charitably review and/or comment on 2 other students’ diagrams.

Week 6: 1 John 4:1–21

7/13 – 7/19 (Class Thur, July 17)

- Before Class
 - First, read 1 John 4:1–21 in Greek as much as you can in your head.
 - Translate the same passage, submitting it to your partner. Also review your partner’s submission.
 - With your GNT out, Read chs. 10–12 in *1 John Greek Reader* (1 John 4:1–21)
 - [Recommended] Review chs. 10–12 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 19–22; 75–80 in *Handy Guide*
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 4
- After Class
 - Take vocab & parsing quiz ch. 4 by end of the week.
 - Read through EGGNT of 1 John 4:1–21
 - Attempt to Diagram 1 John 4:7–12;
 - Compare your diagram with EGGNT

- Keep your original, but revise a new version after studying EGGNT (you may or may not agree with Plummer's diagrams, so be ready to explain)
- Submit Diagram on Pathway and compare with fellow students.
- Charitably review and/or comment on 2 other students' diagrams.

Week 7: 1 John 5:1–21

7/20 – 7/26 (Class Thur, July 24)

- Before Class
 - First, read 1 John 5:1–21 in Greek as much as you can in your head.
 - Translate the same passage, submitting it to your partner. Also review your partner's submission.
 - With your GNT out, Read chs. 13–14 in *1 John Greek Reader* (1 John 5:1–21)
 - [Recommended] Review chs. 13–14 in *Going Deeper* and pp. 81–82 in *Handy Guide*
 - Memorize from vocab list ch. 5
- After Class
 - Take vocab & parsing quiz 5 by end of the week.
 - Read through EGGNT of 1 John 5:1–21
 - Attempt to Diagram 1 John 5:1–5;
 - Compare your diagram with EGGNT
 - Keep your original, but revise a new version after studying EGGNT (you may or may not agree with Plummer's diagrams, so be ready to explain)
 - Submit Diagram on Pathway and compare with fellow students.
 - Charitably review and/or comment on 2 other students' diagrams.

Week 8: 1 John and Textual Criticism

7/27 – 8/2 (Class Thur, July 31)

- Before Class
 - Study the textual variants at 1 John 1:4 and be ready for discussion
 - Study the textual variants at 1 John 5:7–8 and be ready for discussion
 - [Recommended] Review pp. 89–95 in *Beginning Greek* and ch. 1 in *Going Deeper*
- After Class
 - Review vocab & parsing quizzes
 - Prepare for Final Exam

Week 9: Final Exam

- Take Final Exam any time between 8/3 – 8/9 by midnight

We will meet every Thursday, 6am–7:15am OR 6pm–7:15pm Central. We will discuss the class schedule the first day of class.