

AI-generated. These interlinears were produced by a large language model (Claude). Each chapter is structurally validated and self-reviewed, but the Greek text, parsing, syntactic, semantic-force, and lexical analysis are *not* human-verified — useful for study and orientation, not a substitute for a critical edition, lexicon, or commentary.

GREEK TEXT · TRANSLATION · INTERLINEAR · DISCOURSE STRUCTURE

The Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 18

KATA MAΘΗΤΑΙΟΝ ΙΗ΄

Each verse opens with the running Greek, an English translation, and a **discourse note** (its connective, relation, and role in the argument). Below follows the word-by-word breakdown in six tiers: gloss, case (color), parsing, *syntax*, **semantic force**, and a | lexical note.

CASE ■ Nominative ■ Genitive ■ Dative ■ Accusative ■ Vocative ■ Verb (no case) ■ Indeclinable

Discourse notes head each verse: **relation** · connective · clause-flow. Indentation marks prominence — flush-left = main line of argument; indented = supporting / subordinate material.

Discourse structure of the chapter

A · 18:1–5

Who is greatest: become like a child

The disciples' status-question (1) is answered by an enacted parable: a child set in their midst (2); entry into the kingdom requires turning and becoming childlike (3), and greatness is self-humbling like the child (4) — and to welcome one such child in Jesus' name is to welcome him (5).

B · 18:6–9

Stumbling-blocks: woe and radical renunciation

Causing a little believer to stumble merits a fate worse than drowning (6); woe to the world and to the agent of stumbling-blocks, though they must come (7); better to enter life maimed than, whole, to be cast into eternal fire — hand, foot, and eye must go (8–9).

C · 18:10, 12–14

The little ones and the lost sheep

Do not despise the little ones, whose angels behold the Father's face (10); the shepherd leaves the ninety-nine to seek the one that strays (12) and rejoices over its recovery more than over the rest (13) — for the Father wills that not one little one perish (14). (Verse 11 is omitted by the critical text.)

D · 18:15–20

Reproving a brother; the church; binding, loosing, presence

A sinning brother is to be won by private reproof (15), then by two or three witnesses (16), then by the church — persistent refusal making him an outsider (17); the church's binding and loosing is ratified in heaven (18), agreed prayer is answered by the Father (19), for where two or three gather in Christ's name he is present (20).

E · 18:21–35

Forgive seventy-times-seven: the unforgiving servant

Peter asks how often to forgive (21); Jesus answers seventy-times-seven (22), then the parable: a king cancels an unpayable ten-thousand-talent debt out of compassion (23–27), but the forgiven servant throttles a fellow over a hundred denarii and jails him (28–30); the king, told of it, revokes the pardon and delivers him to the tormentors (31–34) — so the Father will treat those who do not forgive from the heart (35).

1 Ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ προσῆλθον οἱ μαθηταὶ τῷ Ἰησοῦ λέγοντες: Τίς ἄρα μείζων ἐστὶν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν;

In that hour the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

SCENE-OPENING QUESTION **ASYNDETON** A temporal hinge opens the discourse: the disciples' status-question — 'who is greatest?' — sets the agenda for the whole chapter on greatness, humility, and care for the little ones.

Ἐν

in

preposition + dative (time)

ἐκείνη

that

Dative

attributive (demonstrative)

τῇ

the

Dative

article

ὥρᾳ

hour

Dative

dat. of time (point)

ὥρα: 'hour, time'; the moment, linking this scene to the preceding (the temple tax, 17:24–27).

προση̑λθον

came

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · προσέρχομαι

main verb

→ constative aorist

προσέρχομαι: 'come/draw near to'; a Matthean favorite for approaching Jesus as teacher.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

μαθηταῖ

disciples

Nominative

subject

μαθητής: 'learner, disciple'; the Twelve who follow and are taught.

τῷ

to

Dative

article

Ἰησοῦ

Jesus

Dative

indirect object (with προση̑λθον)

λέγοντες

saying

Pres Act Ptc · Nom Pl Masc · λέγω

attendant-circumstance participle

→ present (concurrent)

Τίς

who

Nominative

interrogative pronoun (subject)

ἄρα

then

inferential particle

ἄρα: 'then, consequently'; draws an inference — 'who then, given the kingdom?'

μείζων

greater/greatest

Nominative

predicate nominative (comparative for superlative)

μέγας (compar. μείζων): 'greater'; here used as a superlative, 'greatest' — the status-rivalry the discourse will overturn.

ἐστίν

is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἶμι

copula

→ stative present

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (sphere)

τῇ

the

Dative

article

βασιλεία

kingdom

Dative

dat. of sphere

βασιλεία: 'reign, kingdom'; the realm of God's rule.

τῶν

of the

Genitive

article

οὐρανῶν

heavens

Genitive

genitive (Matthean periphrasis for God)

οὐρανός: 'heaven'; Matthew's reverential 'kingdom of the heavens' = kingdom of God.

2 καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος παιδίον ἔστησεν αὐτὸ ἐν μέσῳ αὐτῶν

And calling a child to him, he set it in their midst

SYMBOLIC ACT **καί** Jesus answers not with words but with an enacted parable: a child placed center-stage as the living object lesson.

<p>καὶ and coordinating conjunction</p>	<p>προσκαλεσάμενος calling to himself Aor Mid Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · προσκαλέομαι temporal/attendant-circumstance participle → antecedent aorist προσκαλέομαι: 'summon, call to oneself'; the middle stresses Jesus' own beckoning.</p>	<p>παιδίον a child Accusative direct object of ptc. παιδίον: 'little child, young child'; diminutive of παῖς — small, dependent, low in status.</p>	<p>ἔστησεν he set/placed Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἵστημι main verb → constative aorist ἵστημι (trans.): 'cause to stand, set'; he positions the child as exhibit.</p>
<p>αὐτό it Accusative direct object</p>	<p>ἐν in preposition + dative (place)</p>	<p>μέσῳ midst Dative dat. of place (substantival adj.) μέσος: 'middle'; ἐν μέσῳ = 'in the middle, among.'</p>	<p>αὐτῶν of them Genitive partitive/possessive genitive</p>

3 καὶ εἶπεν· Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ στραφῆτε καὶ γένησθε ὡς τὰ παιδιά, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθητε εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν.

and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you turn and become like the children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

SOLEMN PRONOUNCEMENT **καί** The lesson: entry into the kingdom requires conversion to childlikeness — a reversal of the disciples' status-seeking. The double negative οὐ μὴ makes the exclusion emphatic.

καὶ
and

coordinating conjunction

εἶπεν

he said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb

→ constative aorist

Ἀμήν

truly

solemn asseverative (transliterated Hebrew)

ἄμην: 'truly, verily'; Jesus' characteristic
authoritative preface.

λέγω

I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω

main verb (formula)

→ present

λέγω: 'say'; the formula ἀμην λέγω ὑμῖν
introduces a weighty saying.

ὑμῖν

to you

Dative

indirect object

ἐάν

if/unless

conditional conjunction (3rd class)

ἐάν: 'if'; with μή = 'unless,' introducing the
condition for entry.

μή

not

negative particle

στραφήτε

you turn/are converted

Aor Pass Subj 2 Pl · στρέφω

verb of protasis

→ ingressive aorist

στρέφω (pass.): 'turn (oneself), be
converted'; a radical reorientation, not
mere improvement.

καὶ
and

coordinating conjunction

γένησθε

become

Aor Mid Subj 2 Pl · γίνομαι

verb of protasis

→ ingressive aorist

γίνομαι: 'become'; the turning issues in a
new childlike condition.

ὡς

as/like

comparative particle

τὰ

the

Nominative

article

παιδιά

children

Nominative

object of comparison

παιδίον: 'child'; the model of trustful
dependence and low status.

οὐ

not

negative (emphatic with μή)

μή

never

negative (οὐ μή = emphatic denial)

οὐ μή + subj.: the strongest Greek negation
of the future — 'you will certainly not!'

εἰσέλθητε

you enter

Aor Act Subj 2 Pl · εἰσέρχομαι

main verb (apodosis)

→ constative aorist

εἰσέρχομαι: 'enter, go into'; entry into the
kingdom is the issue at stake.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

βασιλείαν

kingdom

Accusative

object of εἰς

βασιλεία: 'kingdom.'

τῶν

of the

Genitive

article

οὐρανῶν

heavens

Genitive

genitive (periphrasis)

4 ὅστις οὖν ταπεινώσει ἑαυτὸν ὡς τὸ παιδίον τοῦτο, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ μείζων ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Whoever therefore humbles himself like this child, this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

ANSWER TO THE QUESTION οὖν The direct answer: greatness is self-humbling. The status-question of v.1 is resolved by inversion — the lowly child is the measure.

ὅστις

whoever

Nominative

indefinite relative (subject)

ὅστις: 'whoever'; generalizing — the principle applies to anyone.

οὖν

therefore

inferential conjunction

ταπεινώσει

will humble

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ταπεινώω

verb of relative clause

→ *gnomic/future*

ταπεινώω: 'make low, humble'; voluntary self-lowering is the path to true greatness.

ἑαυτὸν

himself

Accusative

reflexive direct object

<p>ὡς as/like <i>comparative particle</i></p>	<p>τὸ the Nominative <i>article</i></p>	<p>παιδίον child Nominative <i>object of comparison</i> παιδίον: 'child!'</p>	<p>τοῦτο this Nominative <i>demonstrative (deictic — the child present)</i></p>
<p>οὗτός this one Nominative <i>subject (resumptive)</i></p>	<p>ἐστίν is Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί <i>copula</i> → stative present</p>	<p>ὁ the Nominative <i>article</i></p>	<p>μείζων greatest Nominative <i>predicate nominative</i> μείζων: 'greater/greatest'; answering the μείζων of v.1.</p>
<p>ἐν in <i>preposition + dative (sphere)</i></p>	<p>τῇ the Dative <i>article</i></p>	<p>βασιλεία kingdom Dative <i>dat. of sphere</i></p>	<p>τῶν of the Genitive <i>article</i></p>
<p>οὐρανῶν heavens Genitive <i>genitive (periphrasis)</i></p>			

5 καὶ ὅς ἐάν δέξηται ἐν παιδίον τοιοῦτο ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματί μου, ἐμὲ δέχεται.

| And whoever receives one such child in my name receives me.

| RECEPTION OF THE LITTLE ONE **καί** The child becomes the type of the lowly disciple: to welcome such a one is to welcome Christ himself — identification of Jesus with the least.

καὶ
and

coordinating conjunction

ὅς

whoever

Nominative

relative pronoun (indefinite with εἰς)

ἐάν

-ever

particle (generalizes relative)

δέξεται

receives/welcomes

Aor Mid Subj 3 Sg · δέχομαι

verb of relative clause

→ constative aorist

δέχομαι: 'receive, welcome'; hospitable acceptance of the lowly.

ἓν

one

Accusative

attributive numeral

εἷς: 'one'; 'one such' — even a single lowly one matters.

παιδίον

child

Accusative

direct object

παιδίον: 'child'; here representing the humble disciple.

τοιοῦτο

such

Accusative

attributive (correlative)

τοιοῦτος: 'such, of this kind'; a child characterized by the humility just described.

ἐπὶ

in/on the basis of

preposition + dative (basis/ground)

τῷ

the

Dative

article

ὀνόματί

name

Dative

dat. of basis (ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι = 'in the name')

ὄνομα: 'name'; 'on account of / in connection with my name' — because of allegiance to Christ.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

ἐμέ

me

Accusative

direct object (emphatic, fronted)

δέχεται

receives

Pres Mid Indic 3 Sg · δέχομαι

main verb

→ gnomic present

δέχομαι: 'receive'; the welcome reaches Christ himself.

6 Ὅς δ' ἂν σκανδαλίση ἓνα τῶν μικρῶν τούτων τῶν πιστευόντων εἰς ἐμέ, συμφέρει αὐτῷ ἵνα κρεμασθῆ μύλος ὄνικος περὶ τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ καὶ καταποντισθῆ ἐν τῷ πελάγει τῆς θαλάσσης.

But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it is better for him that a great millstone be hung around his neck and he be drowned in the depth of the sea.

WARNING AGAINST CAUSING STUMBLING **δέ** The counter-case: to trip up a 'little one' merits a fate worse than drowning. The δέ pivots from welcoming the lowly to the dire guilt of harming them.

<p>Ὅς whoever Nominative <i>relative pronoun (indefinite with ἄν)</i></p>	<p>δ' but <i>adversative conjunction (δέ)</i></p>	<p>ἂν -ever <i>modal particle (generalizes)</i></p>	<p>σκανδαλίση causes to stumble Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · σκανδαλίζω <i>verb of relative clause</i> → constative aorist σκανδαλίζω: 'cause to stumble, entrap into sin'; from σκάνδαλον, a trap-stick — the keyword of vv.6–9.</p>
<p>ἓνα one Accusative <i>direct object (numeral)</i> εἷς: 'one'; even a single little one.</p>	<p>τῶν of the Genitive <i>article</i></p>	<p>μικρῶν little ones Genitive <i>partitive genitive</i> μικρός: 'small, little'; the humble believer, vulnerable and lowly — not necessarily a child in age.</p>	<p>τούτων these Genitive <i>demonstrative</i></p>

τῶν

the (ones)

Genitive

article (substantizes ptc.)

πιστευόντων

who believe

Pres Act Ptc · Gen Pl Masc · πιστεύω

attributive participle

→ present (ongoing)

πιστεύω: 'believe, trust'; defines the little ones by their faith in Christ.

εἰς

in

preposition + accusative (object of faith)

ἐμέ

me

Accusative

object of πιστεύω (via εἰς)

συμφέρει

it is better/profitable

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · συμφέρω

main verb (impersonal)

→ gnomic present

συμφέρω: 'be advantageous, profitable'; impersonal 'it is better.'

αὐτῷ

for him

Dative

dat. of advantage

ἵνα

that

conjunction (epexegetic/content)

κρεμασθῆ

be hung

Aor Pass Subj 3 Sg · κρεμάννυμι

verb of ἵνα clause

→ constative aorist

κρεμάννυμι: 'hang, suspend'; the millstone hung about the neck.

μύλος

millstone

Nominative

subject

μύλος: 'millstone'; with ὄνικος, the large stone turned by a donkey — heavy enough to sink a man.

ὄνικος

donkey-(driven)

Nominative

attributive adjective

ὄνικος: 'of a donkey'; μύλος ὄνικος = a great upper millstone, not a hand-mill.

περὶ

around

preposition + accusative (place)

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τράχηλον

neck

Accusative

object of περί

τράχηλος: 'neck.'

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

καταποντισθῆ

be drowned/sunk

Aor Pass Subj 3 Sg · καταποντίζω

verb of ἵνα clause

→ constative aorist

καταποντίζω: 'plunge/sink into the sea, drown'; a fate proverbially dreadful.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

τῷ

the

Dative

article

πελάγει

depth/open sea

Dative

dat. of place

πέλαγος: 'open sea, the deep'; the high sea, far from rescue.

τῆς

of the

Genitive

article

θαλάσσης

sea

Genitive

genitive (exegetical/partitive)

θάλασσα: 'sea.'

7 οὐαὶ τῷ κόσμῳ ἀπὸ τῶν σκανδάλων· ἀνάγκη γὰρ ἐλθεῖν τὰ σκάνδαλα, πλὴν οὐαὶ τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ δι' οὗ τὸ σκάνδαλον ἔρχεται.

Woe to the world because of the stumbling-blocks! For it is necessary that the stumbling-blocks come, but woe to the man through whom the stumbling-block comes!

WOE OVER STUMBLING-BLOCKS ASYNDETON A double woe: the world is endangered by stumbling-blocks, which inevitably come; yet inevitability does not excuse the one who causes them.

οὐαὶ

woe

interjection of lament/judgment

οὐαί: 'woe!'; a prophetic cry of grief and impending judgment.

τῷ

to the

Dative

article

κόσμῳ

world

Dative

dat. of disadvantage (recipient of woe)

κόσμος: 'world'; the realm of humanity exposed to temptation.

ἀπὸ

because of

preposition + genitive (cause)

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

σκανδάλων

stumbling-blocks

Genitive

object of *ἀπό* (cause)

σκάνδαλον: 'trap-stick, snare, occasion of sin'; the cause of the world's peril.

ἀνάγκη

necessity

Nominative

predicate (impersonal 'it is necessary')

ἀνάγκη: 'necessity, compulsion'; ἀνάγκη [έστιν] = 'it must be.'

γάρ

for

explanatory conjunction

έλθεῖν

to come

Aor Act Inf · ἔρχομαι

subject infinitive (of ἀνάγκη)

→ constative aorist

ἔρχομαι: 'come'; the coming of temptations is inevitable in a fallen world.

τά

the

Accusative

article

σκάνδαλα

stumbling-blocks

Accusative

accusative subject of infinitive

σκάνδαλον: 'stumbling-block.'

πλήν

but/nevertheless

adversative conjunction

πλήν: 'however, nevertheless'; concedes inevitability yet presses responsibility.

οὐαὶ

woe

interjection

τῷ

to the

Dative

article

ἀνθρώπῳ

man

Dative

dat. of disadvantage

ἄνθρωπος: 'person, man'; the individual agent of the stumbling.

δι'

through

preposition + genitive (agency)

οὓ

whom

Genitive

relative pronoun (object of *διά*)

τὸ

the

Nominative

article

σκάνδαλον

stumbling-block

Nominative

subject of ἔρχεται

σκάνδαλον: 'stumbling-block.'

ἔρχεται

comes

Pres Mid Indic 3 Sg · ἔρχομαι

main verb (rel. clause)

→ gnomic present

ἔρχομαι: 'come.'

8 Εἰ δὲ ἡ χεὶρ σου ἢ ὁ πούς σου σκανδαλίζει σε, ἔκκοψον αὐτὸν καὶ βάλε ἀπὸ σοῦ· καλὸν σοὶ ἐστὶν εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ζωὴν κυλλὸν ἢ χωλόν, ἢ δύο χεῖρας ἢ δύο πόδας ἔχοντα βληθῆναι εἰς τὸ πῦρ τὸ αἰώνιον.

If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you; it is better for you to enter into life maimed or lame than, having two hands or two feet, to be thrown into the eternal fire.

RADICAL SELF-AMPUTATION (HAND/FOOT) **δέ** From causing others to stumble to one's own occasions of sin: a hyperbolic call to drastic renunciation — life maimed surpasses wholeness in hell.

Εἰ if <i>conditional conjunction (1st class)</i>	δέ and/but <i>transitional conjunction</i>	ἡ the Nominative <i>article</i>	χεὶρ hand Nominative <i>subject</i> χεὶρ: 'hand'; an instrument of action — here standing for whatever leads to sin.
σου your Genitive <i>genitive of possession</i>	ἢ or <i>disjunctive conjunction</i>	ὁ the Nominative <i>article</i>	πούς foot Nominative <i>subject (coordinate)</i> πούς: 'foot.'

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession

σκανδαλίζει

causes to stumble

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · σκανδαλίζω

verb of protasis

→ present (real condition)

σκανδαλίζω: 'cause to stumble, trip into sin.'

σε

you

Accusative

direct object

ἔκκοψον

cut off

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἐκκόπτω

main verb (command)

→ ingressive/urgent aorist

ἐκκόπτω: 'cut off, cut out' (ἐκ-intensive of κόπτω); decisive severance.

αὐτόν

it

Accusative

direct object (masc., agreeing w/ πούς)

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

βάλε

throw

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · βάλλω

main verb (command)

→ urgent aorist

βάλλω: 'throw, cast'; get rid of it utterly.

ἀπό

from

preposition + genitive (separation)

σοῦ

you

Genitive

object of ἀπό

καλόν

good/better

Nominative

predicate adjective (impersonal)

καλός: 'good'; here comparative in force — 'better.'

σοί

for you

Dative

dat. of advantage

ἐστιν

is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

copula

→ stative present

εἰσελθεῖν

to enter

Aor Act Inf · εἰσέρχομαι

subject infinitive

→ constative aorist

εἰσέρχομαι: 'enter'; into life — i.e. the kingdom/eternal life.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

τήν

the

Accusative

article

ζωήν

life

Accusative

object of εἰς

ζωή: '(eternal) life'; the goal, set against eternal fire.

κυλλόν

maimed

Accusative

predicate accusative (with subject of inf.)

κυλλός: 'maimed, crippled' (esp. of a hand).

ἢ

or

disjunctive conjunction

χωλόν

lame

Accusative

predicate accusative

χωλός: 'lame' (of a foot).

ἢ

than

comparative particle (after καλόν ... ἢ)

δύο

two

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

δύο: 'two.'

χεῖρας

hands

Accusative

direct object of ἔχοντα

χεῖρ: 'hand.'

ἢ

or

disjunctive conjunction

δύο

two

Accusative

attributive numeral

πόδας

feet

Accusative

direct object of ἔχοντα

πούς: 'foot.'

ἔχοντα

having

Pres Act Ptc · Acc Sg Masc · ἔχω

concessive participle

→ present (concurrent)

ἔχω: 'have!'; 'though having two...!'

βληθῆναι

to be thrown

Aor Pass Inf · βάλλω

subject infinitive (parallel)

→ constative aorist

βάλλω (pass.): 'be thrown, cast!'; into the fire of judgment.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

πῦρ

fire

Accusative

object of εἰς

πῦρ: 'fire'; the fire of final judgment.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article (second attributive)

αἰώνιον

eternal

Accusative

attributive adjective

αἰώνιος: 'eternal, age-long!'; the unending fire of Gehenna.

9 καὶ εἰ ὁ ὀφθαλμὸς σου σκανδαλίζει σε, ἔξελε αὐτὸν καὶ βάλε ἀπὸ σοῦ· καλὸν σοὶ ἐστὶν μονόφθαλμον εἰς τὴν ζωὴν εἰσελθεῖν, ἢ δύο ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔχοντα βληθῆναι εἰς τὴν γέενναν τοῦ πυρός.

And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you; it is better for you to enter into life one-eyed than, having two eyes, to be thrown into the Gehenna of fire.

RADICAL SELF-AMPUTATION (EYE) **καί** The eye-saying parallels the hand/foot: even the most precious faculty must go rather than forfeit life. 'Gehenna of fire' names the destination.

<p>καὶ and coordinating conjunction</p>	<p>εἰ if conditional conjunction (1st class)</p>	<p>ὁ the Nominative article</p>	<p>ὀφθαλμὸς eye Nominative subject ὀφθαλμός: 'eye'; the organ of desire/perception, here a source of stumbling.</p>
<p>σου your Genitive genitive of possession</p>	<p>σκανδαλίζει causes to stumble Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · σκανδαλιζω verb of protasis → present (real condition) σκανδαλιζω: 'cause to stumble.'</p>	<p>σε you Accusative direct object</p>	<p>ἔξελε pluck out Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἐξαιρέω main verb (command) → urgent aorist ἐξαιρέω: 'take out, remove'; here 'pluck out (the eye).'</p>
<p>αὐτὸν it Accusative direct object</p>	<p>καὶ and coordinating conjunction</p>	<p>βάλε throw Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · βάλλω main verb (command) → urgent aorist βάλλω: 'throw, cast.'</p>	<p>ἀπὸ from preposition + genitive (separation)</p>

σοῦ

you

Genitive

object of ἀπό

καλόν

good/better

Nominative

predicate adjective

καλός: 'good'; comparative force, 'better.'

σοί

for you

Dative

dat. of advantage

ἐστιν

is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

copula

→ stative present

μονόφθαλμον

one-eyed

Accusative

predicate accusative

μονόφθαλμος: 'one-eyed'; maimed yet alive.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

τήν

the

Accusative

article

ζωήν

life

Accusative

object of εἰς

ζωή: '(eternal) life.'

εἰσελθεῖν

to enter

Aor Act Inf · εἰσέρχομαι

subject infinitive

→ constative aorist

εἰσέρχομαι: 'enter.'

ἤ

than

comparative particle

δύο

two

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

δύο: 'two.'

ὀφθαλμούς

eyes

Accusative

direct object of ἔχοντα

ὀφθαλμός: 'eye.'

ἔχοντα

having

Pres Act Ptc · Acc Sg Masc · ἔχω

concessive participle

→ present (concurrent)

ἔχω: 'have'; 'though having two eyes.'

βληθῆναι

to be thrown

Aor Pass Inf · βάλλω

subject infinitive (parallel)

→ constative aorist

βάλλω (pass.): 'be thrown.'

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

τήν

the

Accusative

article

γέενναν

Gehenna

Accusative

object of εἰς

γέεννα: 'Gehenna' (Heb. 'Valley of Hinnom'); the place of fiery final punishment.

τοῦ

of the

Genitive

article

πυρός

fire

Genitive

genitive of quality ('fiery Gehenna')

πῦρ: 'fire'; qualifies Gehenna as the fiery place of judgment.

10 Ὅρατε μὴ καταφρονήσητε ἑνὸς τῶν μικρῶν τούτων· λέγω γὰρ ὑμῖν ὅτι οἱ ἄγγελοι αὐτῶν ἐν οὐρανοῖς διὰ παντὸς βλέπουσι τὸ πρόσωπον τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς.

See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of my Father who is in heaven.

DO NOT DESPISE THE LITTLE ONES **ASYNDETON** The section's hinge: care for the little ones grounded in their dignity before God — their angels behold the Father's face. This launches the lost-sheep parable.

Ὅρατε

see/take care

Pres Act Impv 2 Pl · ὁράω

main verb (command)

→ present (general)

ὁράω: 'see, watch'; here 'take care, beware.'

μὴ

not

negative (with subjunctive of prohibition)

καταφρονήσητε

you despise

Aor Act Subj 2 Pl · καταφρονέω

verb of prohibition

→ ingressive aorist

καταφρονέω: 'look down on, despise' (κατά + φρονέω); to think slightly of.

ἑνὸς

one

Genitive

genitive object of καταφρονέω

εἷς: 'one'; even a single little one.

τῶν

of the

Genitive

article

μικρῶν

little ones

Genitive

partitive genitive

μικρός: 'small, little'; the humble believer.

τούτων

these

Genitive

demonstrative

λέγω

I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω

main verb

→ present

λέγω: 'say!'

γάρ

for

explanatory conjunction

ὑμῖν

to you

Dative

indirect object

ὅτι

that

conjunction (content of saying)

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

ἄγγελοι

angels

Nominative

subject

ἄγγελος: 'messenger, angel'; their guardian angels with access to God.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανοῖς

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

οὐρανός: 'heaven!'

διὰ

through(out)

preposition + genitive (in διὰ παντός = 'always')

παντός

all

Genitive

object of διὰ (idiom 'continually')

πᾶς: 'all'; διὰ παντός = 'continually, always!'

βλέπουσι

behold

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · βλέπω

main verb (ὅτι clause)

→ customary present

βλέπω: 'see, behold'; constant access to God's presence — a mark of high honor.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

πρόσωπον

face

Accusative

direct object

πρόσωπον: 'face'; to see the king's face = to stand in his immediate presence.

τοῦ

of the

Genitive

article

πατρός

Father

Genitive

genitive of relationship

πατήρ: 'Father'; God as Jesus' Father, jealous over the little ones.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of relationship

τοῦ

the (one)

Genitive

article (attributive)

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανοῖς

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

οὐρανός: 'heaven!'

12 Τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ; ἐὰν γένηται τινι ἀνθρώπῳ ἑκατὸν πρόβατα καὶ πλανηθῇ ἓν ἐξ αὐτῶν, οὐχὶ ἀφήσει τὰ ἐνενήκοντα ἑννέα ἐπὶ τὰ ὄρη καὶ πορευθεὶς ζητεῖ τὸ πλανώμενον;

What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go and seek the one that is straying?

PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP (SETUP) ASYNDETON The parable proper: the shepherd's pursuit of the single straying sheep dramatizes the Father's regard for each little one.

Τί

what

Accusative

interrogative (adverbial accusative)

ὑμῖν

to you

Dative

dat. of reference

δοκεῖ

seems

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg· δοκέω

main verb (impersonal)

→ present

δοκέω: 'seem, think'; τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ = 'what do you think?'

ἐὰν

if

conditional conjunction (3rd class)

γένηται

there be/comes to be

Aor Mid Subj 3 Sg · γίνομαι

verb of protasis

→ **constative aorist**

γίνομαι: 'become, be'; here 'if a man has/comes to have.'

τινι

a certain

Dative

indefinite adjective

τις: 'someone, a certain.'

άνθρωπῳ

man

Dative

dat. of possession ('a man has')

ἄνθρωπος: 'man, person.'

ἑκατὸν

a hundred

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἑκατόν: 'hundred.'

πρόβατα

sheep

Nominative

subject of γένηται

πρόβατον: 'sheep'; the flock, and the one as image of the little one.

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

πλανηθῆ

goes astray

Aor Pass Subj 3 Sg · πλανᾶω

verb of protasis

→ **ingressive aorist**

πλανᾶω (pass.): 'wander, go astray, be led astray'; the keyword of the parable.

ἓν

one

Nominative

subject (numeral)

εἷς: 'one'; the single lost one is the focus.

ἐξ

of

preposition + genitive (partitive)

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

partitive genitive

οὐχί

not (surely)

interrogative negative (expects 'yes')

οὐχί: emphatic 'not'; introduces a question expecting affirmation.

ἀφήσει

will leave

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀφίημι

main verb (apodosis)

→ **predictive future**

ἀφίημι: 'leave, let go.'

τὰ

the

Accusative

article

ἑνενήκοντα

ninety

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἑνενήκοντα: 'ninety.'

ἑννέα

nine

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἑννέα: 'nine'; the ninety-nine left behind.

ἐπὶ

on

preposition + accusative (place)

<p>τὰ the Accusative article</p>	<p>ὄρη hills/mountains Accusative object of ἐπί ὄρος: 'mountain, hill'; the open pasture-land.</p>	<p>καὶ and coordinating conjunction</p>	<p>πορευθεὶς going Aor Pass Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · πορεύομαι attendant-circumstance participle → antecedent aorist πορεύομαι: 'go, journey'; he sets out after the one.</p>
<p>ζητεῖ seeks Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · ζητέω main verb → present (vivid) ζητέω: 'seek, search for'; the diligent pursuit of the lost.</p>	<p>τὸ the (one) Accusative article (substantizes ptc.)</p>	<p>πλανώμενον straying Pres Pass Ptc · Acc Sg Neut · πλανᾶω substantival participle → present (ongoing) πλανᾶω: 'go astray'; the wandering sheep, object of the search.</p>	

13 καὶ ἐὰν γένηται εὑρεῖν αὐτό, ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι χαίρει ἐπ' αὐτῷ μᾶλλον ἢ ἐπὶ τοῖς ἐνενήκοντα ἑννέα τοῖς μὴ πεπλανημένοις.

And if it happens that he finds it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.

PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP (JOY) **καὶ** The point of the parable: disproportionate joy over the recovered one — the divine valuation of each individual little one.

καὶ
and

coordinating conjunction

ἐάν
if

conditional conjunction (3rd class)

γένηται
it happens

Aor Mid Subj 3 Sg · γίνομαι
verb of protasis (impersonal)

→ constative aorist

γίνομαι: 'come to pass, happen'; 'if it should happen to find it!'

εὑρεῖν
to find

Aor Act Inf · εὐρίσκω
epexegetical/subject infinitive

→ constative aorist

εὐρίσκω: 'find!'; recovery of the lost.

αὐτό
it

Accusative
object of infinitive

ἀμήν
truly

solemn asseverative

ἀμήν: 'truly!'

λέγω
I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω
main verb (formula)

→ present

ὕμιν
to you

Dative
indirect object

ὅτι
that

conjunction (content)

χαίρει
he rejoices

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · χαίρω
main verb (ὅτι clause)

→ present (vivid)

χαίρω: 'rejoice!'; the shepherd's (and God's) joy over recovery.

ἐπ'
over

preposition + dative (ground/basis)

αὐτῷ
it

Dative
object of ἐπί

μᾶλλον
more

comparative adverb

μᾶλλον: 'more, rather!'

ἢ
than

comparative particle

ἐπὶ
over

preposition + dative (ground)

τοῖς
the

Dative
article

ἐνενήκοντα

ninety

Dative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἐνενήκοντα: 'ninety.'

ἐννέα

nine

Dative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἐννέα: 'nine.'

τοῖς

the (ones)

Dative

article (substantizes ptc.)

μή

not

negative particle

πεπλανημένοις

that have gone astray

Perf Pass Ptc · Dat Pl Neut · πλανάω

attributive (substantival) participle

→ perfect (settled state)

πλανάω: 'go astray'; perfect — those in a standing condition of not-having-strayed.

14 οὕτως οὐκ ἔστιν θέλημα ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρὸς ὑμῶν τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς ἵνα ἀπόληται ἐν τῶν μικρῶν τούτων.

So it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

APPLICATION OF THE PARABLE οὕτως The application seals vv.10–13: the Father wills that not one little one be lost — grounding the pastoral care that follows in vv.15–20.

οὕτως

so/thus

adverb (drawing the application)

οὕτως: 'thus, in this way'; ties parable to point.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

ἔστιν

is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb

→ stative present

θέλημα

will

Nominative

predicate/subject nominative

θέλημα: 'will, desire'; God's gracious purpose toward the little ones.

ἔμπροσθεν

before

preposition + genitive (in the sight of)

ἔμπροσθεν: 'before, in the presence of'; a reverential periphrasis ('before your Father').

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

πατρός

Father

Genitive

object of ἔμπροσθεν

πατήρ: 'Father!'

ὑμῶν

your

Genitive

genitive of relationship

τοῦ

the (one)

Genitive

article (attributive)

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανοῖς

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

οὐρανός: 'heaven!'

ἵνα

that

conjunction (content of θέλημα)

ἀπόληται

should perish

Aor Mid Subj 3 Sg · ἀπόλλυμι

verb of ἵνα clause

→ constative aorist

ἀπόλλυμι (mid.): 'perish, be lost'; the fate the Father's will excludes.

ἓν

one

Nominative

subject (numeral)

εἷς: 'one'; not even one.

τῶν

of the

Genitive

article

μικρῶν

little ones

Genitive

partitive genitive

μικρός: 'little one.'

τούτων

these

Genitive

demonstrative

15 Ἐὰν δὲ ἀμαρτήσῃ εἰς σέ ὁ ἀδελφός σου, ὕπαγε ἔλεγξον αὐτὸν μεταξὺ σοῦ καὶ αὐτοῦ μόνου. ἔάν σου ἀκούσῃ, ἐκέρδησας τὸν ἀδελφόν σου·

And if your brother sins against you, go and reprove him between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

REPROVING A SINNING BROTHER **δέ** From God's care for the straying to the church's: private, restorative confrontation. The aim is gain, not condemnation. (εἰς σέ 'against you' is a textual variant — see note.)

Ἐὰν

if

conditional conjunction (3rd class)

δέ

and/but

transitional conjunction

ἀμαρτήσῃ

sins

Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · ἀμαρτάνω

verb of protasis

→ constative aorist

ἀμαρτάνω: 'sin, miss the mark'; an offense calling for correction.

εἰς

against

preposition + accusative (disadvantage)

εἰς σέ ('against you') is read by many witnesses but omitted by *κβ* — see *text_note*.

σέ

you

Accusative

object of εἰς

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ἀδελφός

brother

Nominative

subject

ἀδελφός: 'brother'; a fellow disciple/member of the community.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of relationship

ὑπάγε

go

Pres Act Impv 2 Sg · ὑπάγω

main verb (command)

→ present (general)

ὑπάγω: 'go, depart'; take the initiative.

ἔλεγξον

reprove

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἐλέγχω

main verb (command)

→ urgent aorist

ἐλέγχω: 'expose, reprove, convince'; bring the fault to light for correction, not mere blame.

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

direct object

μεταξύ

between

preposition + genitive (place/relation)

μεταξύ: 'between'; privacy guards the offender's dignity.

σοῦ

you

Genitive

object of μεταξύ

καί

and

coordinating conjunction

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

object of μεταξύ (coordinate)

μόνου

alone

Genitive

attributive adjective (with αὐτοῦ)

μόνος: 'alone, only'; just the two of you.

ἐάν

if

conditional conjunction

σου

you

Genitive

genitive object of ἀκούση

ἀκούση

he listens/heeds

Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · ἀκούω

verb of protasis

→ constative aorist

ἀκούω: 'hear, heed'; with genitive = 'listen to, obey.'

ἐκέρδησας

you have gained

Aor Act Indic 2 Sg · κερδαίνω

main verb (apodosis)

→ dramatic/proleptic aorist

κερδαίνω: 'gain, win'; restoration is winning the brother back, the goal of discipline.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

ἀδελφόν

brother

Accusative

direct object

ἀδελφός: 'brother.'

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of relationship

16 ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἀκούσῃ, παράλαβε μετὰ σοῦ ἔτι ἓνα ἢ δύο, ἵνα ἐπὶ στόματος δύο μαρτύρων ἢ τριῶν σταθῇ πᾶν ῥῆμα·

But if he does not listen, take with you one or two more, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

SECOND STEP: WITNESSES **δέ** Escalation by the Deuteronomic rule (Deut 19:15): one or two others added so that every matter is verified — due process, not gossip.

<p>ἐὰν if conditional conjunction</p>	<p>δὲ but adversative conjunction</p>	<p>μὴ not negative particle</p>	<p>ἀκούσῃ he listens Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · ἀκούω verb of protasis → constative aorist ἀκούω: 'hear, heed!'</p>
<p>παράλαβε take along Aor Act Imprn 2 Sg · παραλαμβάνω main verb (command) → urgent aorist παραλαμβάνω: 'take along, take with'; bring additional witnesses.</p>	<p>μετὰ with preposition + genitive (accompaniment)</p>	<p>σοῦ you Genitive object of μετὰ</p>	<p>ἔτι still/more adverb ἔτι: 'still, yet, besides'; one or two more besides yourself.</p>
<p>ἓνα one Accusative direct object (numeral) εἷς: 'one.'</p>	<p>ἢ or disjunctive conjunction</p>	<p>δύο two Accusative direct object (numeral, indeclinable) δύο: 'two!'</p>	<p>ἵνα so that conjunction (purpose)</p>

<p>ἐπὶ by/on <i>preposition + genitive (basis)</i> ἐπὶ στόματος = 'on the testimony/mouth of' — a Septuagintism (Deut 19:15).</p>	<p>στόματος mouth Genitive <i>object of ἐπί</i> στόμα: 'mouth'; here 'on the word/testimony of.'</p>	<p>δύο two Genitive <i>attributive numeral (indeclinable)</i> δύο: 'two.'</p>	<p>μαρτύρων witnesses Genitive <i>genitive (with στόματος)</i> μάρτυς: 'witness'; the legal corroborators of Deut 19:15.</p>
<p>ἢ or <i>disjunctive conjunction</i></p>	<p>τριῶν three Genitive <i>attributive numeral</i> τρεῖς: 'three.'</p>	<p>σταθῆ may be established Aor Pass Subj 3 Sg · ἵστημι <i>verb of ἵνα clause</i> → <i>constative aorist</i> ἵστημι (pass.): 'be established, confirmed'; every matter legally secured.</p>	<p>πάν every Nominative <i>attributive adjective</i> πᾶς: 'every, all.'</p>
<p>ῥῆμα word/matter Nominative <i>subject of σταθῆ</i> ῥῆμα: 'word, thing, matter'; Hebraistic for 'every charge/affair.'</p>			

17 ἂν δὲ παρακούση αὐτῶν, εἶπε τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ· ἂν δὲ καὶ τῆς ἐκκλησίας παρακούση, ἔστω σοι ὡσπερ ὁ ἔθνικὸς καὶ ὁ τελώνης.

But if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as the Gentile and the tax-collector.

THIRD STEP: THE CHURCH **δέ** The final escalation to the assembled ἐκκλησία; persistent refusal results in treating him as an outsider — a sober last resort, not vindictiveness.

ἐὰν

if

conditional conjunction

δὲ

but

adversative conjunction

παρακούση

refuses to listen

Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · παρακούω

verb of protasis

→ constative aorist

παρακούω: 'refuse to hear, disregard' (παρά + ἀκούω); hear amiss / pay no heed.

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

genitive object of παρακούση

εἰπέ

tell

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · λέγω

main verb (command)

→ urgent aorist

λέγω: 'tell, say'; refer the matter to the assembly.

τῇ

the

Dative

article

ἐκκλησία

church

Dative

indirect object

ἐκκλησία: 'assembly, congregation, church'; the gathered community (the term appears in the Gospels only here and 16:18).

ἐὰν

if

conditional conjunction

δὲ

and/but

conjunction

καὶ

even

adverbial (ascensive)

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

ἐκκλησίας

church

Genitive

genitive object of παρακούση

ἐκκλησία: 'church.'

παρακούση

refuses to listen

Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · παρακούω

verb of protasis

→ constative aorist

παρακούω: 'refuse to heed.'

ἔστω

let him be

Pres Act Impv 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (command)

→ stative present

εἰμί (impv.): 'let him be'; the prescribed relational stance.

σοι

to you

Dative

dat. of reference

ὥσπερ

as/just as

comparative particle

ὥσπερ: 'just as, like.'

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ἔθνικός

Gentile

Nominative

predicate (object of comparison)

ἔθνικός: 'Gentile, pagan'; the outsider to the covenant community.

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

τελώνης

tax-collector

Nominative

predicate (coordinate)

τελώνης: 'tax-collector'; a byword for the excluded and despised — yet recall Matthew's own calling (9:9).

18 Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὅσα ἐὰν δήσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται δεδεμένα ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ὅσα ἐὰν λύσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται λελυμένα ἐν οὐρανῷ.

Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven.

BINDING AND LOOSING **ASYNDETON** The church's disciplinary verdicts are ratified in heaven. The periphrastic future-perfects suggest the earthly decision aligns with what already stands settled before God.

Ἀμὴν

truly

solemn asseverative

ἄμην: 'truly!'

λέγω

I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω

main verb (formula)

→ present

ὑμῖν

to you

Dative

indirect object

ὅσα

whatever

Accusative

correlative relative (object of δήσητε)

ὅσος: 'as much/many as, whatever!'

ἐάν

-ever

particle (generalizes relative)

δήσητε

you bind

Aor Act Subj 2 Pl · δέω

verb of relative clause

→ constative aorist

δέω: 'bind, tie'; rabbinic term for declaring forbidden/binding a verdict.

ἐπὶ

on

preposition + genitive (place)

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

γῆς

earth

Genitive

object of ἐπί

γῆ: 'earth, land!'

ἔσται

will be

Fut Mid Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

auxiliary of periphrastic future-perfect

→ future

εἰμί: forms a periphrastic future-perfect with δεδεμένα.

δεδεμένα

bound

Perf Pass Ptc · Nom Pl Neut · δέω

periphrastic (with ἔσται) — future-perfect

→ perfect (resultant state)

δέω: 'bind'; 'will have been bound' — heaven's prior ratification.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανῶ

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

οὐρανός: 'heaven!'

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

ὅσα

whatever

Accusative

correlative relative (object of λύσητε)

ὅσος: 'whatever!'

ἐάν

-ever

particle (generalizes)

λύσητε

you loose

Aor Act Subj 2 Pl · λύω

verb of relative clause

→ constative aorist

λύω: 'loose, release'; rabbinic term for declaring permitted/absolving.

ἐπὶ

on

preposition + genitive (place)

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

γῆς

earth

Genitive

object of ἐπί

γῆ: 'earth!'

ἔσται

will be

Fut Mid Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

auxiliary of periphrastic future-perfect

→ future

λελυμένα

loosed

Perf Pass Ptc · Nom Pl Neut · λύω

periphrastic (with ἔσται) — future-perfect

→ perfect (resultant state)

λύω: 'loose'; 'will have been loosed.'

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανῶ

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

οὐρανός: 'heaven.'

19 Πάλιν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ἐὰν δύο συμφωνήσωσιν ἐξ ὑμῶν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς περὶ παντὸς πράγματος οὗ ἐὰν αἰτήσωνται, γενήσεται αὐτοῖς παρὰ τοῦ πατρὸς μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς.

Again, truly I say to you that if two of you agree on earth about any matter that they ask, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven.

AGREEMENT IN PRAYER **Πάλιν** A promise undergirding communal discipline: agreed prayer of even two is honored by the Father — divine backing for the gathered church's decisions.

Πάλιν

again

adverb (resumptive)

πάλιν: 'again'; introduces a further assurance.

ἀμὴν

truly

solemn asseverative

ἀμὴν: 'truly.'

λέγω

I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω

main verb (formula)

→ present

ὑμῖν

to you

Dative

indirect object

ὅτι

that

conjunction (content)

ἐὰν

if

conditional conjunction (3rd class)

δύο

two

Nominative

subject (numeral, indeclinable)

δύο: 'two'; the minimal agreeing pair.

συμφωνήσωσιν

agree

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · συμφωνέω

verb of protasis

→ constative aorist

συμφωνέω: 'agree, be in harmony' (lit. 'sound together'; cf. 'symphony'); concord in petition.

ἐξ

of

preposition + genitive (partitive)

ὕμῶν

you

Genitive

partitive genitive

ἐπὶ

on

preposition + genitive (place)

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

γῆς

earth

Genitive

object of ἐπί

| γῆ: 'earth.'

περὶ

concerning

preposition + genitive (reference)

παντός

any/every

Genitive

attributive adjective

| πᾶς: 'every, any.'

πράγματος

matter

Genitive

object of περὶ

| πράγμα: 'matter, thing, affair'; possibly the disciplinary 'case' of vv.15–18.

οἷ

which

Genitive

relative pronoun (object of αἰτήσονται)

ἐάν

-ever

particle (generalizes)

αἰτήσονται

they ask

Aor Mid Subj 3 Pl · αἰτέω

verb of relative clause

→ constative aorist

| αἰτέω (mid.): 'ask, request (for oneself)';
petitionary prayer.

γενήσεται

it will be done

Fut Mid Indic 3 Sg · γίνομαι

main verb (apodosis)

→ predictive future

| γίνομαι: 'come to pass, be done'; the
petition granted.

αὐτοῖς

for them

Dative

dat. of advantage

παρά

from

preposition + genitive (source)

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

πατρός

Father

Genitive

object of παρά (source)

| πατήρ: 'Father'; the granting source.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of relationship

τοῦ

the (one)

Genitive

article (attributive)

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

οὐρανοῖς

heaven

Dative

dat. of place

| οὐρανός: 'heaven.'

20 οὓ γάρ εἰσιν δύο ἢ τρεῖς συνηγμένοι εἰς τὸ ἕμὸν ὄνομα, ἐκεῖ εἶμι ἐν μέσῳ αὐτῶν.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst.

THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST **γάρ** The ground of the whole promise: Christ's own presence amid even the smallest gathering convened in his name — the assurance behind communal discipline and prayer.

οὓ

where

relative adverb of place

οὓ: 'where'; locative adverb.

γάρ

for

explanatory conjunction

εἰσιν

are

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · εἶμι

main verb (with ptc., periphrastic-like)

→ stative present

δύο

two

Nominative

subject (numeral, indeclinable)

δύο: 'two.'

ἢ

or

disjunctive conjunction

τρεῖς

three

Nominative

subject (numeral)

τρεῖς: 'three'; the smallest quorum — even this suffices for Christ's presence.

συνηγμένοι

gathered

Perf Pass Ptc · Nom Pl Masc · συνάγω

predicate participle (periphrastic w/ εἰσίν)

→ perfect (resultant state)

συνάγω: 'gather together, assemble'; root of συναγωγή — the assembling congregation.

εἰς

in

preposition + accusative (reference/goal)

εἰς τὸ ὄνομα: 'into/with reference to the name' — gathered under his authority and for him.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

ἕμὸν

my

Accusative

possessive adjective

ἕμός: 'my'; emphatic possessive.

ὄνομα

name

Accusative

object of εἰς

ὄνομα: 'name'; gathering 'in my name' = under Christ's person and authority.

ἐκεῖ

there

adverb of place

ἐκεῖ: 'there'; answering οὓ.

εἶμι

I am

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · εἰμί

main verb

→ stative present

εἶμι: 'I am'; an echo of the Shekinah / 'God in the midst' (cf. 1:23 Emmanuel; 28:20).

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (place)

μέσῳ

midst

Dative

dat. of place (substantival)

μέσος: 'middle'; ἐν μέσῳ = 'among, in the midst of.'

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

partitive/possessive genitive

21 Τότε προσελθὼν ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· Κύριε, ποσάκις ἁμαρτήσῃ εἰς ἐμὲ ὁ ἀδελφός μου καὶ ἀφήσω αὐτῷ; ἕως ἑπτάκις;

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, how many times shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

PETER'S QUESTION ON FORGIVENESS **ASYNDETON** Peter shifts from the offender's accountability to the offended one's duty: how often must one forgive? His 'seven times' seems generous — and is about to be vastly exceeded.

Τότε

then

adverb (temporal/sequential)

τότε: 'then, at that time'; Matthean connective.

προσελθὼν

coming

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · προσέρχομαι

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

προσέρχομαι: 'come to, approach.'

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

Πέτρος

Peter

Nominative

subject

Πέτρος: 'Peter' (the Rock); the spokesman of the Twelve.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb

→ constative aorist

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

indirect object

Κύριε

Lord

Vocative

vocative of address

κύριος: 'Lord, sir'; respectful address to Jesus.

ποσάκις

how often

interrogative adverb

ποσάκις: 'how many times, how often.'

<p>ἁμαρτήσῃ will sin</p> <p>Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ἁμαρτάνω <i>main verb (deliberative future)</i></p> <p>→ predictive/deliberative future</p> <p>ἁμαρτάνω: 'sin'; the repeated offense in view.</p>	<p>εἰς against</p> <p><i>preposition + accusative (disadvantage)</i></p>	<p>ἐμέ me</p> <p>Accusative <i>object of εἰς (emphatic)</i></p>	<p>ὁ the</p> <p>Nominative <i>article</i></p>
<p>ἀδελφός brother</p> <p>Nominative <i>subject</i></p> <p>ἀδελφός: 'brother!'</p>	<p>μου my</p> <p>Genitive <i>genitive of relationship</i></p>	<p>καὶ and</p> <p><i>coordinating conjunction</i></p>	<p>ἀφήσω shall I forgive</p> <p>Fut Act Indic 1 Sg · ἀφίημι <i>main verb (deliberative future)</i></p> <p>→ deliberative future</p> <p>ἀφίημι: 'forgive, release, let go'; remit the offense.</p>
<p>αὐτῷ him</p> <p>Dative <i>indirect object</i></p>	<p>ἕως up to</p> <p><i>preposition/particle (extent)</i></p> <p>ἕως: 'until, up to!'</p>	<p>ἑπτὰκις seven times</p> <p><i>numeral adverb</i></p> <p>ἑπτὰκις: 'seven times'; a generous-seeming round number.</p>	

22 λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Οὐ λέγω σοι ἕως ἑπτὰκις ἀλλὰ ἕως ἑβδομηκοντάκις ἑπτά.

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you up to seven times, but up to seventy-seven times.”

LIMITLESS FORGIVENESS ASYNDETON Jesus' answer bursts the calculus altogether (an echo/reversal of Lamech's seventy-sevenfold vengeance, Gen 4:24). ἑβδομηκοντάκις ἑπτά = 'seventy-seven' or 'seventy times seven' — see crux.

λέγει

says

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (historic present)

→ historic present

λέγω: 'say'; vivid narrative present.

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

indirect object

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

Ἰησοῦς

Jesus

Nominative

subject

οὐ

not

negative particle

λέγω

I say

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · λέγω

main verb

→ present

σοι

to you

Dative

indirect object

ἕως

up to

preposition/particle (extent)

ἕως: 'up to.'

ἑπτάκις

seven times

numeral adverb

ἑπτάκις: 'seven times.'

ἀλλά

but

strong adversative conjunction

ἕως

up to

preposition/particle (extent)

ἑβδομηκοντάκις

seventy times

numeral adverb (indeclinable)

ἑβδομηκοντάκις: 'seventy times'; with ἑπτά either 'seventy-seven times' or 'seventy times seven' (Gen 4:24 LXX). The crux: a number meant to defy counting.

ἑπτά

seven

numeral (indeclinable)

ἑπτά: 'seven'; see lexical note on ἑβδομηκοντάκις.

23 Διὰ τοῦτο ὡμοιώθη ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν ἀνθρώπῳ βασιλεῖ ὃς ἠθέλησεν συνᾶραι λόγον μετὰ τῶν δούλων αὐτοῦ.

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.

PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT (SETTING) **Διὰ τοῦτο** The parable grounds the call to limitless forgiveness: a king's reckoning sets the scene for grace received and grace withheld.

<p>Διὰ because of <i>preposition + accusative (cause, in idiom)</i> διὰ τοῦτο = 'therefore, for this reason'; links parable to the forgiveness saying.</p>	<p>τοῦτο this Accusative <i>object of διὰ (demonstrative)</i></p>	<p>ὡμοιώθη is/has been likened Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · ὁμοιόω <i>main verb</i> → constative aorist (gnomic) ὁμοιόω: 'make like, compare'; standard parable formula — 'the kingdom may be compared to!'</p>	<p>ἡ the Nominative <i>article</i></p>
<p>βασιλεία kingdom Nominative <i>subject</i> βασιλεία: 'kingdom.'</p>	<p>τῶν of the Genitive <i>article</i></p>	<p>οὐρανῶν heavens Genitive <i>genitive (periphrasis)</i></p>	<p>ἀνθρώπῳ a man Dative <i>dat. of comparison (with ὡμοιώθη)</i> ἄνθρωπος: 'man'; ἀνθρώπῳ βασιλεῖ = 'a man who was a king.'</p>
<p>βασιλεῖ king Dative <i>apposition to ἀνθρώπῳ</i> βασιλεῖς: 'king'; the God-figure of the parable.</p>	<p>ὃς who Nominative <i>relative pronoun (subject)</i></p>	<p>ἠθέλησεν wished Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · θέλω <i>verb of relative clause</i> → constative aorist θέλω: 'will, wish, want!'</p>	<p>συνᾶραι to settle Aor Act Inf · συναίρω <i>complementary infinitive</i> → constative aorist συναίρω: 'settle (accounts)'; συνᾶραι λόγον = 'to reckon, audit accounts!'</p>

λόγον

account

Accusative

direct object (idiom w/ συναίρειν)

λόγος; here 'account, reckoning'; the financial sense.

μετὰ

with

preposition + genitive (association)

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

δούλων

servants

Genitive

object of μετὰ

δοῦλος; 'slave, servant'; royal officials/stewards.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

24 ἀρξαμένου δὲ αὐτοῦ συναίρειν προσηνέχθη αὐτῷ εἷς ὀφειλέτης μυρίων ταλάντων.

And when he had begun to settle, one debtor of ten thousand talents was brought to him.

THE VAST DEBT **δέ** The genitive-absolute sets the reckoning in motion; the first debtor owes an unimaginable sum — ten thousand talents, a hyperbole for an unpayable debt.

ἀρξαμένου

having begun

Aor Mid Ptc · Gen Sg Masc · ἄρχω

genitive absolute (temporal)

→ antecedent aorist

ἄρχω (mid.): 'begin'; the reckoning commences.

δὲ

and

transitional conjunction

αὐτοῦ

he

Genitive

subject of genitive absolute

συναίρειν

to settle

Pres Act Inf · συναίρω

complementary infinitive

→ present (ongoing)

συναίρω; 'settle accounts!'

προσηνέχθη

was brought

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · προσφέρω

main verb

→ *constative aorist*

προσφέρω (pass.): 'be brought to/before';
the debtor hailed before the king.

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

indirect object

εἷς

one

Nominative

subject (numeral, ≈ indefinite 'a')

εἷς: 'one'; here almost 'a certain!'

ὀφειλέτης

debtor

Nominative

apposition to εἷς

ὀφειλέτης: 'debtor, one who owes'; the first
servant.

μυρίων

ten thousand

Genitive

attributive numeral

μύριοι: 'ten thousand' (also 'countless'); the
largest Greek numeral — staggering.

ταλάντων

of talents

Genitive

genitive of price/value

τάλαντον: 'talent' (the largest monetary
unit, ~6,000 denarii); ten thousand talents =
an astronomically unpayable sum.

25 μὴ ἔχοντας δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀποδοῦναι ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος πρᾶθῆναι καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἔχει, καὶ ἀποδοθῆναι.

And since he had nothing to repay, the master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

THE SENTENCE **δέ** The debtor's insolvency triggers the harsh ancient remedy — sale into slavery of the whole household. The hopelessness sets up the appeal.

μή

not

negative particle (with ptc.)

ἔχοντος

having

Pres Act Ptc · Gen Sg Masc · ἔχω

genitive absolute (causal)

→ present (concurrent)

ἔχω: 'have'; 'since he had nothing to pay with.'

δὲ

and

transitional conjunction

αὐτοῦ

he

Genitive

subject of genitive absolute

ἀποδοῦναι

to repay

Aor Act Inf · ἀποδίδωμι

complementary infinitive (object of ἔχοντος)

→ constative aorist

ἀποδίδωμι: 'give back, repay, pay off' (ἀπό + δίδωμι); the debt-repayment term recurring through the parable.

ἐκέλευσεν

ordered

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · κελεύω

main verb

→ constative aorist

κελεύω: 'command, order.'

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

accusative subject of infinitive

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

κύριος

master/lord

Nominative

subject

κύριος: 'master, lord'; the king as the servant's owner.

πραθῆναι

to be sold

Aor Pass Inf · πιπράσκω

infinitive (content of command)

→ constative aorist

πιπράσκω: 'sell'; debt-slavery, the ancient recourse.

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

τήν

the

Accusative

article

γυναῖκα

wife

Accusative

accusative (to be sold)

γυνή: 'wife, woman.'

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

τὰ

the

Accusative

article

τέκνα

children

Accusative

accusative (to be sold)

τέκνον: 'child.'

καὶ
and
coordinating conjunction

πάντα
all
Accusative
substantival adjective
| πᾶς: 'all!'

ὅσα
whatever
Accusative
relative (object of ἔχει)
| ὅσος: 'as much as, whatever!'

ἔχει
he has
Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · ἔχω
verb of relative clause
→ present
| ἔχω: 'have, possess!'

καὶ
and
coordinating conjunction

ἀποδοθῆναι
payment be made
Aor Pass Inf · ἀποδίδωμι
infinitive (content of command)
→ constative aorist
| ἀποδίδωμι (pass.): 'be repaid'; the sale to satisfy the debt.

26 πεσὼν οὖν ὁ δοῦλος προσεκύνει αὐτῷ λέγων· Μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοί, καὶ πάντα ἀποδώσω σοι.

So the servant fell down and did obeisance to him, saying, 'Be patient with me, and I will repay you everything.'

THE SERVANT'S PLEA **οὖν** Prostrate, the servant begs for time, promising the impossible — to repay all. His plea is for patience, but he will receive far more.

πεσὼν
falling
Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · πίπτω
attendant-circumstance participle
→ antecedent aorist
| πίπτω: 'fall (down)'; falling prostrate in supplication.

οὖν
so/therefore
inferential conjunction

ὁ
the
Nominative
article

δοῦλος
servant
Nominative
subject
| δοῦλος: 'slave, servant!'

<p>προσεκύνει did obeisance</p> <p>Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · προσκυνέω <i>main verb</i></p> <p>→ inchoative/iterative imperfect</p> <p>προσκυνέω: 'bow down, do homage, worship'; the imperfect pictures repeated/continued entreaty.</p>	<p>αὐτῷ to him</p> <p>Dative <i>indirect object</i></p>	<p>λέγων saying</p> <p>Pres Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · λέγω <i>attendant-circumstance participle</i></p> <p>→ present (concurrent)</p>	<p>Μακροθύμησον be patient</p> <p>Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · μακροθυμέω <i>main verb (request)</i></p> <p>→ ingressive aorist</p> <p>μακροθυμέω: 'be patient, longsuffering' (μακρός + θυμός); 'bear long with me!'</p>
<p>ἐπ' with</p> <p><i>preposition + dative (toward/over)</i></p>	<p>ἐμοί me</p> <p>Dative <i>object of ἐπί</i></p>	<p>καί and</p> <p><i>coordinating conjunction (consecutive)</i></p>	<p>πάντα all/everything</p> <p>Accusative <i>direct object</i></p> <p>πάς: 'all'; the impossible promise.</p>
<p>ἀποδώσω I will repay</p> <p>Fut Act Indic 1 Sg · ἀποδίδωμι <i>main verb</i></p> <p>→ predictive future</p> <p>ἀποδίδωμι: 'repay'; he pledges full repayment he cannot make.</p>	<p>σοι you</p> <p>Dative <i>indirect object</i></p>		

27 σπλαγχνισθεὶς δὲ ὁ κύριος τοῦ δούλου ἐκείνου ἀπέλυσεν αὐτόν, καὶ τὸ δάνειον ἀφήκεν αὐτῷ.

And the master of that servant, moved with compassion, released him and forgave him the loan.

THE MASTER'S COMPASSION **δέ** The turning-point: not patience but pardon. Moved at the gut level (σπλαγχνισθεὶς), the king cancels the entire debt — sheer grace, the parable's measure of mercy.

σπλαγχνισθεῖς

moved with compassion

Aor Pass Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · σπλαγχνίζομαι

causal/attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

σπλαγχνίζομαι: 'be moved with compassion' (from σπλάγχνα, 'inward parts'); visceral pity — the mainspring of the king's act.

δὲ

and/but

transitional conjunction

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

κύριος

master

Nominative

subject

κύριος: 'master, lord!'

τοῦ

of the

Genitive

article

δούλου

servant

Genitive

genitive of relationship

δοῦλος: 'servant!'

ἐκείνου

that

Genitive

demonstrative

ἀπέλυσεν

released

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀπολύω

main verb

→ constative aorist

ἀπολύω: 'release, set free, dismiss'; let him go.

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

direct object

καί

and

coordinating conjunction

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

δάνειον

loan/debt

Accusative

direct object

δάνειον: 'loan, debt'; the whole sum owed, here fully remitted.

ἀφῆκεν

forgave

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀφίημι

main verb

→ constative aorist

ἀφίημι: 'forgive, cancel, remit'; the forgiveness keyword of the chapter applied to the debt.

αὐτῷ

him

Dative

dat. of advantage

28 ἐξελθὼν δὲ ὁ δοῦλος ἐκεῖνος εὗρεν ἕνα τῶν συνδούλων αὐτοῦ ὃς ὤφειλεν αὐτῷ ἑκατὸν δηνάρια, καὶ κρατήσας αὐτὸν ἔπνιγεν λέγων· Ἀπόδος εἴ τι ὀφείλεις.

But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe!'

THE FORGIVEN SERVANT TURNS BRUTAL **δέ** The shocking contrast: the just-pardoned servant throttles a fellow over a trivial debt (a hundred denarii vs. ten thousand talents) — grace received but not extended.

ἐξελθὼν

going out

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · ἐξέρχομαι

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

ἐξέρχομαι: 'go out, come out!'

δὲ

but

adversative conjunction

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

δοῦλος

servant

Nominative

subject

δοῦλος: 'servant!'

ἐκεῖνος

that

Nominative

demonstrative

εὔρεν

found

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · εὐρίσκω

main verb

→ constative aorist

εὐρίσκω: 'find.'

ἓνα

one

Accusative

direct object (numeral)

εἷς: 'one.'

τῶν

of the

Genitive

article

συνδούλων

fellow servants

Genitive

partitive genitive

σύνδουλος: 'fellow slave' (σύν + δοῦλος); an equal, not a superior — sharpening the cruelty.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of relationship

ὃς

who

Nominative

relative pronoun (subject)

ῶφειλεν

owed

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · ὀφείλω

verb of relative clause

→ durative imperfect

ὀφείλω: 'owe, be indebted'; the standing debt.

αὐτῷ

him

Dative

indirect object

ἑκατὸν

a hundred

Accusative

attributive numeral (indeclinable)

ἑκατόν: 'hundred.'

δηνάρια

denarii

Accusative

direct object

δηνάριον: 'denarius' (a day's wage); a hundred denarii — trivial beside ten thousand talents.

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

κρατήσας

seizing

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · κρατέω

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

κρατέω: 'seize, grasp, take hold of'; violent apprehension.

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

direct object of ptc.

ἔπνιγεν

began to choke

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · πνίγω

main verb

→ inchoative imperfect

πνίγω: 'choke, throttle, strangle'; the imperfect — 'set about choking him.'

λέγων

saying

Pres Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · λέγω

attendant-circumstance participle

→ present (concurrent)

Ἀπόδος

pay back

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἀποδίδωμι

main verb (demand)

→ urgent aorist

ἀποδίδωμι: 'pay back, repay'; the same verb he himself had begged relief from.

εἴ

if/what

conjunction (= 'whatever')

εἴ τι ὀφείλεις = 'whatever you owe.'

τι

anything/what

Accusative

indefinite pronoun (object of ὀφείλεις)

ὀφείλεις

you owe

Pres Act Indic 2 Sg · ὀφείλω

verb of relative clause

→ present

ὀφείλω: 'owe!'

29 πεσὼν οὖν ὁ σύνδουλος αὐτοῦ παρεκάλει αὐτὸν λέγων· Μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοί, καὶ ἀποδώσω σοι.

So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, 'Be patient with me, and I will repay you.'

THE FELLOW SERVANT'S IDENTICAL PLEA οὖν The fellow servant's words echo the first servant's plea verbatim (v.26) — making the refusal that follows unmistakably damnable.

πεσὼν

falling

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · πίπτω

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

πίπτω: 'fall down'; the same posture as v.26.

οὖν

so

inferential conjunction

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

σύνδουλος

fellow servant

Nominative

subject

σύνδουλος: 'fellow slave!'

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of relationship

παρεκάλει

begged

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · παρακαλέω

main verb

→ iterative/durative imperfect

παρακαλέω: 'beg, entreat, urge' (παρά + καλέω); persistent pleading.

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

direct object

λέγων

saying

Pres Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · λέγω

attendant-circumstance participle

→ present (concurrent)

Μακροθύμησον

be patient

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · μακροθυμέω

main verb (request)

→ ingressive aorist

μακροθυμέω: 'be patient'; identical to the first servant's plea.

ἐπ'

with

preposition + dative

ἐμοί

me

Dative

object of ἐπί

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction (consecutive)

ἀποδώσω

I will repay

Fut Act Indic 1 Sg · ἀποδίδωμι

main verb

→ predictive future

ἀποδίδωμι: 'repay'; a debt actually repayable, unlike the first.

σοι

you

Dative

indirect object

30 ὁ δὲ οὐκ ἤθελεν, ἀλλὰ ἀπελθὼν ἔβαλεν αὐτὸν εἰς φυλακὴν ἕως ἀποδῶ τὸ ὀφειλόμενον.

But he refused, and went and threw him into prison until he should repay what was owed.

THE MERCILESS REFUSAL **δέ** Flat refusal of the very mercy he had received: debtor's prison until full payment — pitiless, and in full view of the watching servants.

ὁ

he

Nominative

subject (article as pronoun)

ὁ δέ: 'but he'; the resumptive article-as-pronoun.

δὲ

but

adversative conjunction

οὐκ

not

negative particle

ἤθελεν

was willing

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · θέλω

main verb

→ durative imperfect

θέλω: 'will, wish'; 'he would not.'

<p>ἀλλά but <i>strong adversative conjunction</i></p>	<p>ἀπελθὼν going off Aor Act Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · ἀπέρχομαι <i>attendant-circumstance participle</i> → antecedent aorist ἀπέρχομαι: 'go away, depart.'</p>	<p>ἔβαλεν threw Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · βάλλω <i>main verb</i> → constative aorist βάλλω: 'throw, cast'; into prison.</p>	<p>αὐτὸν him Accusative <i>direct object</i></p>
<p>εἰς into <i>preposition + accusative (goal)</i></p>	<p>φυλακὴν prison Accusative <i>object of εἰς</i> φυλακή: 'prison, guard'; debtor's confinement until payment.</p>	<p>ἕως until <i>conjunction (temporal)</i> ἕως: 'until.'</p>	<p>ἀποδῶ he should repay Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · ἀποδίδωμι <i>verb of temporal clause</i> → constative aorist ἀποδίδωμι: 'repay'; the condition of release.</p>
<p>τὸ the (thing) Accusative <i>article (substantizes ptc.)</i></p>	<p>ὀφειλόμενον what was owed Pres Pass Ptc · Acc Sg Neut · ὀφείλω <i>substantival participle</i> → present (ongoing) ὀφείλω (pass.): 'be owed'; 'the debt.'</p>		

31 ἰδόντες οὖν οἱ σύνδουλοι αὐτοῦ τὰ γενόμενα ἐλυπήθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐλθόντες διεσάφησαν τῷ κυρίῳ
ἑαυτῶν πάντα τὰ γενόμενα.

So when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were greatly grieved, and they went and reported to their master all that had happened.

THE WITNESSES REPORT οὖν The other servants, grieved at the injustice, bring the matter before the king — the parable's own 'court,' echoing the church's role in vv.15–17.

ιδόντες

seeing

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Pl Masc · ὀράω

temporal participle

→ antecedent aorist

ὀράω: 'see'; they witnessed the cruelty.

οὕν

so

inferential conjunction

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

σύνδουλοι

fellow servants

Nominative

subject

σύνδουλος: 'fellow slave!'

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of relationship

τά

the (things)

Accusative

article (substantizes ptc.)

γενόμενα

that had happened

Aor Mid Ptc · Acc Pl Neut · γίνομαι

substantival participle (object)

→ antecedent aorist

γίνομαι: 'happen, take place'; the events witnessed.

ἐλυπήθησαν

were grieved

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · λυπέω

main verb

→ ingressive aorist

λυπέω (pass.): 'be grieved, distressed!'

σφόδρα

greatly

adverb (degree)

σφόδρα: 'exceedingly, greatly.'

καὶ

and

coordinating conjunction

ἐλθόντες

going

Aor Act Ptc · Nom Pl Masc · ἔρχομαι

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

ἔρχομαι: 'come, go.'

διεσάφησαν

reported/explained

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · διασαφέω

main verb

→ constative aorist

διασαφέω: 'make clear, report fully' (διά + σαφής, 'clear'); a detailed account.

τῷ

the

Dative

article

κυρίῳ

master

Dative

indirect object

κύριος: 'master, lord.'

ἐαυτῶν

their own

Genitive

reflexive possessive genitive

πάντα

all

Accusative

attributive adjective

πᾶς: 'all.'

τὰ

the (things)

Accusative

article (substantizes ptc.)

γενόμενα

that had happened

Aor Mid Ptc · Acc Pl Neut · γίνομαι

substantival participle (object)

→ antecedent aorist

γίνομαι: 'happen'; the whole affair.

32 τότε προσκαλεσάμενος αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ λέγει αὐτῷ· Δοῦλε πονηρέ, πᾶσαν τὴν ὀφειλὴν ἐκείνην ἀφῆκά σοι, ἐπεὶ παρεκάλεσάς με·

Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.'

THE MASTER'S INDICTMENT **τότε** The reckoning resumed: the king names the servant 'wicked' and rehearses the grace given — the ground of the coming verdict is the mercy already shown.

τότε

then

temporal adverb

τότε: 'then.'

προσκαλεσάμενος

summoning

Aor Mid Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · προσκαλέομαι

attendant-circumstance participle

→ antecedent aorist

προσκαλέομαι: 'summon, call to oneself.'

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

direct object of ptc.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

κύριος

master

Nominative

subject

κύριος: 'master, lord.'

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of relationship

λέγει

says

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (historic present)

→ historic present

λέγω: 'say'; vivid present.

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

indirect object

<p>Δοῦλε servant Vocative <i>vocative of address</i> δοῦλος: 'servant'; direct, accusing address.</p>	<p>πονηρέ wicked Vocative <i>attributive (vocative)</i> πονηρός: 'evil, wicked'; the moral verdict on his conduct.</p>	<p>πᾶσαν all Accusative <i>attributive adjective</i> πᾶς: 'all'; the whole debt.</p>	<p>τήν the Accusative <i>article</i></p>
<p>ὀφειλήν debt Accusative <i>direct object</i> ὀφειλή: 'debt, what is owed.'</p>	<p>ἐκείνην that Accusative <i>demonstrative</i></p>	<p>ἀφήκά I forgave Aor Act Indic 1 Sg · ἀφίημι <i>main verb</i> → <i>constative aorist</i> ἀφίημι: 'forgive, cancel'; the grace already enacted.</p>	<p>σοι you Dative <i>dat. of advantage</i></p>
<p>ἐπεὶ because <i>causal conjunction</i> ἐπεὶ: 'since, because.'</p>	<p>παρακάλεσάς you begged Aor Act Indic 2 Sg · παρακαλέω <i>verb of causal clause</i> → <i>constative aorist</i> παρακαλέω: 'beg, entreat'; the appeal that moved the king.</p>	<p>με me Accusative <i>direct object</i></p>	

33 οὐκ ἔδει καὶ σὲ ἐλεῆσαι τὸν σύνδουλόν σου, ὡς κἀγὼ σὲ ἠλέησα;

| Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I also had mercy on you?

THE MORAL DEMAND ASYNDETON The parable's pivot into application: received mercy obligates extended mercy. The 'as I... so you' logic is the lesson Peter (and the church) must learn.

<p>οὐκ not <i>negative particle (in question expecting 'yes')</i></p>	<p>ἔδει was it not necessary Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · δεῖ <i>main verb (impersonal)</i> → durative imperfect δεῖ: 'it is necessary, one ought!'; οὐκ ἔδει = 'ought you not to have...?'</p>	<p>καὶ also <i>adverbial (ascensive)</i></p>	<p>σέ you Accusative <i>accusative subject of infinitive (emphatic)</i></p>
<p>ἐλεῆσαι to have mercy Aor Act Inf · ἐλεέω <i>complementary infinitive</i> → constative aorist ἐλεέω: 'have mercy, show compassion!'; the duty owed downward.</p>	<p>τὸν the Accusative <i>article</i></p>	<p>σύνδουλόν fellow servant Accusative <i>direct object of infinitive</i> σύνδουλος: 'fellow slave.'</p>	<p>σου your Genitive <i>genitive of relationship</i></p>
<p>ὥς as <i>comparative particle</i></p>	<p>καγὼ I also Nominative <i>subject (crasis καί + ἐγώ)</i> καγὼ: 'and I, I also!'; sets the king's mercy as the pattern.</p>	<p>σέ you Accusative <i>direct object</i></p>	<p>ἤλεσα I had mercy Aor Act Indic 1 Sg · ἐλεέω <i>verb of comparative clause</i> → constative aorist ἐλεέω: 'show mercy!'; the measure for the servant's required mercy.</p>

34 καὶ ὀργισθεὶς ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ παρέδωκεν αὐτὸν τοῖς βασανισταῖς ἕως οὗ ἀποδῶ πᾶν τὸ ὀφειλόμενον.

And in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed.

THE REVERSAL OF THE VERDICT **καί** The pardon is revoked: the unmerciful servant is delivered to the jailers/tormentors until the unpayable sum is paid — i.e. without end. Mercy refused forfeits mercy received.

καὶ
and

coordinating conjunction

ὀργισθεῖς

becoming angry

Aor Pass Ptc · Nom Sg Masc · ὀργίζω
causal/attendant-circumstance participle

→ *ingressive aorist*

ὀργίζω (pass.): 'be/become angry, enraged';
righteous wrath at the ingratitude.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

κύριος

master

Nominative

subject

κύριος: 'master, lord!'

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of relationship

παρέδωκεν

handed over

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · παραδίδωμι

main verb

→ *constative aorist*

παραδίδωμι: 'hand over, deliver up';
consign to punishment.

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

direct object

τοῖς

the

Dative

article

βασανισταῖς

torturers

Dative

indirect object (recipient)

βασανιστής: 'torturer, tormentor, jailer';
those who extract payment by torture — an
ominous note pointing beyond mere
prison.

ἕως

until

conjunction (temporal)

ἕως οὗ: 'until!'

οἷ

which (time)

Genitive

relative (with ἕως)

ἀποδῶ

he should repay

Aor Act Subj 3 Sg · ἀποδίδωμι

verb of temporal clause

→ *constative aorist*

ἀποδίδωμι: 'repay'; the unpayable debt =
endless consequence.

πᾶν

all

Accusative

attributive adjective

πᾶς: 'all!'

τὸ

the (thing)

Accusative

article (substantizes ptc.)

ὀφειλόμενον

what was owed

Pres Pass Ptc · Acc Sg Neut · ὀφείλω

substantival participle

→ *present (ongoing)*

ὀφείλω (pass.): 'be owed'; the whole
restored debt.

35 οὕτως καὶ ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ οὐράνιος ποιήσει ὑμῖν ἔὰν μὴ ἀφῆτε ἕκαστος τῷ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν καρδιῶν ὑμῶν.

So also my heavenly Father will do to you, if you do not forgive each one his brother from your hearts.

THE APPLICATION **οὕτως** The chapter's sober conclusion: the Father will treat the unforgiving as the king treated the servant. Forgiveness must be heartfelt and from each one — the discourse closes where it must, in mercy or judgment.

οὕτως

so/thus

adverb (application)

οὕτως: 'thus, so'; binds parable to the hearers.

καὶ

also

adverbial (ascensive)

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

πατήρ

Father

Nominative

subject

πατήρ: 'Father'; God as the king of the parable.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of relationship

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (attributive)

οὐράνιος

heavenly

Nominative

attributive adjective

οὐράνιος: 'heavenly'; the Father in heaven, the parable's true subject.

ποιήσει

will do

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ποιέω

main verb

→ *predictive future*

ποιέω: 'do, make'; the analogous treatment promised.

<p>ὑμῖν to you Dative indirect object</p>	<p>ἐάν if conditional conjunction (3rd class)</p>	<p>μὴ not negative particle</p>	<p>ἀφήτε you forgive Aor Act Subj 2 Pl · ἀφίημι verb of protasis → constative aorist ἀφίημι: 'forgive'; the chapter's keyword, now demanded of all.</p>
<p>ἕκαστος each one Nominative subject in apposition (distributive) ἕκαστος: 'each, every one'; individualizes the duty.</p>	<p>τῷ the Dative article</p>	<p>ἀδελφῷ brother Dative indirect object ἀδελφός: 'brother'; the fellow member to be forgiven.</p>	<p>αὐτοῦ his Genitive genitive of relationship</p>
<p>ἀπὸ from preposition + genitive (source)</p>	<p>τῶν the Genitive article</p>	<p>καρδιῶν hearts Genitive object of ἀπό (source) καρδία: 'heart'; forgiveness must be inward and sincere, not merely formal.</p>	<p>ὑμῶν your Genitive genitive of possession</p>

On the text. Verse punctuation, paragraphing, and capitalization are editorial and conventional. Most significantly, verse 11 ('For the Son of Man came to save the lost') is OMITTED by the critical text: absent from the earliest and best witnesses (e.g. \aleph B L*), it is a later harmonizing intrusion from Luke 19:10 and is not printed here — so the chapter runs 1–10 and 12–35, thirty-four verses present, with a gap at 11. Two further points are flagged rather than silently resolved. At v.15 the words εἰς σέ ('against you,' after ἀμαρτήσῃ) are read by many witnesses (D, the majority text) but omitted by \aleph and B; their presence narrows the offense to a personal wrong, their absence broadens it to any sin — printed here, the variant noted. At v.22 ἐβδομηκοντάκις ἑπτὰ is genuinely ambiguous: it renders either 'seventy-seven times' or 'seventy times seven' (i.e. 490); the phrase deliberately echoes and reverses

Lamech's seventy-sevenfold vengeance in Gen 4:24 LXX, and either way names a number meant to defy counting — limitless forgiveness. Orthographic variants (movable-ν, ι-subscript, ἐνενήκοντα/έννενήκοντα spelling) are not noted. The chapter is bound by verbal threads: the σκάνδαλον/σκανδαλίζω word-group (vv.6–9), the 'little ones' (μικροί, vv.6, 10, 14) and the 'one' that strays or is welcomed (εἷς, vv.5, 6, 10, 12–14), the ἀφίημι ('forgive') keyword spanning Peter's question and the parable (vv.21, 27, 32, 35), and the ἀποδίδωμι ('repay') motif driving the unforgiving-servant scene (vv.25–34).

On the labels. Parsing gives Tense·Voice·Mood·Person·Number (+ Case·Number·Gender for participles) and lemma. The *syntactic-function* and **semantic-force** tiers follow standard intermediate-grammar categories (e.g. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*); both involve interpretive judgment, and the majority reading has been chosen where opinions differ. Lexical notes condense commonly cited data (etymology, sense range, synonym contrasts, NT frequency, OT/LXX echoes) and are no substitute for a lexicon.

On the discourse tier. Discourse structure operates above the word, so it is shown at the clause/verse level (the connective, the relation it signals, and the role of the clause) and summarized in the chapter outline. Relation labels, any proposed chiasm, and the paragraph divisions reflect a common reading of the argument; other discourse analyses segment and label some relations differently.