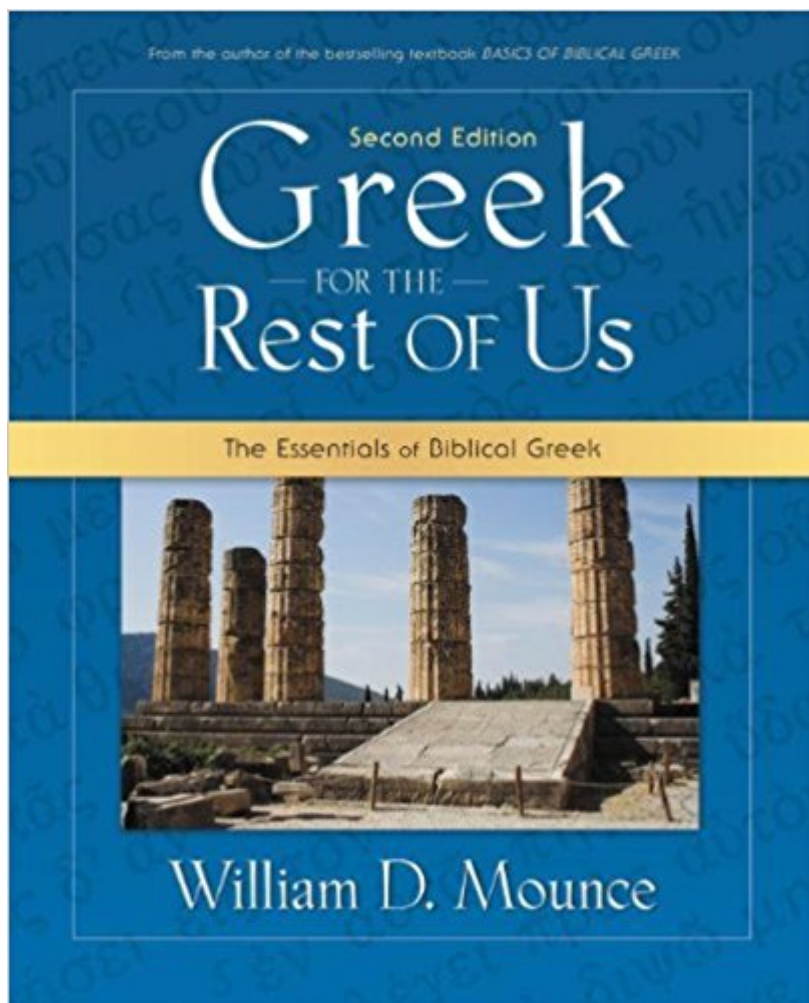


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# Greek For The Rest Of Us: The Essentials Of Biblical Greek



## Synopsis

You don't have to be a Greek student to understand biblical Greek. If you'd love to learn Greek so you can study your Bible better, but you can't spare two years for college or seminary courses, then *Greek for the Rest of Us* is for you. Developed by renowned Greek teacher William Mounce, this revolutionary crash-course on 'baby Greek' will acquaint you with the essentials of the language and deepen your understanding of God's Word. You'll gain a sound knowledge of basic Greek, and you'll learn how to use tools that will add muscle to your Bible studies. In six sections, *Greek for the Rest of Us* will help you: \* Recite the Greek alphabet \* Read and pronounce Greek words \* Learn the Greek noun and verbal system \* Conduct Greek word studies \* Decipher why translations are different \* Read better commentaries *Greek for the Rest of Us* broadens your knowledge still further with an appendix on biblical Hebrew.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

William D Mounce (PhD, Aberdeen University) lives as a writer in Washougal, Washington. He is the President of [BiblicalTraining.org](http://BiblicalTraining.org), a non-profit organization offering world-class educational resources for discipleship in the local church. See [www.BillMounce.com](http://www.BillMounce.com) for more information.

Formerly he was a preaching pastor, and prior to that a professor of New Testament and director of the Greek Program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He is the author of the bestselling Greek textbook, *Basics of Biblical Greek*, and many other resources. He was the New Testament chair of the English Standard Version translation of the Bible, and is serving on the NIV translation committee.

I got this book for my wife, who is a complete Greek novice. She enjoys it. And it is accessible for her. The book is divided into three sections, where each section gives an increasingly in depth summary of NT Greek. This is a great idea; if you only want to know the basics, do section 1. If you want to know a little more, perhaps do section 2 as well. Section 3 starts to get into the basics that you would hit in a first year text book. This is not a replacement for a first year textbook; this is for someone who doesn't want to commit to a first year textbook. For an extra fee, you can order helpful videos done by the author himself.

I don't know Greek, but I wanted to be able to verify translations and do my own research into Biblical Texts anyway. This book gave me the tools to do just that. I strongly recommend that you purchase this "Cheat Sheet" along with it: [Greek for the Rest of Us Laminated Sheet \(Zondervan Get an A! Study Guides\)](#) I also purchased these flashcards to learn the Greek Alphabet: [Biblical Greek Alphabet](#)

To same space, WM= William Mounce. BBG=Basic Biblical Greek Grammar. This is an expanded edition of the earlier book of the same name. One will recognize many elements of the author's BBG, but this is more of "how to use Greek for exegesis" so it doesn't have a lot of paradigms etc. WM even puts in the "professor" character from the BBG 3rd ed. He has chapters on word studies, translations, textual criticism, advice on how to use commentaries, etc. It's written at an elementary level so it's an excellent guide for someone just wanting to understand more deeply the scriptures, or to check the accuracy of translations. If one wants to go more in depth, he/she can consult the intermediate grammars like Gerald L. Stevens or Wallace (that one is really detailed!). WM divides the book into sections of increasing depth - Fundamental Greek, Church G., & Functional G. He deals with verbal aspect in several places. He says tenses do have the time element in the indicative mood, but it's second to aspect. Outside the indicative, only aspect is a factor. The 3 are UNDEFINED, CONTINUOUS, and (traditional perfect) complete w/ continuing results. Whether the traditional perf/pluperfect is THE meaning of the tense, or an aktionsart, I will leave to the reader. Sometimes these 2 tenses represent a state. The traditional perfect is there much of the time, determined by the meaning of the verb and context. One should look at how the verbs are actually used (sometimes it's really hard to tell why the perfect was used). Perhaps the old proverb applies to Greek i.e. "the only hard and fast rule, is that there are NO hard and fast rules". The book is helpful for students of the word. One can learn the plan of salvation from good translations, but knowledge

of the Greek can answer questions, like the seeming contradiction between (ROM 3:23 & 1 JOHN 1:08,10) with (1 JOHN 3:06,09). Or the question of why Jesus told Thomas to touch Him, but said to Mary "touch Me not" in (JOHN 20:17). Understanding the (normally) continuous/repeated of action of the present tense can answer these questions. I believe the book has a few flaws (thus 4 stars). I think WM gets some things wrong, like when he says a commentator should never say something in the Bible is clear or obvious. One might say this about figurative language - like REVELATION, but if the Bible isn't clear about say, what one must do to go to Heaven, then what's the point? Also WM says on pg 126 (2nd "dot") a student can't "argue" with a commentator or a translator - he/she doesn't know enough Greek. One doesn't have to be a scholar to be able to see when someone is putting in his/her own theology (at least there are enough clear passages in the Bible that one shouldn't have to). The great scholar A.T. Robertson mentions this on pg 389 of his "big book" - there comes a point when grammar stops and theology takes over. Even WM says there're commentaries he doesn't recommend. I recommend the book. As to the few problems, always remember what Douglas K. Stuart said in his book on commentaries "just because one is a PHD, doesn't NECESSARILY mean that he/she is right and you're wrong". Always let the Bible speak for itself.

All of William Mounce's books are excellent for Biblical Greek study. I eagerly pre-ordered this edition anticipating a newer edition with computer software for the coursework. This Second Edition was supposed to come with a CD-Rom companion. I ordered two and never received the CD-Roms. I tried to help but apparently they did not receive the CD-Roms with this release either. I tried contacting Zondervan by e-mail and have not received a response. Without Mounce's CD-Rom companion I recommend saving the money and buying his first edition. UPDATE: The classes are online but have to be purchased after lesson 3. Sadly, this was not mentioned in the pre-order information. My correspondence with customer service verifies the accompanying CD-Rom in the pre-order advertising. I hope to receive some help from Zondervan on this issue. I will provide updates. For now, I recommend the First Edition of Greek for the Rest of Us. I am an actual customer who purchased this item through pre-order.

Very informative and well written. I especially like the concept of Phrasing as an aid to meditating on the Word. I don't know Greek and got a lot of value out of it.

Great resource for those just getting started

A+

More comprehensive than I originally thought it would be. It's a great book for learning about Greek without all of the memorization (although there is some) by an author who really knows his subject. I'd recommend it to anyone who wants to get deeper into Bible study but doesn't have the time for full college courses.

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