Notes for I John: Beginning at 1:5

by Mark Riley California State University, Sacramento

At least half my class is taking Greek primarily to read the New Testament, and Athenaze doesn't throw a bone to that group (unlike the old Crosby and Schaeffer text, for example). So, to give them some exposure to the NT, I have them (in the second semester) buy a Greek NT and dictionary (the United Bible Society text with dictionary at the back or with a separate, matching dictionary from the American Bible Society is the best). We then read I John using the notes that I have compiled, which are given below. They are keyed to Athenaze, Books I and II (references to Athenaze in the following notes without designating Book I or Book II refer to Book I; references to Book II refer specifically to that Book). I plan to complete a similar set for Acts 13–22 shortly.

1:5 αὕτη, "this." Note the rough breathing; this is the pronoun οὖτος, αὕτη, τοῦτο = "this," "these" (Athenaze, pp. 178–179), not the pronoun αὐτός, αὐτή, αὐτό, "he/she/it" (Athenaze, pp. 50–51). ἡ ἀγγελία, "message." ἡ ἐπ-αγγελία occurs later = "promise." ἥν, "which" (also in 2:7); ἥν, ὄν, and ὅ are relative pronouns. See Athenaze, pp. 162–163. ἀκηκόαμεν, "we have heard," perfect tense of ἀκούω.

PERFECT TENSE

The perfect tenses of $\pi\alpha \dot{\nu}\omega$ and $\dot{\alpha}\kappa \dot{\nu}\dot{\nu}\omega$ conjugate as follows:

πέπαυκα, I have stopped πέπαυκας, you have, etc.

παπαύκαμεν πεπαύκατε πεπαύκασι(ν) ἀκήκοα, I have heard ΄ ἀκήκοας, you, etc. ἀκήκοε άκηκόαμεν άκηκόατε άκηκόασι(ν)

The perfect tense is used for actions that started in the past and still continue in the present. John loves this tense.

The perfect stem must be learned with the principal parts. *Athenaze*, Book II, p. 162. Verbs that occur in the perfect tense in I John:

ἡμάρτηκα from ἁμαρτάνω (1:10) ἔγνωκα from γιγνώσκω (2:3) νενίκηκα from νικάω (2:13) δέδωκα from δίδωμι (3:1) ἑώρακα from ὁράω (3:6) μετα-βέβηκα from βαίνω (3:14) ἐλήλυθα from ἔρχομαι (4:1) ἀπέσταλκα from ἀποστέλλω (4:9) ἠγάπηκα from ἀγαπάω (4:10) τεθέαμαι from θεάομαι (4:12) πεπίστευκα from πιστεύω (4:16)

τὸ φῶς, the opposite of ἡ σκοτία; "light" is the opposite of "darkness."

ἐάν, "if" plus the subjunctive mood.
 εἴπωμεν, the subjunctive mood of εἶπον.

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

The subjunctive (Athenaze, Book II, pp. 60–62) of $\pi\alpha \dot{\omega}\omega$ conjugates as follows; note the long vowels in boldface:

Indicative Activ	e Indicative Middle	Subjunctive Active	Subjunctive Middle
παύω	παύομαι	παύ ω	παύ ω μαι
παύεις	παύη	παύ η ς	παύη
παύει	παύεται	παύη	παύηται
παύομεν	παυόμεθα	παύ ω μεν	παυ ώ μεθα
παύετε	παύεσθε	παύ η τε	παύησθε
παύουσι(ν)	παύονται	παύ ω σι(ν)	παύ ω νται

The subjunctive is used after ἐάν, "if" and ἵνα (1:9) "in order to"; in these uses the subjunctive has no special translation into English-don't translate with "should" or "might." The subjunctive also has the sense "Let's . . . " (Athenaze, Book II, pp. 60-62; 3a on p. 62). παύωμεν = "Let's stop . . . "

- ή κοινωνία, "fellowship." περιπατέω, "to walk"; περιπατώμεν is subjunctive. ψεύδομαι, "to lie"; a related noun: ὁ ψεύστης, "liar" (2:4). ἡ ἀλήθεια, "truth."
- τὸ αίμα, τοῦ αίματος, "blood." 1:7
- 1:8
- καθαρίζω, "to purify." ἡ ἀμαρτία, "sin." ἐαυτούς = ἡμᾶς αὐτούς, "ourselves" (Athenaze, pp. 72–73). πλανάω, "to deceive" "to lead astray"; the noun is ἡ πλάνη, "deceit" (4:6). ὁμολογέω, "to admit" "to agree to." ἴνα, "in order to," "to," plus the subjunctive mood. 1:9 ἀφῆ, "casts off," "frees from"; the verb is ἀφ-ίημι (Athenaze, Book II, pp. 69-70).
- ήμαρτήκαμεν, perfect tense of αμαρτάνω, "to sin." The noun is ή αμαρτία. 1:10
- ο παράκλητος, "advocate." 2:1
- ὁ ἱλασμός, "propitiator." Compare ἵλαος (Athenaze p. 106). ὅλος ὁ κόσμος, "the whole world." 2:2
- γινώσκομεν = γιγνώσκομεν as usual in later Greek; γίνομαι = γίγνομαι. 2:3 ἐγνώκαμεν, "we have learned (and still know)"; perfect tense of γιγνώσκω. ἡ ἐντολή, "command," "order." τηρέω, "to keep."
- έν τούτω, "in this (person)" (see note on 1:5). 2:4
- ος . . . ἄν, "whoever." 2:5 τετελείωται, "has been perfected"; perfect tense, indicative mood, of τελειόω., "to complete," "to make perfect." ἐν τούτω, "in this."
- ὁ λέγων ἐν αὐτῷ μένειν = ὁ λέγων ὅτι αὐτὸς μένει ἐν αὐτῷ (= Χριστῷ). This is indirect statement (also 2:6 in 2:9)—see Athenaze, Book II, pp. 94–95.
 - ὀφείλει . . . περιπατεῖν, take these words together; note that ὀφείλω means "to owe" and "ought
- καινός, καινή, καινόν, "new" (cp. Cenozoic). παλαιός, παλαιά, παλαιόν, "old" (cp. Paleozoic). 2:7 ἥν, see 1:5. ἡ ἀρχή, "beginning."
- παρ-άγω, "to pass away" (here middle voice with the same meaning); ἄγω is frequently used as a 2:8 verb of motion, "to go," in addition to meaning "to drive."
- ό λέγων ἐν τῷ φωτὶ εἶναι = ὁ λέγων ὅτι αὐτὸς ἐν τῷ φωτί ἐστιν; indirect statement. 2:9 ἔως ἄρτι, "up to now."
- ἀγαπάω, "to love." τὸ σκάνδαλον, "stumbling-block," "occasion for sin." 2:10
- οἶδεν, "he knows"; οἴδα is another verb meaning "to know" "to be aware of." 2:11 ὑπ-άγω, the opposite of ἔρχομαι; see note on 2:8. τυφλόω, "to blind."
- ἀφέωνται, "have been cast off"; from ἀφ-ίημι, see note on 1:9. 2:12
- έγνώκατε, perfect tense of γιγνώσκω (see 2:3). 2:13 τόν, "him."

```
πονηρός, πονηρά, πονηρόν, "wicked."
 2:16
        ή ἐπιθυμία, "desire." ή σάρξ, τῆς σαρκός, "flesh."
        ἡ ἀλαζονεία, "boasting." ὁ βίος, "living," "livelihood," "income." ἔσχατος, ἐσχάτη, ἔσχατον, "last." ἡ ὥρα, "hour."
 2:18
        γεγόνασιν, perfect tense of γίγνομαι. 
έξ-ῆλθαν, "they went out"; aorist of έξ-έρχομαι.
 2:19
        ἦσαν, imperfect tense of εἰμί; Athenaze, p. 142.
        μεμενήκεισαν, past perfect/pluperfect tense of μένω; with αν this means "would have remained."
        ἵνα φανερωθῶσιν, "so that they might appear"; aorist passive subjunctive of φανερόομαι, "to appear."
2:20
        τὸ χρῖσμα, "anointing."
        άγιος, αγία, άγιον, "holy."
2:22
        άρνέομαι, "to deny."
2:24
        μενέτω, a third-person imperative of μένω = "let it remain"; Athenaze, Book II, p. 223.
        μείνη, aorist subjunctive of μένω. ὅ, see 1:5.
        μενεῖτε, "you will remain," future tense. ήν, see 1:5. ἡ ζωή, "life."
2:25
        αἰώνιος, αἰώνιον (no separate fem. form), "eternal," "forever."
2:26
        πλανάω, see 1:8.
        ἐλάβετε, the aorist of λαμβάνω. ἡ χρεία, "need."
2:27
2:28
        φανερωθή, see note on 2:19; this form is 3rd person singular.
        σχῶμεν, aorist subjunctive of ἔχω. ἡ παρρησία, "confidence."
        αἰσχύνομαι, "to put to shame." ἡ παρουσία (from πάρ-ειμι), "presence."
2:29
        είδητε, "you know." ή δικαιοσύνη, "justice," "what's right."
        ποταπήν, "what sort/kind of." δέδωκεν, "he has given"; perfect tense of δίδωμι.
3:1
        κληθῶμεν, "so that we are called"; aorist passive subjunctive of καλέω.
        ἔγνω, aorist of γιγνώσκω, γνώσομαι (future), ἔγνων (aorist).
3:2
        ἐσόμεθα, "we will be"; ἔσομαι is the future of εἰμί.
        οἴδαμεν, "we know."
        όμοιος, όμοία, όμοιον, + dat., "like."
        ὀψόμεθα, "we will see"; ὄψομαι is the future tense of ὁράω.
3:3
        άγνίζω, "to make holy."
3:4
       ἡ ἀ-νομία, "un-lawfulness," "lawlessness."
3:5
       ἄρη, "might take away."
3:6
       έώρακεν, perfect tense of ὁράω.
3:7
       πλανάτω, 3rd person imperative of πλανάω; see note on 2:24.
3:8
       ο διάβολος, "the Devil."
       λύση, aorist subjunctive of λύω in the sense "dissolve," "destroy."
3:9
       γεγεννημένος, perfect participle, "the one born."
       γεγέννηται, perfect indicative, "has been born"; both forms are from γεννάομαι, "to be born."
       Compare 3:9 with 2:1: ἀμαρτάνειν with ἀμάρτητε.
3:11
       Compare this entire verse with 1:5.
3:12
       σφάττω, "to slaughter," Athenaze, p. 107, line 23; ἔσφαξεν, aorist active, "he slaughtered."
       χάριν τίνος, "why," "for the sake of what."
3:14
       μετα-βαίνω, "to go across," "to change"; compare metamorphosis; μεταβεβήκαμεν is perfect tense.
       ἀνθρωπο-κτόνος, "man-slayer," "murderer"; -κτόνος is related to ἀπο-κτείνω.
3:15
       ἔθηκεν, aorist of τίθημι, "to put," "to place," "to lay down"; Athenaze, Book II, p. 256.
3:16
3:17
       χρείαν, see 2:26. κλείση, "closes."
       τὰ σπλάγχνα, "heart."
3:18
       άγαπῶμεν, 1st person subjunctive: "Let's . . . "
3:19
       πείσομεν, future tense of πείθω.
3:20
       καταγινώσκω, "to condemn," "to judge guilty."
       μείζων, comparative of μέγας; Athenaze, p. 171 and p. 172, 4b.
       ἡ καρδία, "heart." The genitive case after a comparative has the sense "than . . . "
       μείζων . . . τῆς καρδίας, "greater than [our] heart."
       ο ἐάν, "whatever"; cp. 2:5. αἰτέω, "to ask."
3:22
       τὰ ἀρεστά, "things pleasing."
3:23
       πιστεύω, "to trust," "to believe"; πιστεύσωμεν is a rist subjunctive. The noun is πίστις, "faith,"
            "trust."
```

νενικήκατε, "you have defeated"; perfect tense of νικάω, "to defeat."

τὸ πνεῦμα, τοῦ πνεύματος, "spirit." οὖ = ὄν, relative pronoun; see 1:5. 3:24 δοκιμάζω, "to test." 4:1 ἐξ-εληλύθασιν, perfect tense of ἐξ-έρχονται. ἐληλυθότα, perfect participle of ἔρχομαι. These words could have been written πᾶν πνεῦμα δ΄ 4:2 ομολογεῖ ότι Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς ἐν σαρκὶ ἦλθεν . . . ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ . . . ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου, cp. Galations 3:7, Romans 4:6. 4:4-5 διὰ τοῦτο, "because of this." λαλέω, "to talk," "to say." ἐφανερώθη, "was revealed." 4:9 ἐν may be redundant in the phrase ἐν ἡμῖν. ἀπέσταλκεν, "has sent"; perfect tense ο ἀποστέλλω, "to send"; cp. ὁ ἀπόστολος. ήγαπήκαμεν, perfect tense of άγαπάω. 4:10 4:11 ὀφείλω, see 2:6. τεθέαται, perfect tense of θεάομαι. 4:12 τετελειωμένη έστίν, "has been brought to completion/perfection"; perfect passive of τελειόω. μαρτυρέω, "to be a witness." The noun is ή μαρτυρία, "testimony" (5:10). 4:14 4:16 ἥν, see note on 1:5. τετελείωται, see note on 2:5. 4:17 ή κρίσις, τῆς κρίσεως, "judgment." τέλειος, τελεία, τέλειον, "perfect," "complete" (cp. τέλος and τελειόω). 4:18 ἡ κόλασις, "punishment." 4:20 őν, see 1:5. ἐώρακεν, "he has seen"; perfect tense of ὁράω. 5:1 γεγέννηται, see note on 3:9. γεννήσαντα, aorist participle of γεννάω, "to give birth to"; cp. γεννάομαι in 3:9. This is the aorist active participle of the word = "the one who gave birth to"; γεγεννημένον is the perfect passive participle = "the one who has been born." τὸ ὕδωρ, τοῦ ὕδατος, "water." 5:6 τὸ αίμα, τοῦ αίματος, see 1:7. τὸ μαρτυροῦν, neuter participle of μαρτυρέω, neuter because of τὸ πνεῦμα. είς τὸ εν είσιν, compare the English "turninto one" "become as one." 5:8 5:13 είδητε, see 2:28. 5:14 αίτέω, see 3:22. ö ἐάν, "whatever . . . "; see note on 3:22. 5:15 τὸ αἴτημα, τοῦ αἰτήματος, "the request." ήτήκαμεν, perfect tense of αἰτέω. ἐάν τις ἴδη, "if anyone sees . . . "; aorist subjunctive of ὁράω. 5:16 ίνα ἐρωτήση, "that he should ask"; ἐρωτάω, "to ask." γεννηθείς, aorist participle of γεννάομαι with the same meaning as γεγεννημένον in 5:1 above. 5:18 τηρέω, "to keep," "to protect." ο πονηρός, cp. 2:13. ἄπτομαι + genitive case = "to take hold of," "to touch," "to injure." ήκω, "to have come," "to arrive" Athenaze, Chapter 5. 5:20 ἡ διάνοια, "understanding." φυλάξατε, "guard," aorist imperative οf φυλάττω/φυλάσσω, "to guard." 5:21 ἑαυτά = ὑμᾶς αὐτούς, "yourselves" (Athenaze, p. 72). Compare note on 1:8. τὸ εἴδωλον, "idol," "image."

ἡ ἐντολή, "commandment."