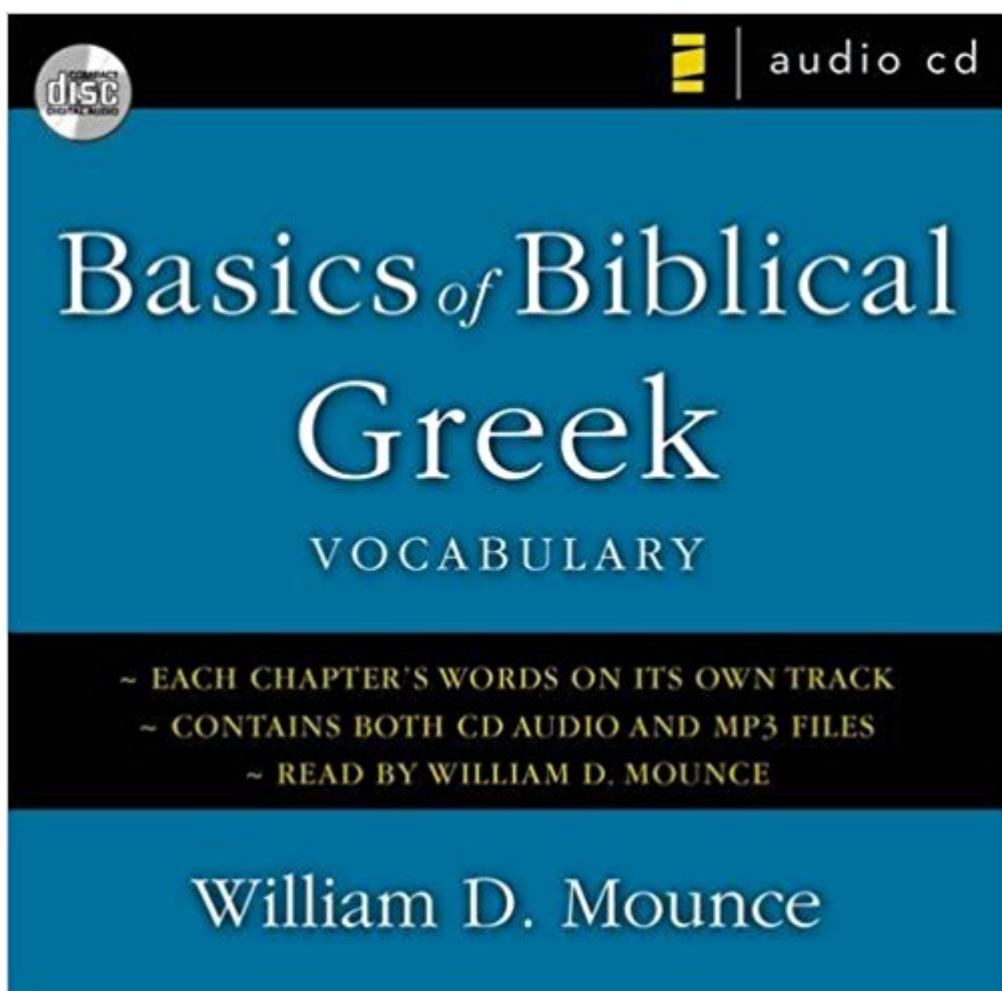


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Basics Of Biblical Greek Vocabulary



Synopsis

This audio CD contains all the Greek words found in the vocabulary sections of *Basics of Biblical Greek* by William D. Mounce, presented in the order of the lessons. Students can therefore listen to and learn their vocabulary words while they are working in the house, driving, walking, and the like.

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Customer Reviews

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William D Mounce (PhD, Aberdeen University) lives as a writer in Washougal, Washington. He is the President of BiblicalTraining.org, a non-profit organization offering world-class educational resources for discipleship in the local church. See 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.

In order to transfer into a Bible program, I needed to pass a 1st year Greek exam based on Mounce. 10 years ago, I took 2 semesters of classical Greek, and since then had tried and failed to learn

Biblical Greek on my own using Å Machen Å and Å Vine. This book was a delight to go through. I had the Å 1st edition, but quickly switched to the second edition because there was no online answer key. I used the textbook in conjunction with the Å workbook, the Å flashcards, and the Å "cheat sheet". Just this past week, I easily passed my entrance exam, so I can confidently say that this text works! Mounce's style is engaging, informal, and lighthearted at times. This is great relief when your brain is fried from trying to learn paradigms. I really enjoyed how he kept the proper motivation in front of me at all times. I am learning Greek to better understand God's word, not just to pass a test or increase knowledge. This text is heavy on pattern recognition, not brute memorization. I found this incredibly helpful. I have no complaints about the amount (or lack) of vocabulary, or the fact that nouns and verbs are divided up. If you are trying to learn Greek on your own, you need to have at least the 2nd edition. You need to get the workbook as well. Parsing and translating is how Greek gets into your brain, not just reading the textbook. I found the flashcards very helpful, and I referenced the cheat sheet now and then. I never used the accompanying cd. You can learn Greek on your own, using this book!

This is an excellent NT Greek grammar. Unlike some Greek grammars (notably Hansen and Quinn's Attic grammar, one I have experience with), this is ideally suited for the self-learner. Here's why:- Mounce tries to minimize the amount of memorization required. Greek is a difficult language, no two ways about it: but the way the material is presented can make learning easier or harder. For those of us who come at it as adults, memorization is difficult. Some grammars require massive amounts of rote memorization; Mounce takes instead the tack of giving you a number of rules to apply, then only requiring memorization where the rules don't apply. Using this method, the amount of memorization is cut dramatically, and the effort required is reduced accordingly.- To ease the remaining memorization, Mounce includes lots of good vocabulary helps. Unfortunately, vocabulary acquisition is usually another rote memorization affair. Mounce includes either derivations or cognates in other languages (drawing in some cases on Metzger's "Lexical Aids for Students of New Testament Greek"), or silly little memorization aids. An example of the latter is Mounce's memorable word play on the word ELPIS (= "hope"): "Some people HOPE that ELVIS did not die." I think I can safely say I will never forget the meaning of ELPIS.- In many ways (including the previous two items) Mounce includes the fruit of his years of experience as a teacher of New Testament Greek. Many books that I'm sure would be just fine when learning from a professor completely fall apart when an autodidact (like myself) attempts to use them. With this book, it's almost as good as Mounce being right there.- Although I would not have believed it, Mounce has

successfully integrated devotional sections at the beginning of most chapters. A combination textbook/devotional? Yes, believe it or not. The section for chapter 10, for example, is simply amazing - building off John 1:14, KAI hO LOGOS SARX EGENETO ("And the Word became flesh.") This answers another big problem for autodidacts, which is that you don't have much of an inducement to continue when the going gets tough. These devotional sections (I am assuming a Christian student, of course) add greatly to your experience and make you look forward to new chapters. The end result is that this book makes it possible to learn New Testament Greek on your own to just about the same depth as you would get at a seminary. That's an amazing feat in itself. But be aware, this book has no exercises in it. Rather, you need to buy the companion workbook, which has all the exercises.

This is an excellent text. I purchased this book prior to taking Greek in seminary. I used this book and its companion workbook for self-study. During the summer I was able to learn most everything that we would later spend a year studying in class. I am not a language whiz kid, but I was willing to put in the hard work and to pay attention to what Mounce writes. The keys: 1. Study! 2. Read what Mounce says. Do not just memorize the words and paradigms and wait for the teacher to tell you how to use them. Mounce tells you, just read carefully. After Chapter 9, Mounce gives you the options: Track 1 - Finish the nouns and then move on to verbs. Track 2 - Start verbs now and finish nouns later. I followed Track 2 because I wanted to begin reading my Greek New Testament sooner rather than later. Mounce prefers you to follow Track 1 (that's why it's numbered first!) I was happy with my decision to follow Track 2. I had to brush up on my nouns when we got back to them, but it was worth it. I recommend this text over Croy's primer (you can see my review there). I like that Mounce, when teaching verbs, will separate the connector vowel. Croy does not do this. It made the verb forms much more clear to me and helped me find the lexical root, especially when encountering compound verbs. I also love the "Exegetical Insight" at the beginning of each Chapter. This was inspiring and encouraging along the journey of learning Greek. You could, if you wanted, just use the little "Exegetical Insight" as Sunday School or Bible Study lessons. Note: The text has no practice lines. I highly recommend you purchase the companion workbook! You can get the answers online, which is a lifesaver for those undertaking self-study. It also never hurts to open up your Greek New Testament next to your favorite translation, and practice translating the words/syntax you understand.

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