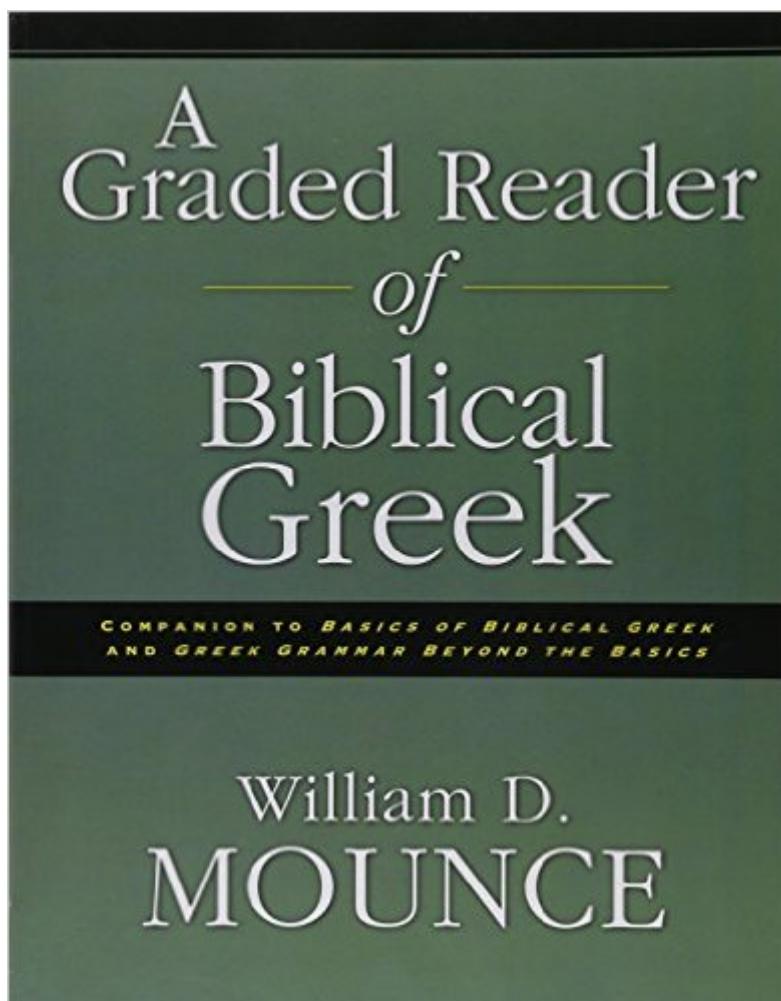


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A Graded Reader Of Biblical Greek



Synopsis

Making the leap from the basics of biblical Greek to its real-life application can be a frustrating challenge for students of intermediate Greek. A Graded Reader of Biblical Greek was developed to make the transition easier. It takes beginning exegetes from simple to progressively more difficult biblical texts. Students can now learn New Testament Greek the way they would any other language: through a graded program. A Graded Reader of Biblical Greek applies an inductive method to learning intermediate Greek grammar. It provides a workable introduction to exegesis, word studies, and developing a large vocabulary; and it assists the student in preparing for class, allowing classroom time to be put to its most effective use. - Twenty Greek passages are presented in graded order. - Difficult and unfamiliar grammatical constructions are explained. - All words that occur fewer than 20 times in the New Testament are defined. - An "Exegetical Discussion" section helps the exegete gain a deeper understanding of the language. A Graded Reader of Biblical Greek is the result of ten years of use and refinement by the author in an actual classroom setting.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Zondervan; annotated edition edition (May 4, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310205824

ISBN-13: 978-0310205821

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #298,274 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Education #157 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Language Studies #944 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Linguistics

Customer Reviews

So. You've finished first-year Greek, you've got a lexicon at your side, maybe an advanced grammar as well; what's next? Dive straight into the Greek New Testament, clutching commentaries and reference works to keep you afloat? You could...but if you'd prefer to ease your way gently into the New Testament, consider putting the Nestle-Aland back on the shelf and first working your way through this reader. Its aim is to teach how to read Greek with facility, an essential skill for accurate

exegesis and interpretation. Twenty selections survey nearly all the books of the New Testament and are not altered or abridged from their sources. To aid the learner, abundant footnoting navigates the hard parts and calls attention to nuances and important details. The novel system of phrasing taught in this book is easy to understand and should help the student still mastering Greek syntax to keep up with St. Paul and his long discursive sentences. Seminary students will appreciate the sample sermon outlines that accompany the early chapters, as examples of how to turn study into instruction. This reader is meant to follow Mounce's well-received "Basics of Biblical Greek," but does not depend on it; you can come having studied from any textbook of basic Greek. It was also written to be compatible with Wallace's "Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics," but, once again, does not explicitly require it. Keep in mind that the sole purpose of this reader is for practice reading Greek, and you should not be disappointed with the contents. There are many things it does not include. It does not cover the manuscript tradition or the critical apparatus, or teach how to weigh variant readings.

Mounce's "Graded Reader" is intended as a transitional textbook for students who are in their second year of Greek. I give it three stars because, while it is better than any alternative I have found, I think it is lacking in several respects and is somewhat disappointing given the quality of Mounce's BBG. The book consists of 20 extended passages in Koine Greek, coming primarily from the New Testament. The readings cover all four Gospels, several letters, and Revelation. In addition, a Septuagint Psalm is thrown in, as well as an excerpt from the Didache, one of the earliest teaching documents of the Church. In addition to the passages, there is an introductory section on a technique, developed by Mounce, called "phrasing." It is essentially a means of diagramming Greek sentences to clarify the relationships of the parts of the sentence. Also, the book has a synopsis of Wallace's extensive "Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics," and a "cheat sheet" which lists the various cases, tenses, etc., and their uses. The passages themselves have footnotes, which are primarily used for vocabulary. The footnotes gloss words that occur 20 or fewer times, and in addition to a definition provide the number of occurrences of the word in the NT. This is useful for finding the words in Mounce's flash card deck, if you have that. Aside from the vocab notes, each page explains various theological and/or grammatical concepts. At the end of each passage is a grammar summary and reflections on the text. I agree with a previous reviewer that Mounce's theology can be ignored. My biggest complaint about this book is that the commentary in the notes is not very useful. The footnotes consist primarily of references to other author's commentaries.

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