

# Introduction to Biblical Greek

Contracted (Contract) Verbs in –έω

Voelz Ch. 14

## Devotion – Galatians 4:22-23

γέγραπται γὰρ ὅτι Ἀβραὰμ δύο  
υἱοὺς ἔσχεν, ἓνα ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης  
καὶ ἓνα ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας.  
ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης κατὰ  
σάρκα γεγέννηται, ὁ δὲ ἐκ τῆς  
ἐλευθέρας δι' ἐπαγγελίας.

# Contract (or Contracted) Verbs

- Verbs learned so far have a stem ending in a consonant (e.g. λέγω) or a long vowel (e.g. λυω)
- Contract verb stems end in a short vowel: α, ε, or ο
- You will never see the dictionary form of contract verbs in Koine Greek, just the contracted form

# Example Paradigms

- See Chapter 14, B
- See Chapter 14, C

# General Contraction Rules

## 1) Combining

- a) 2 like vowels form a common long vowel

$$\alpha + \alpha = \alpha$$

$$\alpha + \varepsilon = \alpha$$

- b) an “o” sound vowel overrules  $\alpha$   $\varepsilon$   $\eta$

$$\alpha + o = \omega$$

$$o + \alpha = \omega$$

- c)  $\alpha + \varepsilon$  or  $\alpha + \eta$  (or vice versa), the first vowel overrules

$$\alpha + \varepsilon = \alpha$$

$$\varepsilon + \alpha = \eta$$

$$\alpha + \eta = \alpha$$

# General Contraction Rules (cont.)

## 2) Disappearing

- a) a vowel disappears when combined with diphthong

$$\varepsilon + \varepsilon\iota = \varepsilon\iota$$

$$o + ou = ou$$

- b) vowel before diphthong with different vowel: vowel contracts with 1<sup>st</sup> letter and 2<sup>nd</sup> drops

$$\alpha + ou = \omega$$

- c) there are, of course, exceptions

$$\alpha + \varepsilon\iota = \alpha_{\iota}$$

# Homework

- Vocabulary
- Section F: Parse and Translate
- Section G: Practice Sentences, both Greek to English & English to Greek
- Section H: Bible Passages