

## PARTICIPLES

*Genitive Absolute*

The *genitive absolute* is a special construction of Greek grammar in which a participle (along with its noun or pronoun) is only loosely connected to the sentence in which it is found. Both the participle and the noun or pronoun are in the *genitive case*. In some constructions, the genitive absolute consists only of the participle alone.

*When Is the Genitive Absolute Used?*

The noun or pronoun modified by the participle must be **different** from the *subject* of the sentence and *not grammatically connected* to the rest of the sentence.

*How Is the Genitive Absolute Translated?*

Often, the genitive absolute cannot be translated word-for-word directly into English. After determining the *meaning* of the genitive absolute, the student should choose appropriate English wording that best conveys that meaning. For now, certain guidelines may be helpful.

If the genitive absolute consists of a participle modifying a noun or pronoun:

Use *while* for **present** participles.

Use *after* for **aorist** participles.

If the genitive absolute consists of a participle standing alone:

Use a verb form ending in *-ing*.

Circle the meanings of the genitive absolutes.

διδάσκοντος Παύλου	εἰπόντος	βαπτισθέντος Ἰησοῦ	πειθομένου αὐτοῦ
the teacher of Paul Paul taught while Paul was teaching	after saying while saying of the saying	the baptism of Jesus after Jesus was baptized while Jesus baptized	while he was being persuaded the persuasion of him while he persuaded
ἀρχομένων τούτων	ἀκουόντων αὐτῶν	ἀρξαμένου αὐτοῦ	ἀρνούμενων πάντων
of these rulers while these things begin after they began	while they were hearing after they heard after he heard	while they begin after he is beginning after he began	while all had denied while all were denying after all had denied

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