

ASPIRATION (BREATHING) MARKS IN THE TEXT

The technical terms are:

"rough"

"smooth"

You may have noticed on the list of alphabet letters that there was no "h"...no aspirated vowel.

Greek makes up for this deficiency with a mark that is above the first letter of a word if it is a vowel. The mark is over the letter (only vowels in initial position) and causes them to be pronounced with aspiration if it is  $\text{᾿}$

or without aspiration if it is  $\text{Ᾱ}$ .

You will need to pay special attention to this mark...it can occur with accent marks as well and be hard to distinguish.

Here are some examples:  $\text{ἔν}$ ,  $\text{ἀρχῆ}$ ,  $\text{ἰ}$ ,  $\text{ῆν}$

PUNCTUATION: Originally Greek seems to have had no formal system of punctuation. But in the Biblical text you will find these marks with these meanings:

- period, end of the thought.
- ῥ question mark
- ῑ a comma
- a colon or a semicolon.

You will also find textual emendation marks in the text but these will wait for another lesson...maybe another course.

VOCABULARY: Please memorize these words...the Greek word and its meaning in English:

1. ἄνθρωπος - man
2. λόγος - word
3. λύω ... (I) loose
4. ἔχω ... (I) have
5. λέγω (I) speak

Now what we have tried to do in this lesson is to study the alphabet, get the pronunciation of the letters and see how they are written. To this we have added the material about diphthongs, punctuation, aspiration and accentuation.

Your assignment for the next class is to:

- learn the alphabet
- spend the assigned time with your "buddy", doing the assigned work
- read over the syllabus material for understanding
- look at the text on page 8 and the breathing mark notes in the margin.
- memorize the vocabulary words given above.

And we will see you next week!