

John 1:1-14
Christmas Day (principle Mass), Years A, B, and C, RCL

John 1:1-18
First Sunday after Christmas, Years A, B, and C, RCL

Jn. 1:1

ἐν, **en**; *prep*:

Bauer, pp. 257-261; TDNT, II, 537-543; Strong's G1722

Jn. 1:1: **in** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown], also **en** [IAdNT]

cf. Gen. 1:1 [LXX]: ἐν

ἀρχῆ, **archē**; *n: dat sg fem* of ἀρχή:

Bauer, pp. 111f.; TDNT, I, 479-484; Strong's G746

Jn. 1:1; also 1:2: **beginning** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown], also **principio** [IAdNT]

cf. Gen. 1:1 [LXX]: **b^ereshith**, ἀρχῆ

Brown: This is not . . . the beginning of creation . . . [It] refers to the period before creation and is a designation, more qualitative than temporal, of the sphere of God.

Bultmann: . . . In Jesus one encounters what is beyond the world and time.

ἦν, **ēn**; *vb: imperf act ind 3rd pers sg* from εἶμι:

Bauer, pp. 221-225; TDNT, II, 398-400; Strong's G1510 / G2258

Jn. 1:1: **was** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown], also **estaba** [IAdNT]

Barrett: The continuous tense . . . indicates that by **archē** is meant not the first point in a temporal sequence but that which lies beyond time.

Brown: . . . Each of the three uses of "was" in vs. 1 has a different connotation: existence, relationship, and predication, respectively. . . . The Word simply was.

λόγος, **lógos**; *n: nom sg masc*:

Bauer, pp. 478-480; TDNT, IV, 69-136; Strong's G3056

All three instances in this vs.

Jn. 1:1: **Word** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown], also **Palabra** [IAdNT]

Barrett: . . . Jn. indicates [the word **lógos**] was not unfamiliar to his readers.

πρός, **prós**; *prep*

Bauer, pp. 716-718; TDNT, VI, 720-725; Strong's G4314

Jn: 1:1: **with** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90], also **presence** [Brown], **en relación a** [IAdNT]

Jn. 1:2

ἀρχῆ, **archē**; *n: dat sg fem of ἀρχή*

Bauer, pp. 111f.; TDNT, I, 479-484; Strong's G746

Jn: 1:2; also 1:1: **beginning** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

Jn. 1:3

ἐγένετο, **egéneto**; *vb: 2nd aor mid ind 3rd pers sg from γίνομαι*

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

First instance in this vs.

Jn. 1:3: **came into being** [NRSV89, NJB, Brown], **came to be** [NAB, NRSV90], also **were made** [ESV, NIV11, NKJV]

δι', **di(a)**; *prep*

Bauer, pp. 178-180; TDNT, II, 65-70; Strong's G1223

Jn. 1:3: **through** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

γέγονεν, **gégonen**; *vb: 2nd perf act ind 3rd pers sg from γίνομαι*

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

Jn. 1:3: **has come into being** [NRSV89], **came into being** [NJB, NRSV90], also **came to be** [NAB, Brown], **has been made** [NIV11], **was made** [ESV, NKJV]

Jn. 1:4

ζωῆ, **zōē**; *n: nom sg fem*

Bauer, pp. 340f.; TDNT, II, 832-872; Strong's G2222

Jn. 1:4: **life** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

φῶς, **phōs**; *n: nom sg neut*

Bauer, pp. 879f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5457

Jn. 1:4; also 1:5: **light** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

Jn. 1:5

φῶς, **phōs**; *n: nom sg neut*

Bauer, pp. 879f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5457

Jn. 1:5; also 1:4: **light** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

φαίνει, **phaínei**; *vb: pres act ind 3rd pers sg from φαίνω*

Bauer, pp. 859f.; TDNT, IX, 1f.; Strong's G5316

Jn. 1:5: **shines** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

σκοτία, **skotía**; *n: dat sg fem of σκοτία*

Bauer, p. 764; TDNT, VII, 423-445; Strong's G4653

First instance in this vs.

Jn. 1:5: **darkness** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

Bauer: Also "gloom."

σκοτία, **skotía**; *n: nom sg fem*

Bauer, p. 764; TDNT, VII, 423-445; Strong's G4653

Second instance in this vs.

Jn. 1:5: **darkness** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

κατέλαβεν, **katélaben**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers sg from καταλαμβάνω*

Bauer, pp. 413f.; TDNT, IV, 9f.; Strong's G2638

Jn 1:5: **did (not) overcome** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, Brown], **has (not) overcome** [NAB, NIV¹¹], also **did (not) comprehend** [NKJV], **could (not) overpower** [NJB], **did (not) grasp** [NRSV⁹⁰]

Brown: Does this aorist refer to a specific attempt of the darkness to overcome the light? Or is it a complexive aorist summing up a series of attempts? Or is it a gnomic aorist indicating that darkness is always trying to overcome light? [vol. 1, pp. 71f.; see also his commentary on this word at p. 71.]

Jn. 1:6

ἀπεσταλμένος, **apestalménos**; *vb: perf pass part nom sg masc from ἀποστέλλω*

Bauer, p. 98; TDNT, I, 398-406; Strong's G649

Jn. 1:6: **sent from** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NIV¹¹, NKJV], **having been sent** [NRSV⁹⁰], **was sent from** [NAB], **sent by** [NJB, Brown]

Jn. 1:7

ἐγένετο, **egéneto**; *vb: 2nd aor mid ind 3rd pers sg from γίνομαι*

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

ἦλθεν, **êlthen**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers sg from ἔρχομαι*

Bauer, pp. 310f.; TDNT, II, 666-675; Strong's G2064

Jn. 1:7: **came** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

μαρτυρίαν, **martyrían**; *n: acc sg fem of μαρτυρία*

Bauer, p. 494; TDNT, IV, 474-508; Strong's G3141

Jn. 1:7: **witness** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, Brown], **testimony** [NAB, NRSV⁹⁰]

μαρτυρήση, **martyrēsē**; *vb: aor act subjunctive 3rd pers sg* from μαρτυρέω

Bauer, pp. 493f.; TDNT, IV, 474-508; Strong's G3140

Jn. 1:7: **testify** [NRSV⁸⁹, NAB, NIV¹¹, Brown], **might testify** [NRSV⁹⁰], also **bear witness** [ESV, NJB, NKJV]

φωτός, **phōtós**; *n: gen sg neut of φῶς*

Bauer, pp. 479f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5457

Jn. 1:7: **light** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

πιστεύσωσιν, **pisteúsōsin**; *vb: aor act subjunctive 3rd pers pl* from πιστεύω

Bauer, pp. 665-668; TDNT, VI, 174-228; Strong's G4100

Jn. 1:7: **might believe** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, Brown], **may believe** [NRSV⁹⁰]

Jn. 1:8

φῶς, **phōs**; *n: nom sg neut*

Bauer, pp. 879f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5457

First instance in this vs.

Jn. 1:8: **light** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

ἦλθεν, **ēlthen**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers sg* from ἔρχομαι

Bauer, pp. 310f.; TDNT, II, 666-675; Strong's G2064

Jn. 1:8: **came** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NRSV⁹⁰], also **was sent** [NKJV]

φωτός; **phōtós**; *n: gen sg neut of φῶς*

Bauer, pp. 879f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5457

Second instance in this vs.

Jn. 1:8: **light** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

μαρτυρήση, **martyrēsē**; *vb: aor act subjunctive 3rd pers sg* from μαρτυρέω

Bauer, pp. 493f.; TDNT, IV, 474-508; Strong's G3140

Jn. 1:8: **testify** [NRSV⁸⁹, NAB, Brown], **might testify** [NRSV⁹⁰], also **witness** [NIV¹¹], **bear witness** [ESV, NJB, NKJV]

Jn. 1:9

ἀληθινόν; **alēthinón**; *adj: nom sg of ἀληθινός*

Bauer, p. 36; TDNT, I, 249f.; Strong's G228

Jn. 1:9: **true** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NKJV], **true one** [NRSV⁹⁰], also **real** [NJB, Brown]

φωτίζει, **phōtízei**; *vb: pres act ind 3rd pers sg* from φωτίζω

Bauer, pp. 880f.; TDNT, IX, 310-358; Strong's G5461

Jn. 1:9: **enlightens** [NRSV⁸⁹, NAB, NRSV⁹⁰], also **gives light** [ESV, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, Brown]

ἐρχόμενον, **erchómenon**; *vb: pres mid / pass part acc sg masc* from ἔρχομαι

Bauer, pp. 310f.; TDNT, II, 666-675; Strong's G2064

Jn. 1:9: **was coming** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, Brown], **coming** [NKJV, NRSV90]

Jn. 1:10

ἐγένετο, **egéneto**; *vb: 2nd aor mid ind 3rd pers sg* from γίνομαι

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

Jn. 1:10: **came into being** [NRSV89], **came to be** [NAB, NRSV90], **had come into being** [NJB], also **was made** [ESV, NIV11, NKJV, Brown]

ἔγνων, **egnō**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers sg* from γινώσκω

Bauer, pp. 159-161; TDNT, I, 689-714; Strong's G1097

Jn. 1:10: **did (not) know** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NKJV], also **did (not) recognize** [NIV11, NJB, NRSV90, Brown]

Jn. 1:11

παρέλαβον, **parélabon**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers pl* from παραλαμβάνω:

Bauer, pp. 624f.; TDNT, IV, 11-14; Strong's G3880; Barrett, p. 163

Jn. 1:11: **accept** [NRSV89], **did (not) accept** [NAB, NJB, Brown], also **receive** [NIV84], **did (not) receive** [ESV, NIV11, NKJV, NRSV90], **rejected** [Barrett]

Jn. 1:12

ἔλαβον, **élabon**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 3rd pers pl* from λαμβάνω

Bauer, pp. 465f.; TDNT, IV, 5-7; Strong's G2983

Jn. 1:12: **received** [NRSV89, NKJV, NRSV90], **did receive** [ESV, NIV11], also **did accept** [NAB, NJB, Brown]

πιστεύουσιν, **pisteúousin**; *vb: pres act part dat pl masc* from πιστεύω

Bauer, pp. 665-667; TDNT, VI, 174-228; Strong's G4100

Jn. 1:12: **believed** [NRSV89, ESV, NIV11, NJB], **believe** [NAB, NKJV, Brown], **believing** [NRSV90]

ἐξουσίαν, **exousían**; *n: acc sg fem* of ἐξουσία

Bauer, pp. 277f.; TDNT, II, 562-574; Strong's G1849

Jn. 1:12: **power** [NRSV89, NAB, NJB], **empowered** [Brown], also **right** [ESV, NIV11, NKJV, NRSV90]

Brown: Literally "gave power" (**edōken exousían**).

Crossett: Is there a difference between "power" and "right?" If so, what?

Jn. 1:13

ἐγεννήθησαν, **egengēthēsan**; *vb: aor pass ind 3rd pers pl* from γεννάω

Bauer, pp. 154f.; TDNT, I, 665-672; Strong's G1080

Jn. 1:13: **born** [NRSV89, NIV11], **were born** [ESV, NAB, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90], also **were begotten** [Brown]

Brown: The textual evidence for reading a plural is overwhelming

Jn. 1:14

ἐγένετο, **egēneto**; *vb: 2nd aor mid ind 3rd pers sg* from γίνομαι

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

Jn. 1:14: **became** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

σάρξ, **sárx**, *n: nom sg fem*

Bauer, pp. 750-752; TDNT, VII, 98-151; Strong's G4561

Jn. 1:14: **flesh** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90, Brown]

Brown: "Flesh" stands for the whole man.

ἐσκήνωσεν, **eskēnōsen**; *vb: aor act ind 3rd pers sg* from σκηνόω

Bauer, p. 762; TDNT, VII, 385f.; Strong's G4637

Jn. 1:14: **lived** [NRSV89, NJB], also **made . . . dwelling** [NAB, NIV11, Brown], **dwelt** [ESV, NKJV], **tabernacled** [NRSV90]

Brown: **Skēnoun**, related to **skēnē**, "tent," is literally "to pitch a tent."

μονογενοῦς, **monogenoûs**; *adj: gen sg of μονογενής*

Bauer, p. 529; TDNT, IV, 737-741; Strong's G3439

Jn. 1:14: **only son** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NJB, Brown], also **only begotten** [NKJV], **only one** [NRSV90], **one and only Son** [NIV11]

Brown: . . . There is little Greek justification for the translation of **monogenēs** as "only begotten."

ἀληθείας, **alētheías**; *n: gen sg fem of ἀλήθεια*

Bauer, pp. 35f.; TDNT, I, 232-247; Strong's G225

Jn. 1:14: **truth** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSV90; see Brown, vol. 1, p. 14, for discussion on combining "grace" and "truth."]

Jn. 1:15

γέγονεν, **gēgonen**; *vb: 2nd perf act ind 3rd pers sg* from γίνομαι

Bauer, pp. 157-159; TDNT, I, 681f.; Strong's G1096

Jn. 1:15: **ranks** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, Brown], also **has become** [NRSV90], **has passed** [NJB], **is preferred** [NKJV]

ἔμπροσθέν, **emprosthén**; *prep*

Bauer, p. 256; Strong's G1715; not listed in TDNT index

Jn. 1:15: **ahead** [NRSV⁸⁹, NAB, NJB, Brown], also **before** [ESV, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰], **has surpassed** [NIV¹¹]

πρωτός, **prōtós**; *adj: nom sg*

Bauer, pp. 732-734; TDNT, VI, 865-868; Strong's G4413

Jn. 1:15: **before** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, Brown], **was before** [NKJV], also **prior to** [NRSV⁹⁰]

Jn. 1:16

πληρώματος, **plērōmatos**; *n: gen sg neut of πλήρωμα*

Bauer, p. 678; TDNT, VI, 298-305; Strong's G4138

Jn. 1:16: **fullness** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰, Brown]

Brown: . . . [Occurs] only here in the Johannine writings.

ἐλάβομεν, **elábomen**; *vb: 2nd aor act ind 1st pers pl from λαμβάνω*

Bauer, pp. 465f.; TDNT, IV, 5-7; Strong's G2983

Jn. 1:16: **have received** [NRSV⁸⁹], **have . . . received** [ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV], **received** [NRSV⁹⁰], also **had a share** [Brown]

χάριν ἀντί χάριτος, **chárin antí charítos**

Jn. 1:16: **grace upon grace** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV], **grace for grace** [NKJV], **grace in place of grace** [NAB, NIV¹¹], **grace on top of grace** [NRSV⁹⁰], also **one gift replacing another** [NJB], **love in place of love** [Brown; see his comments as regards "accumulation" and "correspondence" at vol. 1, p. 16.]

Jn. 1:17

χάρις, **cháris**; *n: nom sg fem*

Bauer, pp. 885-887; TDNT, IX, 372-402; Strong's G5485

Jn. 1:17: **grace** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰]

ἀλήθεια, **alētheia**; *n: nom sg fem*

Bauer, pp. 35f.; TDNT, I, 232-247; Strong's G225

Jn. 1:17: **truth** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NAB, NIV¹¹, NJB, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰], also **enduring love** [Brown]

Crossett: Brown combines χάρις and ἀλήθεια to translated "enduring love."

Jn. 1:18

μονογενῆς, **monogenēs**; *adj: nom sg*

Bauer, p. 529; TDNT, IV, 737-741; Strong's G3439

Jn. 1:18: **only Son** [NRSV⁸⁹, NAB, NJB, Brown], **only begotten Son** [NKJV], also **only God** [ESV], **only one** [NRSV⁹⁰], **one and only Son** [NIV¹¹]

εἰς, **eis**; *prep*

Bauer, pp. 227-229; TDNT, II, 420-434; Strong's G1519

Jn. 1:18: **close** [NRSV⁸⁹, NJB], also **at** [ESV, NAB], **in** [NIV¹¹, NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰]

κόλπον, **kólpon**; *n: acc sg masc of κόλπος*

Bauer, p. 443; TDNT, III, 824-826; Strong's G2859

Jn. 1:18: **heart** [NRSV⁸⁹, NJB], also **bosom** [NKJV, NRSV⁹⁰], **closest relationship** [NIV¹¹], **side** [ESV, NAB, Brown]

Brown: "Bosom" connotes affection.

ἐξηγήσατο, **exēgēsato**; *vb: aor mid ind 3rd pers sg from ἐξηγέομαι*

Bauer, p. 275; TDNT, II, 908; Strong's G1834

Jn. 1:18: **made . . . known** [NRSV⁸⁹, ESV, NIV¹¹, NJB], also **has declared** [NKJV], **explained** [NRSV⁹⁰], **has revealed** [NAB, Brown]

Gene Crossett, Jr.

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