

37. Perfect Participles

1. τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τῆς σαρκὸς σὰρξ ἐστίν.
(γεννάω) (εἶμι)

γεγεννημένον

perfect, passive, participle, accusative, singular, masculine.
Used substantivally.

The one who has been born of the flesh is flesh.

2. ἔλεγον μετ' ἀλλήλων ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐστηκότες.
(λέγω = they were talking) (ἵστημι)

ἐστηκότες

perfect, active, participle, nominative, plural, masculine.
Used adverbially.

They were talking with one another, standing¹ in the temple.

¹ It is tough to capture the aspect of perfect participles in translation! Here, John's use of a perfect seems calculated to present the Jewish officials as a stubborn obstacle to Jesus. They don't just stand (aorist). They "stand and remain" in the temple.

3. Ἔλεγεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς πρὸς τοὺς πεπιστευκότας
(λέγω)
αὐτῷ Ἰουδαίους· Ἐὰν ὑμεῖς μείνητε ἐν τῷ
(μένω)
λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, ἀληθῶς μαθηταί μου ἐστε.
my truly (εἰμί)

ΠΕΠΙΣΤΕΥΚΌΤΑΣ

perfect, active, participle, accusative, plural, masculine
Used substantively.

Jesus was saying to the Jews who had come to believe in Him, "If you remain in my word, truly you are my disciples."

4. ὁ ἐώρακῶς ἐμὲ ἐώρακεν τὸν πατέρα.
(όράω) (όράω)

ΕΨΩΡΑΚΨ

perfect, active, participle, nominative, singular, masculine
Used substantively

The one who has come to see me, has come to see the father.

5. αἰτεῖτε καὶ λήμψεσθε, ἵνα ἡ χαρὰ ὑμῶν ᾗ
(αἰτέω) (λαμβάνω) (εἶμι)
πεπληρωμένη.
(πληρώω)

πεπληρωμένη

perfect, passive, participle, nominative, singular, feminine
Used substantivally (predicate nominative).

*Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be and remain fulfilled.*¹

6. ἐγὼ ἐν αὐτοῖς καὶ σὺ ἐν ἐμοί, ἵνα ὦσιν²
(εἶμι)

τετελειωμένοι εἰς ἓν.

(τελειόω = I complete)

τετελειωμένοι

perfect, passive, participle, nominative, plural, masculine
Used substantivally (predicate nominative)

*I in them, and you in me, in order that they might be completed into one.*³

¹ Again, the perfect is tough to capture in translation. My translation here is clumsy but accurate.

² Are you beginning to see how important it is to get used to the various forms of εἶμι? They are all over the place. This is a subjunctive form (Master Chart page 6). It means “they might be.”

³ Again, I am struggling to capture the idea of the perfect’s aspect.

(this one is tricky because of the word order)

7. ὁ ἑώρακῶς μεμαρτύρηκεν, καὶ ἀληθινὴ
(ὄραω) (μαρτυρέω) true
αὐτοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ μαρτυρία.
(εἰμί) witness

ἑώρακῶς

perfect, active, participle, nominative, singular, masculine

Used substantively

The one who has seen has borne witness and his witness is true.¹

¹ I sound like a broken record, but doggone it! The perfect is nearly impossible to put into English. John's statement here is VERY emphatic. To translate it literally: "I have *and do* see! I have *and am* bearing witness! TRUE is my witness."