5. Conjunctions

Lesson in a Nutshell

Conjunctions connect words and phrases and clauses. They do not change form.

Conjunctions are used to connect words, phrases and clauses. They are very common. Thankfully, they do not change form. Here is a list of common conjunctions. (The number is how many times they occur in the New Testament.)

Conjunctions		
ἀλλά	638	but, yet, rather, nevertheless
γάρ	1041	for, so, then
δέ	2792	but, and, rather, now, then
ἐάν	351	if, when
εἰ	502	if, that, whether
ἕως	146	until, while
ἤ	343	or, either, nor, what, than
ἵνα	663	in order that, that, so that
καθώς	182	as, just as, even as
καί	9161	and, even, also, but, yet
ὅταν	123	whenever, when
ὅτι	1296	that, so that, because, for
οὐδέ	143	and not, neither, nor
οὖν	499	so, therefore, consequently
οὕτως	208	in this manner, thus, so
σύν	128	with, together with
τέ	215	and, and so, so
τότε	160	then, therefore
ὡς	504	as, like, because, when, while

There is nothing odd about Greek conjunctions. They behave very much like English conjunctions.

<u>Just in Case You Are Curious</u>

Question: What is the difference between a phrase and a clause?
Answer: Clauses contain a subject doing the action of a verb. Phrases do not.

Examples of Phrases

- through the looking glass
- happily, and without reservation
- over the rainbow
- because of the large explosion

Notice that in every case there is no subject and the thoughts are incomplete.

Examples of Clauses

- <u>bald</u> *is* beautiful
- <u>I</u> *was happy* to finish my work
- <u>might</u> does not always *make* right
- although <u>he</u> *was silent*
- whenever <u>she</u> *loses* her patience
- when <u>the saints</u> *go* marching in

In each of these clauses, there is a <u>subject</u> doing the action of a *verb.*

Clauses may be divided into two types: independent and dependent.

<u>Independent clauses</u> can stand on their own as complete sentences if they want to. The clauses in black print are independent clauses. Add punctuation and they make complete sentences.

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<u>Bald</u> *is* beautiful.
<u>I</u> *was happy* to finish my work.
<u>Might</u> does not always *make* right.

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The clauses in red print are <u>dependent clauses</u>. They must be attached to a sentence to make sense. For example:

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Although he was silent, it was clear that he was angry.
The veins in her head get big whenever <u>she</u> *loses* her patience.
I want to be in that number when <u>the saints</u> *go* marching in.

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Mt. Κοίνη 25

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