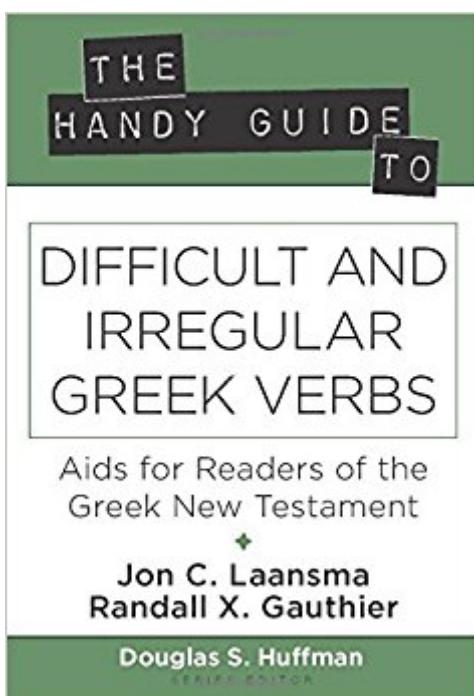


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The Handy Guide To Difficult And Irregular Greek Verbs: Aids For Readers Of The Greek New Testament (The Handy Guide Series)



Synopsis

"This book is a go-to reference for the instructor and a lifeline for the Greek student."--Max Lee, North Park Theological Seminary The Handy Guide to Difficult and Irregular Greek Verbs is a learning aid especially for those transitioning from beginning courses in Greek to regular reading of the New Testament. This resource helps students learn those irregular Greek forms that are otherwise difficult to place; it's also perfect for pastors, biblical scholars, and anyone who learned Greek years ago and wants to improve their ease of reading the New Testament.

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Customer Reviews

Laansma and Gauthier have developed a new approach to an old problem—how to parse difficult verb forms. A helpful feature of this book is their treating all compounded forms of a verb in the same list. This will no doubt be a welcome aid to students of New Testament Greek as they learn to identify these forms for themselves. (Stanley E. Porter McMaster Divinity College 2017-08-01) Many students of New Testament Greek need help in the leap from basic introductory courses to efficient and enjoyable reading of the text. One part of that hurdle is the mastery of irregular verbs. Here is a set of fine tools to help you overcome the challenge. The key part of this volume is a listing of all irregular verbs, in both their simplex and their compound forms, in decreasing frequency of usage. That means the student can set realistic goals in the pursuit of the mastery of forms, gradually tackling the rarer forms. And if that student is really wise, he or she will use this tool in conjunction with regular reading of the Greek New Testament. (D. A. Carson,

Editor Douglas S. Huffman is professor and chair of the Department of Biblical and Theological Studies at Northwestern College in Minnesota. He is the coeditor of *God Under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents God*.

Perfect companion to their other book "The Handy Guide To New Testament Greek" series. Looking forward to more in this series.

Kregel Academic recently sent me a copy of their latest volume in the "Handy Guide" series of New Testament Greek tools. The first in the series was Douglas S. Huffman, *The Handy Guide to New Testament Greek* (reviewed here). Like this previous handbook, Laansma and Gauthier provide a user-friendly quick reference which will be an important supplement to any New Testament Greek course. The goal of *The Handy Guide to Difficult and Irregular Greek Verbs* is to provide a set of vocabulary aids not found in other vocabulary lists. Most beginning Greek students tend to think of the present active first singular forms as a kind of "default" for a Greek verb, but this is often an unfortunate assumption. The authors therefore define a "difficult or irregular verb" from the perspective of that first year Greek student: these are the verbs which have unusual principle parts and are therefore the most difficult to recognize while reading the New Testament. My typical approach to principle parts has been to have students memorize the 25 most common irregular verbs in the second semester of Greek, and then another 15 in the third semester (reviewing the original 25). The problem with this method is some principle parts are so rare in the Greek New Testament it is not profitable to memorize them. Laansma and Gauthier point out that *εἰσελθετική* occurs 192x in various compound forms, but the second principle part *εἰσελθόμενη* only appears three times. It is probably a waste of student effort to memorize the rare form, but it is important to memorize the third principle part, the aorist form

εἰσελθόμενη since it is more common and used in compound forms. The best thing about this book is the four page list of irregular verbs ordered by frequency in the New Testament. Each block of 10-12 forms are assigned a letter (a-j). The list begins with *εἰσελθόμενη* (the aorist active participle, masculine genitive singular of

Although **Ἄγαπα** only appears 415x in the Greek New Testament, compound forms run that number closer to 600x. By learning this form, the student will recognize forms of **Ἄγαπα** and **Ἄγαπα**, for example. Part 2 of the book is an alphabetical list of verbs with their compound forms. Taking **Ἄγαπα** as an example, they list the six principle parts, printing the most common in bold and indicating which of the lists in part 1 the form appeared. Only the aorist and aorist passive forms are common enough to appear on the lists in part 1, the future active appears only three times and the perfect middle/passive does not appear at all in the Greek New Testament. The book has two appendices. The first prints the full paradigms of

Ἄγαπα and **Ἄγαπα** in present and imperfect forms. The first is the extremely common to-be verb and appears in numerous compound forms and must be memorized if one is going to read Greek. This second form is not found in the New Testament, but compound forms are common (**Ἄγαπα** and **Ἄγαπα**, for example). The second appendix deals with perfect and pluperfect middle/passive forms as well as the optative mood. Although many of these are formed regularly, they are rare enough to qualify as **Ἄγαπα** forms in this handbook. Conclusion. This book should be in the hands of every Greek student as they struggle to read the New Testament. This handbook should be a go-to reference for difficult verbal forms. NB: Thanks to Kregel Academic for kindly providing me with a review copy of this book. This did not influence my thoughts regarding the work. Published on August 25, 2017 on [Reading Acts](#).

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