

Mounce 29 Handout: Adjectival Participles (PTCs)  
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REVIEW: What are PTCs?

1. Participles are *verbal adjectives*! They have verbal characteristics (can be marked in Greek for tense-stem [aspect] and voice; can take objects and modifiers) and adjectival characteristics (can be inflected for case, gender, and number; can function as other adjectives do—attributively, predicately, and substantively).

2. Since Participles are *verbal adjectives*, they are describing or modifying something (explicitly or implicitly). NOTE: To simplify matters: If the ptc is Active, then whatever it describes is the doer/agent of the ptc-verbal action (typically translate with *-ing*). If the ptc is Passive, then whatever it describes is the receiver/patient of the ptc-verbal action (typically translate with *-ed, -d, -en*).

a. *the biting man*: active ptc, the man does the biting

b. *the bitten man*: passive ptc, the man is the patient, someone else does the biting activity

3. Adjectival PTCs can function just like other Adjectives. What are the 3 functions of adjectives?

a. Attributive (notice the first and second attributive positions)

ὁ καλὸς ἄνθρωπος...

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ καλὸς...

b. Predicative (notice the predicate position)

ὁ ἄνθρωπος καλός.

καλὸς ὁ ἄνθρωπος.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἐστὶν καλός.

καλὸς ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος.

c. Substantival (notice the lack of a noun to modify and agree with C,G,#)

ὁ καλὸς ἀγαπᾷ τὸν ἄνθρωπον.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ πονηρὸς ἐκβάλλει τὸν καλόν.

4. Although Mounce doesn't mention it, Adjectival PTCs can function in all 3 ways that normal adjectives do.

a. Attributive (notice the first and second attributive positions)

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ λέγων τῷ ὀχλῷ ἐστὶν ὁ διδάσκαλός μου.

ὁ λέγων τῷ ὀχλῷ ἄνθρωπος ἐστὶν ὁ διδάσκαλός μου.

b. Predicative (notice the predicate position)

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἐστὶν λέγων τῷ ὀχλῷ.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἦν λέγων τῷ ὀχλῷ.

c. Substantival (notice the lack of a noun to modify and agree with C,G,#)

ὁ λέγων τῷ ὀχλῷ ἐστὶν ὁ διδάσκαλός μου.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ πονηρὸς ἐκβάλλει τὸν λέγοντα τῷ ὀχλῷ.

5. How to tell the difference between adjectival and adverbial PTCs?

- a. Adverbial PTCs are NEVER articular.
- b. Adjectival PTCs are FREQUENTLY articular.

So:

- c. If a PTC is articular, it must be Adjectival.
- d. If a PTC is anarthrous, it could be either, but is probably Adverbial.

6. Practice: Determine whether the following participles are adjectival or adverbial:

λέγων τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ Ἰησοῦς λαμβάνει τὸ παιδίον.

ὁ λέγων τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ λαμβάνει τὸ παιδίον.

Ἰησοῦς λαμβάνει τὸν ἀπόστολον τὸν λέγοντα τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ.

πιστεύοντα Ἰησοῦς λαμβάνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον τὸν λέγοντα τῷ ἀποστόλῳ.