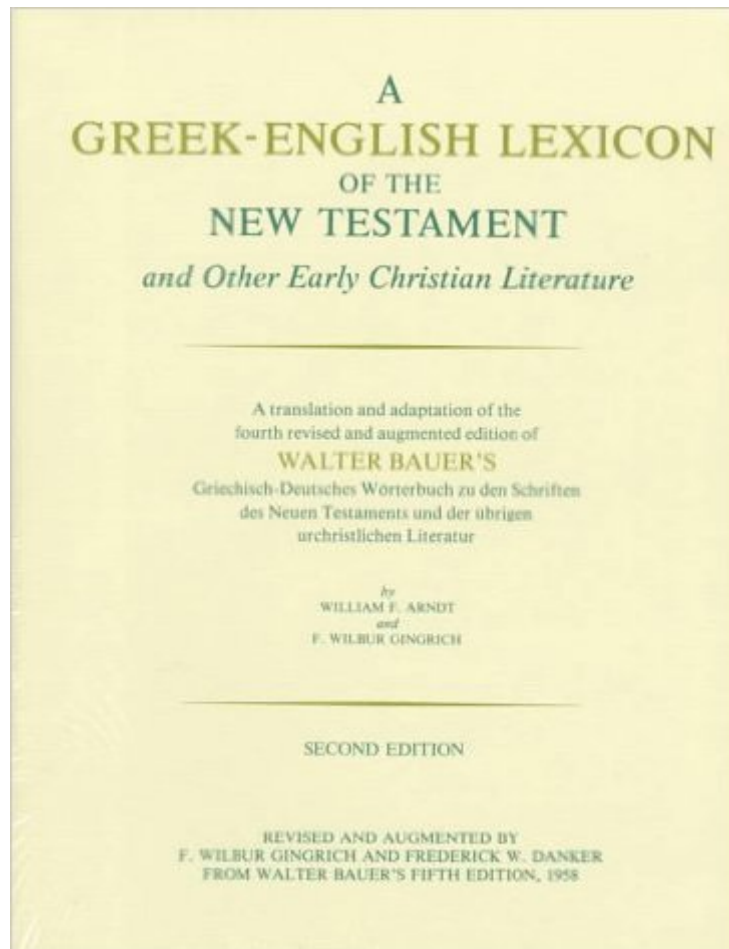


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# A Greek-English Lexicon Of The New Testament And Other Early Christian Literature, Second Edition



## Synopsis

A digest of the basic lexical information on New Testament words contained in Bauer/Arndt/Gingrich/Danker, "A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature," Dankers revision of the acclaimed "Shorter Lexicon" draws on insights from his years of interpretation and teaching. This revision shows his concern with the needs of beginning students as well as those of ministers and scholars, and it incorporates new research, new information, and analyses, rendering translations into contemporary English.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the standard Greek lexicon for New Testament studies. I find that it takes longer to use than Louw and Nida, but gives a more mature understanding. It gives many more examples, and also points out grammatical features of the words, which can be extremely helpful. This lexicon does not attempt to give you a full dictionary definition; instead, it tries to give you the data to allow you to develop your own. For a comparison of the standard lexicons for New Testament Greek, see "[...]

This book makes you work for each little bit of understanding. The method of giving many, many different examples of usage for each Greek word really broadens your understanding of each word, but is time-consuming. This lexicon is excellent for word studies beyond the Strong's level and will drive you nuts if you don't know your case forms yet (I know from experience). But all in all, this is a

resource no Biblical scholar or wannabe scholar should be without. I'd recommend getting Strong's Concordance, Vine's Expository Dictionary, a Greek New Testament and this book to go along with a New American Standard Bible for the novice in Greek. Your understanding of the New Testament and of Greek will grow by leaps and bounds with diligent study of these very basic resources - even if you don't intend to study Koine Greek professionally.

In a word, thorough. Owning this, you won't use your smaller Greek lexicons anymore. Besides definitions (multiple definitions, showing the range of meaning of each word), there are copious examples taken from actual usage, both in and out of the NT. This is THE lexicon of koine Greek.

I am reviewing the second edition of this book, having only recently discovered the third edition, which may have a number of differences. This lexicon is one of the more thorough lexicons of the New Testament. It gives a wealth of information about each word, including several definitions as well as examples of its use in various places in scripture and other ancient writings. Even opinions of various scholars about meanings are found. The book is touted as the lexicon that gives you the information that you need to make a personal decision about what the word means, discovering the definition on your own. The most common complaint about the lexicon is that it is so exhaustive that it can be difficult to use, and people often prefer to have a smaller dictionary that will just give them a quick definition. I have personally been quite impressed by the usability of this lexicon, however. For each word there are short, concise definitions in italics, and one can ignore all the supplementary information if one wills. If one can only afford one lexicon, I would hope they would get this one. It is the standard lexicon, and the complaints about it being cumbersome are unfounded.

With the exception of the short dictionary at the back of my Greek New Testament, no tool has been of more use in my study of Biblical Greek than this lexicon. More than just a dictionary, the strength of this lexicon is that it gives both specific meanings of words in context as well as a knowledge of the shadings of meaning that a word carries throughout the Bible. This moves the student from a general grasp of a thing to an attentiveness to the precise way God has made himself known--there is nothing quite like it. As other reviewers have noted, this is probably not a good place for beginners hoping to do a word study to jump in. I'd recommend Vine's for that. I also recommend that those serious in the study of Biblical Greek use this book in conjunction with a Greek New Testament, Mr. Mounce's Grammar (his lexicon is handy too), and Zerwick's Grammatical Analysis. This broad

group of tools should help keep you from falling prey to a single interpretive spin. Don't let its size and price scare you off--this book is essential for the student of Biblical Greek.

I've had my copy of "A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature" for more than 35 years now and I refer to it constantly. It is certainly the most thorough of the one-volume lexicons available and should be in the library of every serious student of the NT. Each entry provides a wealth of material and considers practically every way a word is used. Whether one wants an overview of the usage of a particular word or is looking to probe in more depth, Bauer's work will prove invaluable. I have several lexicons on my shelf as well as the ten volumes of the TDNT, but none has proved more valuable than has this one. I highly recommend it.

I am blown away by this beautiful book. Each entry consists of the word usage in prior literature, along with examples (in Greek) of such usage. Various definitions are given based on these examples. Some words go on for several pages. This book makes learning a new Greek word an absolute treat!

A classic in its second edition. For those who can't afford the third edition, this is the best. Note, however, that it is a tool that takes some work to get used to. If one takes the time to read the introduction and to familiarize oneself with the many abbreviations this lexicon can provide great insight into usage and grammar in the late Hellenistic world. I would not recommend it for first-year Greek students since it assumes much greater knowledge of the language than they will yet have mastered. Intermediate students can benefit greatly, especially if they keep a copy of a good grammar handy. As with any Greek reference work, it is important to use it as a starting point for greater understanding. As shown by Peters' excellent work on the definite article, (Brill Publishers, 2014) the last word about Greek grammar and usage has yet to be written. "Listen to all. Pluck a feather from every goose that comes by. But follow no one absolutely." (Attributed to Confucius)

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