



## The AGNT Project Report—Q4 2008

As a licensee or friend of AGNT or ANLEX, we would like to update you once a quarter about our continuing work to enhance and perfect these databases and about our plans for the future.



**The Project.** The Analytical Greek New Testament Project is now in its thirty-third year. Its purpose is to provide aids to translators, students, and scholars of the Greek New Testament.

The initial product was the *Analytical Greek New Testament* (AGNT), which was published by Baker Book House in 1981 and now offered by [Trafford Publishing](#). The second product was the *Analytical Concordance of the Greek New Testament*, published in two volumes (lexical focus; grammatical focus) by Baker Book House in 1991. These two volumes are out of print and are not to be reprinted. Due to advances in computing between 1980 and 1990—to say nothing of those through the present time, there was no need to represent electronically the exact form of the concordances, since their content and more were available through user-initiated interactive searches in the Greek text enabled through several good software packages. The third output of the project was the *Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament* (ANLEX), published in 2000 by Baker Book House and reissued by [Trafford](#) in 2005.

*The AGNT Project Report—Q3 2008* introduced the team, outlined ongoing tasks, and discussed potential tasks.



**The Fourth Line.** In this issue, Timothy Friberg, Director of the AGNT Project, explains the reasoning behind adding a gloss line to the database, the methodology being followed, and the progress being made.

From the inception of AGNT research (1976) until the mid-1990s, we were quite insistent that we would never produce an interlinear volume. We staved off quite a few requests from would-be users. But then a research associate suggested again that we consider it, only without the elements that frequently make experts out of fools, as it were. Since we had rather always wanted to assist people to grow in the area of understanding and using Greek, a properly done interlinear might have its place as a quick-reference lexicon.

So we outlined the guidelines for such an addition: no inflections whatsoever (that is, no indication of tense, person, number, etc.—that could all be found in the normal AGNT tags) and no rearranging of words or use of superscripted codes to make the interlinear somehow (more) readable. What we would offer instead would be a simple English reference gloss (ERG) that would give the basic meaning, adjusted for context, taken from the glosses found in the definitions of ANLEX. That is, ἐσθίω might

normally be glossed as "eat," but in the context of HE10.27 we would give it as "consume."

Recognizing that the resulting ERGs might not be everyone's first choice, we expect in the electronic version of the same to allow the reader by clicking on the ERG to go, not just to the ANLEX lemma entry, which in fact is what most vendors that also provide ANLEX in their database packages already do, but specifically to the sub-definition where the actual ERG is found. There the user may weigh other possible glosses. Additionally, where interpretations differ as to the specific gloss set (sub-definition unit), we give by an "or" choice, two, rarely three, glosses for the same Greek reflex.

To assure consistency in carrying out our task, we chose not to do our glossing project canonically, but rather by lemma. Then under each lemma every next canonical GNT reflex is weighed and glossed. Each reflex to be glossed is examined in context and matched against the definitions in ANLEX. (Unfortunately become fortunately, in our exhaustive glossing we found deficiencies in ANLEX definition write-ups. These we are addressing. But the ANLEX revision is the subject of a following newsletter.)

Our practice is to work with volunteer Greek experts, requesting five hours of their scholarly attentions weekly. We started by giving 300-lemma sets to single volunteers, hoping to be able to get two expert opinions on each reflex of each lemma throughout the GNT. Eighteen sets conveniently cover the lemmas found in ANLEX, which is a wider assembling of data than merely that of GNT4.

The work is confessedly tedious, though active volunteers generally acknowledge a scholarly delight in becoming the expert on each next lemma of their assignments. We can blame the tediousness for the high turnover of personnel, more actually the high failure rate to engage the project at all. In particular, we have introduced about forty scholars to the challenge and have enjoyed the productivity of some five.

In addition to 300-unit sets, we also have several experts working on prepositions and conjunctions— Robert Merz on prepositions, John Werner on conjunctions, and Ray Gordon working methodically through the lexicon. We find that working on specific grammatical kinds narrows focus and heightens productivity.

We call this our "fourth line" project after the formatting of the printed version, in which the then-GNT3 Greek text was line one and our AGNT "tags" line two. When we started to support an electronic version, line three displayed our lemma-citation forms. Clearly the presentation of various vendors' use of our AGNT project does not necessarily fit well with the "line" terminology.

We have looked at the possibilities of reprinting AGNT in its revised form with four lines. Without necessarily going to multi-volumes, we think that such an undertaking can be accommodated using the initial presentation format of hardcopy AGNT.

Beyond the interlinear line of ERGs, we are considering additional lines of information, including a possible root line, that is, giving a morphological breakdown of lemmas into root and affixes. Other possibilities are under consideration as well, possibly to include Carl Conrad's alternative analysis of middle and passives. Additionally, we are always open to input from friends of the AGNT project.

In our project undertakings, accuracy is far more important a consideration than speed. Therefore, we plod on in our tasks without announcement of a completion

date. However, those with whom this description resonates might help us bring forward the estimated date of completion by suggesting others that would be open to volunteering to work in our ERG project.

We display here a sample page from John 1 which will give the reader an idea of the ERG fourth line incorporated into the existing AGNT. Suggestions, reactions, ideas are welcome.

ΚΑΤΑ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΝ

1.1	Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν,	PD N-DF-S VIIA--3S DNMS N-NM-S CC DNMS N-NM-S VIIA--3S PA DAMS N-AM-S
	ἐν ἀρχῇ εἰμί ὁ λόγος καὶ ὁ λόγος εἰμί πρὸς ὁ θεός	at beginning be the Word and the Word be with the the God
καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.	καὶ θεὸς εἰμί ὁ λόγος.	1.2 οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.
CC N-NM-S VIIA--3S DNMS N-NM-S	CC N-NM-S VIIA--3S DNMS N-NM-S	APDNM-S VIIA--3S PD N-DF-S PA DAMS N-AM-S
καὶ θεός εἰμί ὁ λόγος.	οὗτος εἰμί ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς ὁ θεός	and God be the Word this one be at beginning with the God
1.3 πάντα διὰ αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν.	AP-NN-P PG NPGM3S VIAD--3S CC PG NPGM3S VIAD--3S AB APCNN-S	
πᾶς διὰ αὐτός γίνομαι οὐδὲ εἷς	all through he be made and apart from he be made not even one	
ὃ γέγονεν	1.4 ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ	-APRNN-S!APRNN-S VIRA--3S PD NPD3M3S N-NF-S VIIA--3S CC DNFS N-NF-S VIIA--3S DNNS
ὃς γίνομαι	ἐν αὐτός ζωὴ εἰμί καὶ ὁ ζωὴ εἰμί ὁ	that which/which be made in he life be and the life be the
φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων.	1.5 καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ	N-NN-S DGMP N-GM-P CC DNNS N-NN-S PD DDFS N-DF-S VIPA--3S CC
φῶς ὁ ἀνθρώπος	καὶ ὁ φῶς ἐν ὁ σκοτία φαίνω καὶ	light the mankind and the light in the darkness shine and
ἡ σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν.	DNFS N-NF-S NPAN3S QN VIAA--3S	
ὁ σκοτία αὐτός οὐ καταλαμβάνω	the darkness it not overpower	
1.6 Ἐγένετο ἄνθρωπος, ἀπεσταλμένος παρὰ θεοῦ, ὄνομα αὐτῷ Ἰωάννης.	VIAD--3S N-NM-S VPRPNM-S PG N-GM-S N-NN-S NPDM3S N-NM-S	
γίνομαι ἄνθρωπος ἀποπέλλω παρὰ θεός ὄνομα αὐτός Ἰωάννης	come to be man send forth from God name he John	
1.7 οὗτος ἦλθεν εἰς μαρτυρίαν ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός, ἵνα	APDNM-S VIIA--3S PA N-AF-S CS VSAA--3S PG DGNS N-GN-S CS	
οὗτος ἔρχομαι εἰς μαρτυρία ἵνα μαρτυρέω περὶ ὁ φῶς ἵνα	this one come for testimony that testify about the light that	
πάντες πιστεύσωσιν διὰ αὐτοῦ.	1.8 οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖνος τὸ φῶς, ἀλλ'	AP-NM-P VSAA--3P PG NPGM3S QN VIIA--3S APDNM-S DNNS N-NN-S CH
πᾶς πιστεύω διὰ αὐτός	οὐ εἰμί ἐκεῖνος ὁ φῶς ἀλλά	all believe through he. not be that the light but
ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός.	1.9 Ἦν τὸ φῶς τὸ	CS VSAA--3S PG DGNS N-GN-S VIIA--3S/VIIA--3S+ DNNS N-NN-S DNNS
ἵνα μαρτυρέω περὶ ὁ φῶς	εἰμί ὁ φῶς ὁ	that witness about the light be the light the
ἀληθινόν, ὃ φωτίζει πάντα ἄνθρωπον, ἐρχόμενον εἰς τὸν	A--NN-S APRNN-S VIPA--3S A--AM-S N-AM-S VPPNAM-S/+VPPNNN-S PA DAMS	
ἀληθινός ὃς φωτίζω πᾶς ἄνθρωπος ἐρχομαι εἰς ὁ	true which cause to understand all mankind come into the	

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As always, we remain open to developing AGNT and ANLEX in ways that are most useful to the needs of students and readers of God's Word.

Thank you for your continued support of *The AGNT Project*, for faithfully marketing the AGNT and ANLEX databases, and for making these state-of-the-art tools for studying the Greek New Testament available to students, scholars, pastors, and laypeople worldwide.

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