



## The AGNT Project Report—Q4 2015

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



### State of the AGNT Project: 2015

Timothy Friberg

Stalactites, they say, are formed through constant dripping of calcareous water, even through centuries. Let the comparison with the AGNT project begin and end with this only, that our project is also a slow but sure process, now stretched through almost four decades.

In this newsletter we summarize current AGNT project activities. They continue to represent the ongoing faithful labors of Greek and computer experts that have volunteered for this project for love of helping others read the Greek New Testament—ultimately without aid.

- A. Ray Gordon is at work developing a Westcott-Hort AGNT database. The textual differences between the eclectic text and WH only number in the hundreds, except for punctuation issues that take the overall differences into the thousands. In any case Ray is giving his careful attention to the task whose goal is a full-fledged AGNT-WH database with all the fields in place for which AGNT has become known. In calendar 2016 we hope to make it our sixth AGNT-supported database, after AGNT Classic (GNT3), AGNT4 (GNT4), AGNT5 (GNT5), AGNT-NA28, and BYZAGNT. We gratefully acknowledge the electronic Westcott-Hort database supplied by BibleWorks.
- B. Dan Hoopert continues analyzing conjunctions for the AGNT project, both their parsings (CC, CH, CS) and English reference glosses (ERGs). His nearly completed work on οὐν is showing the conjunction to be more complicated than

many analyses recognize. In order to keep our AGNT tags simple, he is utilizing our new “annotations” feature to present additional concise explanation as to how the conjunction οὐν functions in the development of discourse.

Incidentally, Dan is working with us and John Werner in a non-AGNT task to get John’s *Greek: a Programmed Primer* (GAPP) ready for an internet presence. One of Dan’s contributions is working on several new chapters on emphasis in Greek, using notes from John’s personal Greek Testament, which work will supplement John’s three-volume, thousand-page work at helping the independent student come to an intermediate level of Greek knowledge.

- C. Carl Conrad continues to work on preparing his part of a parallel voice analysis for AGNT. We hope to run his longer essay (compared to his shorter §5.3 contribution to our AGNT appendix) in a coming issue of this newsletter. As noted earlier, his A-M-P analysis of voice (in contrast to the traditional, AGNT presentation that uses the increasingly doubted analysis of deponents) will run in a parallel AGNT until such a time as the direction of the winds of Greek pedagogy becomes clear. Indeed, we expect that his new view in a parallel AGNT (which is not his personal view at all, but that of a growing number of linguists studying the Greek and Latin languages) will help determine the future of Greek pedagogy.

His contribution is not at all merely fitting our traditional A-M-P-E-D-O-N parsing into a more efficient A-M-P. The changes will be felt widely in the subsystem of Greek verbs, even to the degree that a few traditionally active verbs will be seen as basically middle-passive with their active forms being causative of the middle sense.

- D. Tony Pope continues with his task of reviewing ANLEX lexical write-ups and AGNT ERGs. As much as ANLEX has enjoyed commendation by many of its users for the good work put together by Neva Miller, the fine-tunings being suggested by Tony are a great step forward. His lexicographical expertise widely impacting the entries of ANLEX and ERGs of AGNT will well serve Bible translators and students of Greek.

Both Carl Conrad and Tony Pope know Greek so well that it is a remarkable thing that they serve the AGNT project so enthusiastically. Greek experts that do not cheer about shortcuts to facility in Greek are in fact providing crucial help to our developing aids for translators and students of Greek that may indeed become a crutch to some, but we hope for many a stepping stone to growing familiarity and ease in Greek literature, especially biblical, but also to include wider circles.

- E. We have been releasing improved versions of AGNT for many years now, not infrequently annually. But the ANLEX revision project, now spanning fifteen years

since the first appearance of same in printed form, has been a challenge to release in segmental stages. With most of the groundwork finished, Tony and I have adjusted the ordering of his ongoing contribution such that beginning in 2016 we expect to release the next readied stage of ANLEX that will be fully coordinated with the ERGs of AGNT. Contradictory old and new information will no longer simultaneously appear in our databases for potentially frustrating discovery.

- F. SIL has a new man in place, Paul O’Rear, whose tasks encompass oversight of their electronic biblical databases, especially TW (Translator’s Workplace) and BART (Biblical Analysis Research Tool), both of which employ our AGNT package. It looks hopeful for closer cooperation between AGNT and SIL, which is ready to bring some of their expertise help to the aid of AGNT development.
- G. Mark Nodine has distinguished himself with much computer magic (it would seem to an outsider) during 2015, for which we are extremely thankful.

We plod on with our tasks, thankful for all the help that God continues to bring our way. I am very happy to note that volunteer labor has not meant that we produce merely a passing-grade product, but rather expert help graciously offered continues to provide for a developing AGNT that is sought out and used by people whose own tasks it was initially conceived to bless and is still offered as enabling to their own ends.



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, translators, and laymen worldwide.

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