

# Dr. Shirley's Greek Courses

## Grammar

### The Subjunctive Mood

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The **Subjunctive** is used to express “doubtful assertion” - a statement which may or may not be so, or to express a conditional statement, or the wish that something may or may not happen.

It is used

1. with **ἵνα** or **ὅπως** clauses to express
  - i. Purpose (eg. John 10:31)
  - ii. Negative purpose **ἵνα μη** + subjunctive = “lest” (eg. Mark 14:38)
  - iii. Result (eg. John 9:2)
  - iv. Indirect Command (eg. 1 Tim. 5:21)
  - v. Indirect Negative Command (Prohibition) (eg. Mark 6:8)  
**ἵνα** + negative pronoun + subjunctive + negative
  - vi. To express a wish (eg. Phil. 2:2)
2. with **εἰαν** or **εἰαν μη** (eg. John 12:32)
3. for Indefinite Relative Clauses with **ὅν** or **εἰαν** (John 2:5, John 11:22, Matt 10:11, Mark 14:9)
4. for Temporal Clauses with **ὅν** (eg. John 4:25, Matt.16:28, 1 Corinth.11:34, Luke 2:26)
5. for the Hortatory Subjunctive (First Person) “let us . . . “ (eg. Rom 14:13, Heb. 4:11)
6. for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Person Prohibitions, using the Aorist – to forbid in advance some contemplated action “do not begin to . . . “ (eg. Heb. 3:8, 2 Corinth. 11:16)
7. with **οὐ μη** or **εἰαν μη** for Emphatic Denial of Future action, usually with Aorist Subjunctive  
NB. The Future Indicative and Aorist Subjunctive are used interchangeably.  
(eg. John 6:35)
8. for the Subjunctive with Deliberation – when considering a future course of action  
(eg. John 12:27, Rom 6:15)

The Future Indicative is used if a greater degree of certainty is required eg Rom. 8:31, 33