

Greek Conditional Sentences in the New Testament (Classified by Structural Formation)

Type of Condition	Possibility of Being Realized	Protasis (“if”)			Apodosis (“then”)			N.T. Examples
		Conditional Word	Mood	Tense	Conditional Word	Mood	Tense	
First Class <i>‘Simple Condition’</i> – <i>‘Presumed True for the Sake of Argument’</i> *(pp. 690-694)	Assumes the reality of premise for the sake of argument, whether actually true or not.	εἰ (negative: οὐ) (Not accurate to translate as ‘since’.)	indicative	any tense		any mood	any tense	Matt. 12:27-28 Luke 4:3 Romans 6:5 Galatians 5:18 Colossians 3:1
Second Class Presumed <i>‘Contrary to Fact Condition’</i> a) in present time b) in past time (pp. 694-696)	Assumes the premise as untrue for the sake of argument, whether actually untrue or not.	εἰ (negative: μή)	indicative	past tense: a) imperfect b) aorist	(ὅν) (usually)	indicative	past tense: a) imperfect b) aorist	a) <u>Present Time</u> : Luke 7:39 John 5:46 b) <u>Past Time</u> : Mark 13:20 1 Cor. 2:8
Third Class <i>‘More Probable Future Condition’</i> a) <i>‘Future Likely’</i> <i>‘Probable’</i> , or <i>‘Hypothetical Condition’</i> b) <i>‘Present General Condition’</i> (5 th Class Condition) (pp. 696-698)	Fulfillment is uncertain, but still likely. a) Specific situation in future time, OR Only hypothetical b) Generic situation in present time	εἴν (negative: μή)	subjunctive	 a) any tense b) present		any mood	any tense	a) <u>Future More Probable</u> : Matt. 4:9 Mark 5:28 Hebrews 6:3 <u>Hypothetical</u> : 1 Cor. 13:2 b) <u>Present Gen</u> : Matt. 6:22-23 John 11:9 2 Timothy 2:5
Fourth Class <i>‘Less Probable Future Condition’</i> Only partial formations in NT. (pp. 699-701)	Possible fulfillment; “if perhaps this should occur, then ...”	εἰ	optative	present or aorist	ὅν	optative	present or aorist	1 Peter 3:14, 17 Luke 1:62 Acts 17:18

* Page numbering refers to the major section where this topic is discussed in “Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics” by Daniel B. Wallace.