Epistle 361 of Basil of Caesarea

Greek Text with Vocabulary and Commentary

Seumas Macdonald
Epistle 361 of Basil of Caesarea

Greek Text with Vocabulary and Commentary

Patristic Readers, Sample Text

© 2014 by Seumas Macdonald

The author has made an online version of this work available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 4.0 License. The terms of the license can be accessed at creativecommons.org.

Accordingly, you are free to copy, alter, and distribute this work freely under the following conditions:

(1) You must attribute the work to the author (but not in any way that suggests that the author endorses your alterations to the work).
(2) You may not use this work for commercial purposes.
(3) If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same or similar license as this one.


Published by: Seumas Macdonald

Fonts: Gentium

seumas.jeltzz@gmail.com
Τῷ δεσπότῃ μου τῷ αἰδεισιμωτάτῳ Ἀπολιναρίῳ, Βασίλειος. Πρότερον μὲν τοῖς ἐν ταῖς Γραφαῖς ἁσαφῶν ἐπεστέλλομεν, καὶ ἡφραίνομεθα, οἷς τα ἐπεμπες, καὶ οἷς ὑπισχνοῦ. Νῦν δὲ μείζων ὠμὴν ὑπὲρ μείζων ὣς φροντὶς προσελήλυθεν, εἰς ἣν οὐδένα ἔτερον ἔχομεν ἐν τοῖς νῦν ἀνθρώποις, τοιοῦτων κοινωνόν καὶ προστάτην ἐπικαλέσασθαί, ὅποιον σε καὶ ἐν γνώσει καὶ ἐν λόγῳ ἀκριβὴ το ὀμοῦ καὶ εὐπρόσιτον ὃ Θεὸς ὠμὴν ἐδωρήσατο. Ἐπεὶ οὖν οἱ πάντα φύροντες, καὶ λόγων καὶ ζητημάτων τῆν οἰκουμένην ἐμπλήσαντες τὸ τῆς οὐσίας ὄνομα, ὡς ἀλλότριον τῶν θείων λογίων, ἐξέβαλον, καταξίωσον ὠμὴν σημάναι, ὅπως τε οἱ Πατέρες αὐτῶ ἐχρήσαντο, καὶ

αἰδέσιμος, ὁν: venerable, 1
ἀκριβής, ἢς: exact, accurate, precise, 2
ἀλλότριος, ο: belonging to another, strange, 1
Ἀπολιναρίος, ὁ: Apollinaris, 2
ἀσαφής, ἢς: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
βασίλειος, -α, -ον: royal, of the king, 1
γνώσις, ἡ: knowledge, 2
γραφή, ἡ: writing, scripture, 2
δεσπότης, ὁ: master, lord, 1
δωρέω: to give, present, 1
ἐμπίπτωμι: to fill completely, fill up, 1
ἐκβάλλω: to throw out of, cast away, 1
ἐπέλευσεν: when, after, since, because, 1
πέμπω: to send, 1
ἐπιστέλλω: to send to; enjoin, command, 1
ἐπικαλέω: to summon, call upon, 1
ἐπερος, ἀ, ὁν: other, the other of two, 2
ἐπιστάσις, ὁν: accessible, agreeable, 1
ἐφισκώ: to find, discover, devise, invent, 1
χρόνος: time, moment, period, 1
ζητήματα, τα: inquiry, question; dispute, 1
ἐυφραίνω: to cheer; (mid) enjoy, rejoice, 1
θείος, -α, -ον: divine, 1
θεός, ὁ: god, divinity, 3
καταξίωμα: to deem worthy, 1
κοινωνικός, ὁ: companion, partner, 1

λόγος, ἄ, ὁν: related to words; oracles, 1
λόγος, ὁ: word, speech, account, argument 2
μείζων, -ον (-ονος): greater, 3
μηδαμοσ: nowhere, 1
οἰκουμένη, ἡ: the world, 1
ὁμός: at the same place, together, 1
ὁνομα, -atos, το: name, noun, 1
ὅποιος, ᾧ, ὁν: of what sort, quality, 1
ὅπως: how, in what way; so that, 1
οὐδεις, οὐνόμα, οὐδεν: no one, nothing, 2
οὐν: and so, then; at all events, 2
οὐσία, ἡ: essence, substance, property, 7
πᾶς, πάσα, πάν: all; each, every, 2
περί: around, about, concerning, 2
προσέρχομαι: to come or go to, approach, 1
προστάτης, ὁ: one who stands before; leader, ruler; patron, champion, 1
πρότερος, -α, -ον: before, in front of; earlier, 2
πρόσελέω: to sign, signify, indicate, 1
τοιούτος, -ατη, -άτου: such, 3
ὑπερχειροσύνῃ: to take upon oneself; to promise, 1
φροντὶς, ἡ: thought, care, consideration, 1
φόρω: to mix, combine; confuse, 1
ὡς: as, thus, so, that; when, since, 3

1 αἰδεισιμωτάτῳ: the superlative is used as a title; 'most Reverend' or something similar.
5 Take the two adjectives and apply them to the two datives as a pair, and then treat the whole phrase as modifying σε
εἰ μηδαμοῦ εὗρες ἐν τῇ Γραφῇ κείμενον. Τὸν γὰρ ἐπιούσιον ἄρτον, καὶ τὸν λαὸν τὸν περιούσιον, καὶ εἰ τι τοιοῦτον, ὡς οὐδὲν ἔχοντα κοινὸν διαπτύσσων. Ἐπείτα μέντοι καὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ τοῦ ὀμοούσιον (οὗ ἕνεκεν ἥγομαι ταῦτα κατασκευάζειν αὐτοῦς, βαθέως τὴν οὐσίαν διαβάλλοντας, ὑπὲρ τοῦ μηδεμίαν χώραν τῷ ὀμοούσιῳ καταλιπεῖν) διαλαβεῖν ἡμῖν πλατύτερον βουλήσας, τίνα τῇ διάνοιαν ἔχει, καὶ πῶς ἄν υἱὸς ἐπιούσιον, ὥς γὰρ λέγειν ὁ ὀμοούσιος τοῦ προτέρου εἰς τὸ δεύτερον. Πῶς οὖν χρῆ λέγειν ὁμοούσιον τὸν Υἱὸν τῷ Πατρὶ, εἰς μηδεμίαν ἐννοιαν τῶν εἰρημένων καταπίπτοντας,
θέλησον ἢ μὲν πλατύτερον διαρθρώσαι. Ἡμεῖς μὲν γὰρ ὑπειλήφαμεν, ὅπερ ἂν εἶναι καθ’ ὑπόθεσιν ἢ τοῦ Πατρὸς οὐσία ληφθῆ, τούτῳ εἶναι πάντως ἄναγκαιον καὶ τὴν τοῦ Υἱοῦ λαμβάνεσθαι. Ὡστε εἰ φῶς νοητόν, ἀδίδοιον, ἀγέννητον, τὴν τοῦ Πατρὸς οὐσίαν τις λέγοι, φῶς νοητόν, ἀδίδοιον, γεννητόν, καὶ τὴν τοῦ Μονογενοῦς οὐσίαν ἔρει. Πρὸς δὲ τὴν τοιαύτην ἔννοιαν δοκεῖ μοι ἢ τοῦ ἀπαραλλάκτως ὁμοίου φωνή μᾶλλον ἦπερ ἢ τοῦ ὁμοούσιον ἁρμόττειν. Φῶς γὰρ φωτὶ μηδεμίαν ἐν τῷ μᾶλλον καὶ ἢπτον τὴν διαφορὰν ἔχον, ταύτων μὲν οὐκ εἶναι (διότι ἐν ἱδίᾳ περιγραφῇ τῆς οὐσίας ἐστὶν ἐκάτερον), ὁμοίου δὲ κατ’ οὐσίαν ἄκριβῶς καὶ ἀπαραλλάκτως, ὁρθῶς ἄν οἶμαι λέγεσθαι.
Εἴτε οὖν ταύτας χρή διαλέγεσθαι τὰς ἔννοιάς, εἴτε ἐτέρας μείζους ἀντιλαβεῖν, ώς σοφὸς ἰατρός (καὶ γὰρ ἐξεφήναμέν σοι τὰ ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ), τὸ μὲν ἄρρωστον ἱάσαι, τὸ δὲ σαθρὸν ὑποστηρίξον· παντὶ δὲ τρόπῳ βεβαιώσον ἡμᾶς. Τοὺς μετὰ τῆς εὐλαβείας σου ἄδελφος ἀσπάζομαι, καὶ ἄξιῶ μετὰ σοῦ εὔχεσθαι ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν, ἵνα σωθῶμεν. Ὁ ἐταῖρος Γρηγόριος, τὸν μετὰ τῶν γονέων ἐλόμενος βίον, αὐτοῖς σύνεστιν. Ὑγιαίνων ἐπὶ πλείστον φυλαχθείς ἡμῖν, ὦφελῶν ἡμᾶς καὶ ταῖς εὐχαῖς καὶ τῇ γνώσει.

αἱρέω: to take, seize; choose, 1
ἀντιλαμβάνω: to receive instead/in turn, 1
ἀξιόω: deem worthy, think, 1
ἀρρωστέω: to be unwell, sick, 1
ἀσπάζομαι: to greet, 1
βεβαιώ: to confirm, strengthen, establish, 1
γνώσις, ἡ: knowledge, 2
γονεύς, ὁ: begetter; pl. parents, 1
Γρηγόριος, ὁ: Gregory, 1
dιαλέγομαι: to converse with, discuss, 1
ἐκφαίνω: to bring to light, reveal, appear, 1
ἔννοια, ἡ: concept, conceptualisation, 3
ἐταῖρος, ὁ: companion, 1
ἐτερος, ὁ, ἄον: other, the other of two, 2
eὐλαβεία, ἡ: reverence, piety, 1
eὐχή, ἡ: prayer, vow, 1
eὐχομαι: to pray, vow, wish, 1
ἵσομαι: to cure, treat, heal, 1
ἰατρός, ὁ: physician, doctor, 1
μείζων, ὁν (ονος): greater, 3
πλεῖστος, ὁ, ὁν: most, very many, 1
σαθρός, ὁ, ὁν: unsound, 1
σοφός, ἄ, ὁν: wise, skilled, 1
σύνειμι: to be with, be joined with, 1
σώκω: to rescue, save, 1
tρόπος, ὁ: a manner, way; turn, direction, 1
ὑγιής, ἐς: healthy, sound, 1
ὑποστηρίζω: to underprop, sustain, 1
φυλάσσω: to guard, keep, observe, 1
χρή: it is necessary, it is fitting; must, ought, 2
ὡφελέω: to help, aid, benefit, 1

32 ἐχεφήναμεν: from ἐκφαίνω
35 ἐλόμενος: from αἱρέω, “having chosen”
37 ἐπὶ πλεῖστον: In the Migne edition this is a single word.
37 φυλαχθεῖς: 2nd sg aor. opt. pass. It is expressing a wish.
ἀγέννητος, ὁ: unbegotten, 1
ἀδελφός, ὁ: a brother, 1
ἀδελφότης, ἡ, -ης, -ον: belonging to another, strange, 1
ἀδοκέω, διότι: to seem (good), think, imagine, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορα, τα: indistinguishable, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιαφορία, ἡ: indistinguishable, distinction, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἀδιάφορος, ὁ: indistinct, uncertain, obscure, 1
ἐκάτερος, ὁ, -α, -ον: each of two, either, 1
ἐκβαλλω, το: to throw out of, cast away, 1
ἐκφάνων: to bring to light, reveal, appear, 1
ἐκμαίλωμαι: to fill completely, fill up, 1
ἐν: in, on, among. (+ dat.), 8
ἐνεκεν: on account of, in consequence of, 1
ἐννοια, ἡ: concept, conceptualisation, 3
ἐπει: when, after, since, because, 1
ἐπείτα: then, next, secondly, 1
ἐπι: near (gen.), to, toward (acc.); near, at, 2
ἐπικαλέω: to summon, call upon, 1
ἐπιούσιον, ὁ: for the day, 1
ἐπιστέλλω: to send to; enjoin, command, 1
ἐρω: to say, speak, 2
ἐταγόρος, ὁ: companion, 1
ἐτέρος, ὁ, -α, -ον: other, the other of two, 2
ἐυλαβεία, ἡ: reverence, piety, 1
ἐυπρόσιτος, ὁ: accessible, agreeable, 1
ἐφεξῆς: to find, discover, devise, invent, 1
ἐφοράνων: to cheer; (mid) enjoy, rejoice, 1
ἐυχή, ἡ: prayer, vow, 1
ἐὐχομα: to pray, vow, wish, 1
ἐχω: to have, hold, 4
ζητημα, τὸ: inquiry, question; dispute, 1
ἡγομαι: to lead; consider, believe (dat) 1
ἡμεῖς, ὁι: we, 10
ἡπερ: than at all, than even, 1
ἡττων, ὁν: inferior, lesser, 1
θεός, ὁ, -α, -ον: divine, 1
θεος, ὁ: god, divinity, 3
θεωροῦμαι: to look at, to consider, 1
ίάμαι: to cure, treat, heal, 1
ιατρός, ὁ: physician, doctor, 1
ἰδιος, -ης, -ον: one’s own; private, lone, 1
Ion: in order that (+ subj.); where (+ ind.), 1
καί: and, also, even, too, 21
καρδία, ἡ: heart, 1
κατά: down from (+ gen.), down, down along (+ acc.), 2
καταληπτω: to leave behind, abandon, 1
κατατυπω: to fall, drop, collapse, 1
κατασκευάζω: to prepare, build, equip, 1
κατάνοια: to find, discover, devise, invent, 1
καταράκτων, ὁ: companion, partner, 1
λαμβάνων: to take, catch, receive, 2
λάος, ὁ: people (usu. collectively), 1
λέγω: to say, speak; 4
λογίος, ἡ, -α, -ον: related to words; oracles, 1
λόγος, ὁ: word, speech, account, argument 2
μάλλον: more, rather, 2
μεταβαίνων: to take, carry, 1
παράλλακτος, ὁ: precisely similar, indistinguishable, 2
πολιναρίος, ὁ: Apollinarius, 2
πομερισμός, ὁ: division, fragmentation, 1
πρόσιτος, ὁ: to be unwell, sick, 1
πρόσιτος, ὁ: to be unwell, sick, 1
προσπαθεία, ἡ: to deliberate, plan, take counsel, 1
πρόσπαθομαι: to treat, cure, heal, 1
πρόσπαθομαι: to treat, cure, heal, 1
πρόσπαθομαι: to treat, cure, heal, 1
μείζων, -ον (-ονος): greater, 3
μέν: on the one hand, 3
μέντοι: however, nevertheless; certainly, 1
μετά: with (+ gen.); after (+ acc.), 3
μηδαμοί: nowhere, 1
μηδείς, μηδεμία, μηδέν: no one, nobody, nothing, 3
μονογενής, ἕς: unique; only-Begotten, 1
νοτικός, ἕν, ὅν: mental; (subs) thought, idea, 2
νῦν: now; as it is, 2
ὁ, ἡ, τό: the, 55
οἰκομένη, ἡ: the world, 1
οἰμαί: to think, suppose, believe, 1
ὁμοίων, -οι, -ον: resembling, similar, like, 2
ὁμοοὐσιος, ον: of the same substance, 4
ὁμοίων: at the same place, together, 1
ὁμομα, -ατος, τό: name, noun, 1
ὁπερ: the very thing; wherefore, as, like, 1
ὁποῖς, ο, ον: of what sort, quality, 1
ὁπότως: how, in what way; so that, 1
ὁρθώς: correctly, straightly, rightly, 1
ὅς, ἡ, ὁ: who, which, what, 5
οὐ, οὐκ, οὐχ: not, 2
οὕδε, οὕδεμα, οὐδέν: no one, nothing, 2
οὖν: and so, then; at all events, 2
οὐσία, ἡ: essence, substance, property, 7
οὐδέ: neither, nor, and not, 2
οὖτος, ἀντίς, τοῦτο: this, 3
πάντως: in all ways, altogether, 1
πᾶς, πᾶσα, πάν: all; each, every, 2
πατήρ, ὁ: a father, 4
πέμψοι: to send, 1
πέρι: around, about, concerning, 2
περιγραφή, ἡ: outline, appearance; limit; individuality, 1
περιοσόπος, ον: having more; peculiar, 1
πλατύς, εἶ, ἦ: wide, broad, 2
πλεῖστος, -ης, -ον: most, very many, 1
πρός: to (acc.), near, in addition to (dat.), 1
προσέρχομαι: to come or go to, approach, 1
προστάτης, ὁ: one who stands before; leader, ruler; patron, champion, 1
πρότερος, -α, -ον: before, in front of; earlier, 2
προσβάσιμος: to take initiative; be pre-existent, 1
πῶς: how? in what way?, 2
σαρδός, ὁ, ὅν: unsound, 1
σηματίζω: to sign, signify, indicate, 1
σοφός, -ης, -ον: wise, skilled, 1
σοι: you, 5
σόνεμι: to be with, be joined with, 1
σώζω: to rescue, save, 1
τάτος, ὁ, ὅν: identical, 1
tet: both, and, 3
τίς, τί: anyone, anything, someone, something, 2
τίς, τί: who? which?, 1
τοιούτος, -άτης, -άτο: such, 3
τρόπος, ὁ: a manner, way; turn, direction, 1
ὑγιαίνω: to be sound, healthy, 1
ὑγίης, ἕς: healthy, sound, 1
ὑίός, ὁ: son, 2
ὑλικός, ὁ, ὅν: pertaining to matter, material, 1
ὑπέρ: above, on behalf of (gen.); over, beyond (acc.), 3
ὑπέρκειμαι: to lie above, be situated above, 1
ὑπαγέωναμι: to take upon oneself; to promise, 1
ὑπόθεσις, ἡ: proposal, intention; supposition; premise, 1
ὑπόκειμαι: to lie under; exist, be the subject, 1
ὑπολαμάβωνα: to take up, to understand, 1
ὑποστηρίζω: to underprop, sustain, 1
φροντίς, ἡ: thought, care, consideration, 1
φυλάσσω: to guard, keep, observe, 1
φωνή: to mix, combine; confuse, 1
φωνή, ἡ: voice, noise, sound, 1
φῶς, τό: light (φῶς), 4
χράομαι: to lack; desire; use, 1
χρῆ: it is necessary, it is fitting; must, ought, 2
χώρα, ἡ: land, region, country, 1
ὡς: as, thus, so, that; when, since, 3
ὡστε: so that, that, so as to, 1
ὡφελέω: to help, aid, benefit, 1