

1. Last week I taught Gal 1:13 and when time expired we were in the process of exegeting Gal 1:14.
2. Before we continue you may want to use the grace provisions of 1Jo 1:9 by silently naming your sins to God as the Holy Spirit may or may not show.
3. I want to provide an expanded translation of Gal 1:9-13 and then we will resume our analysis of Gal 1:14.

### **Expanded Translation**

**Gal 1:9 As we said before and now say again, since there are those teaching you doctrines other than that which you received from us, “Let them be continually cursed.”**

**Gal 1:10 Do you think I am trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Do you think I am trying to please men? If (and it is not true) I still seek to please men I would not therefore be a servant of Christ.**

**Gal 1:11 My brothers and sisters in Christ, I want you to know that the good news of salvation that I have preached to you is not something I learned from any man or group of men;**

**Gal 1:12 for you see I did not receive what I proclaimed to you from any man, nor was I taught in any formal setting, but rather that which I preached to you, I received as a revelation from Jesus Christ just after my conversion experience on the road to Damascus. All of which came as a result of a series of revelations from God Himself while I resided in the Arabian Desert.**

**Gal 1:13 Certainly by now you have all heard of my deportment and manner of life and how I zealously and continuously pursued for the purpose of maligning, wasting and persecuting the church of God;**

4. So far we have exegeted that portion of Gal 1:14 which in the KJV has been translated “And profited ...” noting it might better be translated “**and I Paul made continual progress and advancement ...**”
5. The entire verse has been translated in the KJV.

KJV-Sentence continues

Gal 1:14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

6. Let me review some of that learned and then we will continue our word study of **Prokopto** translated “profited.”
7. Paul’s unusual determination and excess of fury earned for him an exceptional reputation in Judaism.

7.1 He kept advancing in devotion to his faith and its traditions, passing by men of his own age, and giving proof of his zeal by persecuting Christians. Humane considerations meant nothing to him compared with the fulfillment of his calling in behalf of his religion.

7.2 He regarded his murderous activity as his duty. It was done in the service of God. Clearly, then, Paul could not have been influenced in favor of the gospel before his conversion, and he could not have received his message from men, as alleged by the Judaizers.

7.3 It is these points he wished to make clear in this letter to the Galatians.

8. Now for the phrase “and profited.”

AND PROFITED ΚΑΙ ΠΡΟΚΟΠΤΩ

1. **Kai Prokopto** is better translated “and I Paul made continual progress and advancement ...”

2. **Kai** is a conjunction followed by the verb **Prokopto**, parsed as 1<sup>st</sup> person singular, imperfect active indicative.

3. **Prokopto** in the imperfect means Paul continuously in the past advanced in his knowledge and reputation as an expert in the customs and laws of Judaism.

4. **Prokopto** can be found six times in the New Testament where it is translated “profited, increased, far spent, will increase, shall proceed” and “shall wax.” Several uses elsewhere will help us in our understanding of the meaning of the verb.

Luk 2:52 And Jesus **increased** in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Rom 13:12 The night is **far spent**, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

2Ti 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they **will increase** unto more ungodliness.

2Ti 2:17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

2Ti 2:18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

2Ti 3:9 But **they shall proceed** no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

2Ti 3:10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,  
2Ti 3:11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

## IN THE JEWS RELIGION ΕΝ Ο ΙΟΥΔΑΙΣΜΟΣ

1. **En Ho Ioudaismos** is well translated “in the Jews religion ...” or “with reference to Judaism ...”
2. **En** is a preposition followed by the monadic proper noun **Ioudaismos**, declined as a locative singular.
3. **Ioudaismos** is derived from **Ioudaios** a transliteration from the Hebrew “**Yehudi**” meaning “one sprung from the tribe of Judah, or a subject of the kingdom of Judah.” In the New Testament Zondervan’s Lexicon has the following to say of **Ioudaismos**, “Judaism, the character and condition of a Jew; practice of the Jewish religion.”

## ABOVE MANY MY EQUALS ΥΠΕΡ ΠΟΛΥΣ ΣΥΝΗΛΙΚΙΩΤΗΣ

1. **Huper Polus Sunelikiotes** is better translated “above many of my contemporary Jews ...”
2. **Huper** is a preposition followed by the adjective **Polus** and the noun **Sunelikiotes**, declined as an accusative plural.
3. **Polus** is an adjective translated variously as “great, many, much, great while, greatly” or “altogether.” It can be found more than 250 times. Several uses will illustrate its meaning.

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by **many** infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not **many** days hence.

Rom 5:15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one **many** be dead, **much more** the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto **many**.

Rom 5:16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of **many** offences unto justification.

Rom 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; **much more** they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Rom 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

Rom 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall **many** be made righteous.

Jam 3:1 Not **many** of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Jam 3:2 We all stumble in **many** ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

Jam 3:3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.

Jam 3:4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.

Jam 3:5 Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

Jam 3:6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Jam 3:7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man,

Jam 3:8 but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

4. **Sunelikiotēs** is a hapaxlegomenon meaning in this case “those Jews of Paul’s age and experience.” Notice how the NIV translates our verse.

Gal 1:14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews *of my own age* and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

IN MY OWN NATION, ΕΝ Ο ΓΕΝΟΣ ΕΓΩ

1. **En Ho Genos Ego** is better translated “in my own nation ...”

2. **En** is a preposition followed by the monadic noun **Genos**, declined as a locative singular and the 1<sup>st</sup> person pronoun **Ego**, declined as a genitive singular.

3. **Genos** appears more than 20 times in the New Testament where it is variously translated “nation, kind, kindred, country, stock, offspring” or “countrymen.” Let me give you several uses to illustrate its meaning. We get our English word *genre* from this noun.

Mat 13:47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every **kind**:

Mat 13:48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

Mat 13:49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

Mat 13:50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mar 7:26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by **nation**; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

Mar 7:27 But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.

Acts 4:36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of encouragement,) a Levite, and of the **country** of Cyprus,

Acts 4:37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his **offspring**.

Acts 17:29 Forasmuch then as we are the **offspring** of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

4. **Ego** is declined as a genitive singular of description. Paul considers himself a Jew though born in Tarsus as a Roman citizen.

BEING MORE EXCEEDINGLY **υπαρχω περισσοτερωσ**

1. **Huparcho Perissoteros** is better translated “while possessing an excessive ...”

2. **Huparcho** is a verb parsed as a present active participle followed by the adverb **Perissoteros**.

3. **Huparcho** as a present participle tells us that Paul was first and foremost a Jew with an excessive zeal for the traditions of Judaism.

4. **Huparcho** appears some 50 times in the New Testament where it is translated “being, live, was, who were, having, seeing that” and “are.”

4.1 Several uses will help illustrate the meaning of this verb.

Acts 3:2 And a certain man lame **from his** mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

Acts 3:3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

Acts 3:4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

Acts 3:5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

Acts 3:6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 4:34 Neither **was** there any among them that lacked: for as many as **were** possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

Acts 4:35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

Gal 2:14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, **being** a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

Gal 2:15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,

Gal 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

5. **Perissoteros** is sometimes written **Perissos**. The two can be found more than 20 times in the New Testament where they are translated “exceedingly, much more, more, greater, vehemently, superfluous” or “abundant.” Several uses will help illustrate the meaning of this adverb.

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more **abundantly**.

PJoh 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

1Co 12:23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more **abundant** honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

1Co 12:24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more **abundant** honour to that part which lacked.

1Co 12:25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

End Lesson Taught 1-15-2012