

Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek Kirk, A.

Citation

Kirk, A. (2012, November 21). Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek. LOT dissertation series. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/20157

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: License agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the

Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden

Downloaded from: https://hdl.handle.net/1887/20157

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle http://hdl.handle.net/1887/20157 holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Kirk, Allison

Title: Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek

Issue Date: 2012-11-21

Allison Kirk

Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek

This dissertation examines word order variation in the Koine Greek of the New Testament Greek in a variety of domains: declarative clauses, questions and relative clauses. In particular, I examine the way in which word order corresponds to information structure.

It is argued that although New Testament Greek shows a variety of possible permutations of the sentence elements subject (S), verb (V) and object (O), in declarative clauses, questions and relative clauses, the word order is not free. Rather, it is partly governed by phrase structure and partly by information structural considerations such as Topic and Focus. This is manifested in all of the domains investigated. I argue that the basic word order is best described as VSO with an SVO alternative basic word order. Marked clauses, such as SOV, OVS, OSV and also some SVO clauses involve topicalization or focus movement of the arguments.

This thesis is of interest to syntacticians who are interested in word order and the syntax-pragmatics interface as well as to historical linguistics and classics scholars.

> Netherlands Graduate School of Linguistics

ISBN 78-94-6093-094-2



Allison Kirk

Word order and information structure





Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek

'Απολώ τὴν σοφίαν τῶν σοφῶν, καὶ τὴν σύνεσιν τῶν συνετῶν ἀθετήσω.

οῦ σοφός; ποῦ γραμματεύς; ποῦ συζητητής ος τούτου; οὐχὶ ἐμώρανεν ὁ θεὸς τὴν σοφίαν ιου; 21 ἐπειδή γὰρ ἐν τῆ σοφία τοῦ θεοῦ οὐκ ἔγ σμος διὰ τῆς σοφίας τὸν θεόν, εὐδόκησεν ὁ θεὸς μωρίας του κηρύγματος σώσαι τους πιστεύοντ τειδή καὶ Ἰουδαῖοι σημεῖα αἰτοῦσιν καὶ Ελλη αν ζητοῦσιν, 23 ήμεῖς δὲ κηρύσσομεν Χριστὸν ἐστ ένον, 'Ιουδαίοις μέν σκάνδαλον έθνεσιν δέ μωρί ὐτοῖς δὲ τοῖς κλητοῖς, Ἰουδαίοις τε καὶ Ελλησ τόν θεοῦ δύναμιν καὶ θεοῦ σοφίαν. 25 ὅτι τὸ μω θεοῦ σοφώτερον τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐστίν, καὶ τὸ ἀσθε θεοῦ ἰσχυρότερον τῶν ἀνθρώπων.

Βλέπετε γὰρ τὴν κλησιν ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί, ὅτι ιοὶ σοφοὶ κατὰ σάρκα, οὐ πολλοὶ δυνατοί, οὐ πολ νεῖς· 27 ἀλλὰ τὰ μωρὰ τοῦ κόσμου ἐξελέξατο ΐνα καταισχύνη τους σοφούς, καὶ τὰ ἀσθενῆ ιου έξελέξατο ό θεὸς ἵνα καταισχύνη τὰ ἰσχυ





Netherlands Graduate School of Linquistics

Landelijke Onderzoekschool Taalwetenschap