

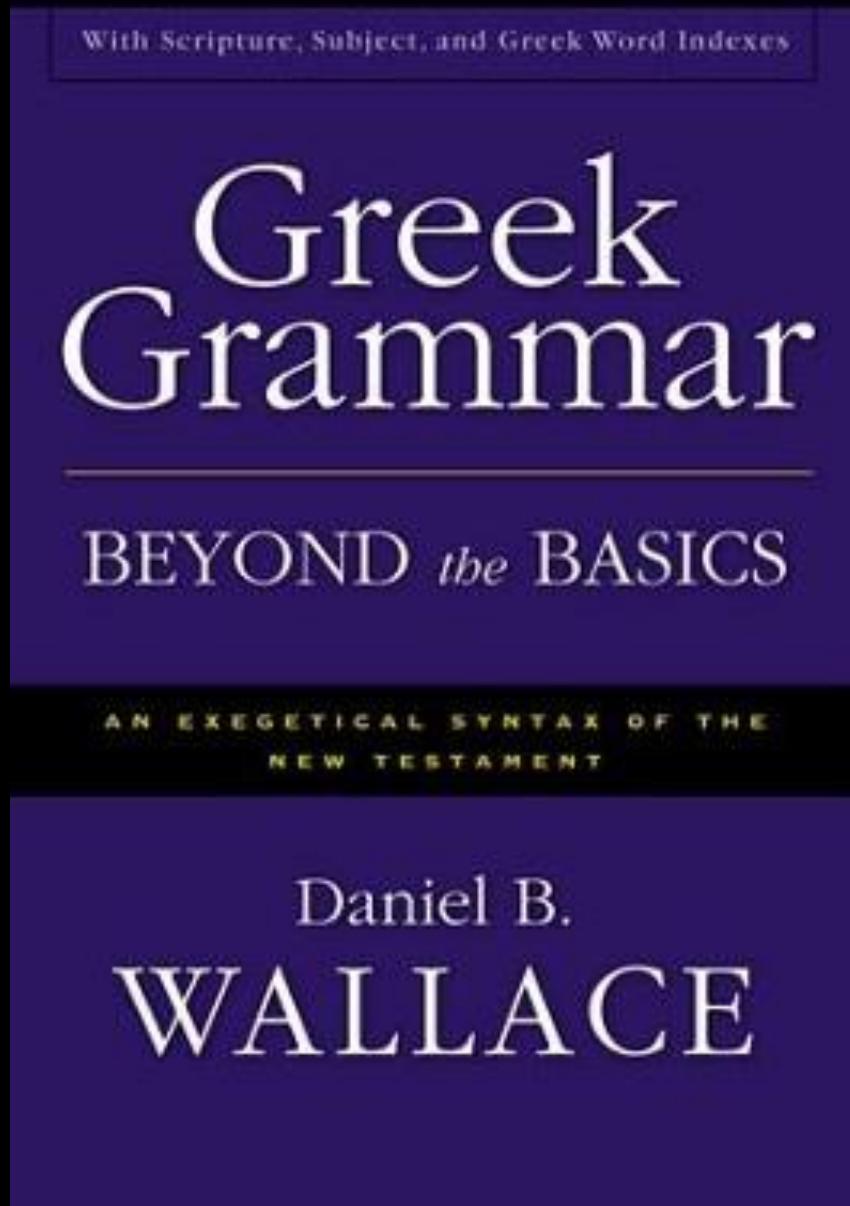
Our God and Savior Yeshua Messiah

Sharp's Rule in Titus 2:13 and 2 Peter 1:1

Sharp's Rule

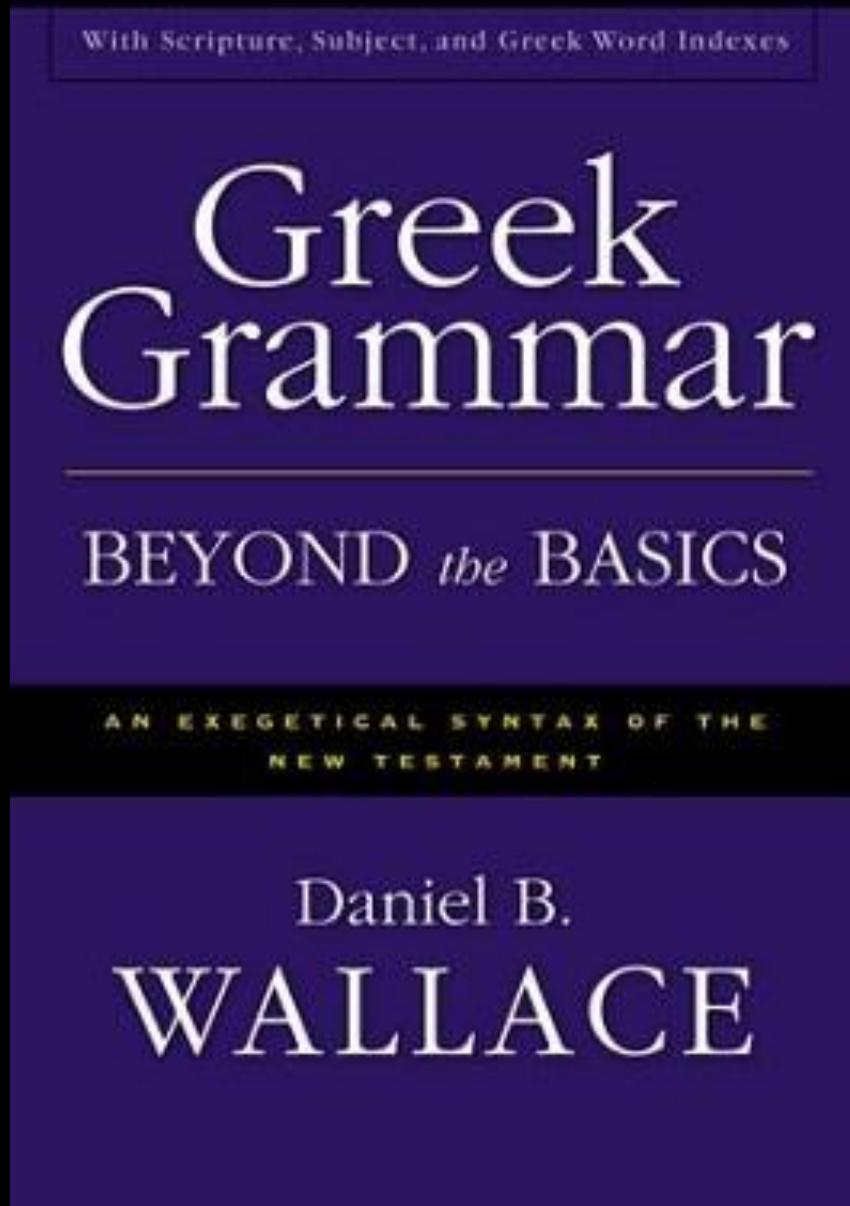
- It has come to my attention that some people are suggesting that the English translations of [Titus 2:13](#) and [2 Peter 1:1](#), which equate God with our Savior Yeshua Messiah, are invalid.
- *This is due to nothing more than a lack of knowledge of advanced Greek Grammar.*





Sharp's Rule

- Allow me to present the Granville Sharp Rule as presented in *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics, An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*, pages 270-277, by Daniel Wallace.



Sharp's Rule

- According to *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics, An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*, there are 80 constructions, not including Christologically significant passages, in the Apostolic Scriptures that fit the requirements for Sharp's Rule.

Sharp's Rule

- Sharp's Rule is especially important for the translation of the Christologically significant passages of Titus 2:13 and 2 Peter 1:1.
- **Titus 2:13** – *“looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Yeshua Messiah.”*
- **2 Peter 1:1** – *“Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Yeshua Messiah, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Yeshua Messiah.”*

Sharp's Rule

- These two verses from the Apostolic Scriptures clearly equate Yeshua Messiah with God.
- Therefore, the validity of Sharp's Rule in translating Greek texts is important.



Sharp's Rule

- Sharp's Rule states:
- *“When a copulative *kai* connects two nouns of the same case, [viz. nouns (either substantive or adjective, or participles) of personal description, respective office, dignity, affinity, or connexion, and attributes, properties, or qualities, good or ill], if the article ὁ, or any of its cases, precedes the first of the said nouns or participles, and is not repeated before the second noun or participle, the latter always relates to the same person that is expressed or described by the first noun or participle: i.e. it denotes a farther description of the first-named person”*

Sharp's Rule

- The construction described is abbreviated as TSKS, which stands for article-substantive-καὶ-substantive.

Sharp's Rule

- Exceptions for Sharp's Rule:
- “... in the TSKS construction, the second noun refers to the same person mentioned with the first noun when:
 1. Neither is *impersonal*;
 2. Neither is *plural*;
 3. Neither is a *proper name*
- Therefore, Sharp's Rule only applies with personal, singular, and non-proper nouns.

Sharp's Rule

- Let's now take a look at the Greek text of the phrases in question, as well as an English translation of these verses to see how they meet Sharp's Rule and its exceptions.



Sharp's Rule

- **Titus 2:13** – of our great God and Savior Yeshua Messiah.
- **Titus 2:13** -- τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- of our God and Savior Yeshua Messiah:
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῶν καὶ σωτῆρος Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The nouns -- God and Savior -- describe dignity and personal description or attribute.

They are both in the genitive singular case, and they are joined by the copulative word καὶ.

Sharp's Rule

- **Titus 2:13** – of our great God and Savior Yeshua Messiah.
- **Titus 2:13** -- τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- of our God and Savior Yeshua Messiah:
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῶν καὶ σωτῆρος Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The definite article (τοῦ; genitive singular case) precedes the first term (God), but it does not precede the second term (Savior).

Sharp's Rule

- **Titus 2:13** – of our great God and Savior Yeshua Messiah.
- **Titus 2:13** -- τοῦ μεγάλου θεοῦ καὶ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- of our God and Savior Yeshua Messiah:
- **2 Peter 1:1** -- τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῶν καὶ σωτῆρος Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The nouns God and Savior are impersonal; they are not proper names.

The nouns God and Savior are both singular nouns.

So, the exceptions to Sharp's Rule have been met, as well the basic statement of Sharp's rule.

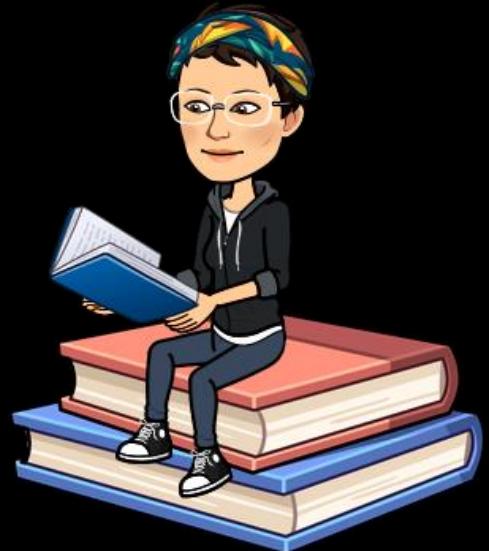
Sharp's Rule

- Therefore, the English translations for Titus 2:13 and 2 Peter 1:1 where God has been equated with our **Savior -- Yeshua Messiah** – are valid.



Sharp's Rule

- REFERENCES:
 - *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament* by Daniel B. Wallace, pages 270-277. Copyright © 1996. Published by Zondervan Publishing House.



Sharp's Rule

