



The Perfect Tense

Latin Without Tears page 86, introduces the perfect tense of first conjugation verbs – “I (have) loved” etc. Listen to the audio and practice chanting *amo* and other verbs you know in the perfect tense. Note that the English translation can be “I loved” etc. or “I *have* loved” etc.

Here are some Bible examples of verbs you already know but in the perfect tense. Have a stab at translating the texts using words you know and guess work. Then look them up in the Bible to finish the job. Take note of the words in bold (which are examples of the perfect tense) to see how they fit in grammatically. The texts are given here with extra space for you to write your translation of whatever words you can attempt above the Latin.

*si secundum hominem ad bestias **pugnavi** Ephesi quid mihi prodest si mortui non*

resurgunt – “manducemus et bibamus cras enim moriemur”

1 Corinthians 15:32 See picture above. *Cras* is a useful little word for your notebook: it means “tomorrow.”

(Easier word order: *si secundum hominem **pugnavi** ad bestias Ephesi quid prodest mihi si mortui non resurgunt – “manducemus et bibamus enim cras moriemur”*)

derelinquentes rectam viam erraverunt secuti viam Balaam ex Bosor qui mercedem

*iniquitatis **amavit** 2 Peter 2:15*

(Easier word order: *derelinquentes rectam viam erraverunt secuti viam Balaam ex Bosor qui **amavit** mercedem iniquitatis*)

*Responderunt ei, Semen Abrahami sumus, neque cuiquam **servivimus** unquam*

John 8:33a (Beza's translation)

(*neque* [“and not” i.e. “nor”] *cuiquam* [“anyone”] *servivimus unquam* [“ever”] “nor **have** we ever **served** anyone.”)

¹ Learning is a kind of natural food for the mind. Cicero