

APPENDIX D

Uses of 'Dia'

To understand what *dia*(+gen) means in certain key verses (Col. 1:16, John 1:10, Hebrews 1:2, and 1 Cor. 8:6) is crucial to the debate between Transcendent Monotheism and Trinitarianism. The summary below is based on an unfinished study of all the uses of *dia*(+gen) in the New Testament. While it is incomplete, it nonetheless makes clear that *dia*(+gen) is used in a variety of different ways. [I have identified 31 different uses of *dia*(+gen).]

The procedure I am following in this study is as follows: (1) I examine each statement in the New Testament in which the preposition *dia* followed by the genitive occurs. (2) I determine, on the basis of its immediate context, what each statement must mean. (3) Having determined the meaning of any given statement, I analyze what semantic relationship is being indicated by the occurrence of the preposition *dia* in that statement. (4) As I define the semantic relationship that is indicated by each occurrence of *dia*, I attempt to organize it into a taxonomy of all the various uses of *dia*(+gen).

Because the study is incomplete, it is only a provisional, working taxonomy at this point. But I think it is nonetheless instructive with regard to the issues being examined in this series of papers. Another problem that results from the fact that this study is still in process and currently incomplete is that there may still be various sorts of clerical errors in the current state of the written summary. Accordingly, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of what is printed below.

In terms of the summary below, here is how I have interpreted the verses that form the crux of our controversy in these papers:

John 1:3 "meaning" #13

John 1:10 "meaning" #10

Colossians 1:16 "meaning" #10

1 Corinthians 8:6 "meaning" #10

Hebrews 1:2 "meaning" #10

ANALYSIS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT USE OF διὰ FOLLOWED BY THE GENITIVE

by
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Syntactical structure being analyzed:

S διὰ G

where

S = any substantive or any assertion

and

G = any substantive in the genitive case

KEY:

p=a person

a=an action

o=a concrete object

s=a state of affairs

ab=an abstract entity

at=an attribute of something

e=an event

Used to denote PERSONAL AGENCY

DIRECT PERSONAL AGENCY

G is used to denote a person who does S or whose actions directly bring about S.

1. G identifies the personal agent that does or brings about S; and who does so on his own initiative.

Matthew 18:7 [G=p]; Matthew 26:24 [G=p]; Mark 6:2 [G=p]; Mark 14:21 [G=p];
Luke 17:1 [G=p]; Luke 22:22 [G=p]; Acts 19:26 [G=p]; Acts 24:2 (first) [G=p];
Romans 5:12 (first) [G=p]; Romans 5:16 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 1:9 [G=p]; 2 Corinthians
1:19 [G=p]

INTERMEDIATE PERSONAL AGENCY

G is used to denote a person acting on behalf of another to do S or to bring about S.

2. G identifies the personal agent that does or brings about S; and who does so on the initiative of someone else, as his intermediary.

Matthew 2:15 [G=p]; Acts 3:18 [G=p]; Acts 3:21 [G=p]; Acts 12:9 [G=p]; Acts 28:25 [G=p]; Romans 1:2 [G=p]; Romans 15:8 [G=p]; 2 Corinthians 5:20 [G=p]

3. G identifies the intermediate personal agent whom God sends to proclaim a message on his behalf.

Matthew 1:22 [G=p]; Matthew 2:5 [G=p]; Matthew 2:17 [G=p]; Matthew 2:23 [G=p]; Matthew 3:3 [G=p]; Matthew 4:14 [G=p]; Matthew 8:17 [G=p]; Matthew 12:17 [G=p]; Matthew 13:35 [G=p]; Matthew 21:4 [G=p]; Matthew 24:15 [G=p]; Matthew 27:9 [G=p]; Luke 1:70 [G=p]; Luke 18:31 [G=p]; John 1:17 (both) [G=p]; Acts 1:16 [G=p]; Acts 2:16 [G=p]; Acts 2:23 [G=p]

ULTIMATE PERSONAL AGENCY

G is used to denote the personal agent who is ultimately causing or responsible for S, even if other intermediate causes were present.

4. G identifies the ultimate personal agent who is ultimately responsible for doing or bringing about S; but who does so through intermediary means or agents.

Acts 1:2 [G=p]; Acts 4:25 [G=p]; Romans 8:37 [G=p]

5. G identifies the ultimate agent who sends some intermediate agent to do or bring about S.

Matthew 11:2 [G=p]; Mark 16:8 [G=p]; Acts 11:30 [G=p]; Acts 15:7 [G=p]; Acts 15:23 [G=p]

PERCEIVED (PHENOMENAL) PERSONAL AGENCY

G is used to denote a person whose actions are perceived to be connected with bringing about S, but whose actions were not the actual cause of S.

6. G identifies the person whose actions would naturally appear to suggest that he is the personal agent that does or brings about S; but whose actions, in fact, are not the actual cause of S.

Acts 2:22 [G=p]; Acts 2:43 [G=p]; Acts 4:16 [G=p]; Acts 5:12 [G=p]; Acts 7:25 [G=p]; Acts 14:3 [G=p]; Acts 15:12 [G=p]; Acts 19:11 [G=p]

Used to denote BASIS

EPISTEMIC BASIS

G is used to denote someone or something that serves in some significant and noteworthy way as the epistemic basis for S.

7. G identifies the epistemic basis for the epistemic act specified in S.

John 1:7 [G=p]; John 17:20 [G=?]; Romans 1:12 [G=?]; Romans 3:20 [G=?]

8. G identifies the epistemic basis for the epistemic state specified in S.

9. G identifies the epistemic basis for the epistemic status of an assertion or set of assertions specified in S.

Mark 16:20 [G=?]

NON-EPISTEMIC BASIS

G is used to denote someone or something that makes a significant and noteworthy contribution to the basis for S.

10. G identifies the basis for S by identifying the purpose, the intended aim, or the *raison d'être* of S.

John 1:10 [G=p]; Romans 3:25 [G=a]; Romans 11:36 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 8:6 [G=p]

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11. G identifies the basis for S by identifying someone or something that provides the occasion or opportunity for S.

John 3:17 [G=p]; John 11:4 [G=?]; Acts 10:36 [G=p]; Romans 3:24 [G=a]; Romans 5:1 [G=p]; Romans 5:2 [G=p]; Romans 5:9 [G=p]; Romans 5:11 (2nd) [G=p]; Romans 5:17 (2nd) [G=p]; Romans 5:21 (2nd) [G=p]; Romans 7:25 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 3:5 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 15:21 (2nd) [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 15:57 [G=p]; 2 Corinthians 2:14 [G=p]; 2 Corinthians 5:18 [G=p]

12. G identifies the basis for S by identifying the act of a person that logically or naturally leads to or results in S.

Romans 5:17 (1st) [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 15:21 (1st) [G=p]

13. G identifies the basis for S by identifying the plan, template, blueprint, or standard for S.

John 1:3 [G=?]; Romans 15:32 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 1:1 [G=?]; 2 Corinthians 1:1 [G=?]

14. G identifies the basis for S by identifying a fulfilled condition for S.

Romans 8:11 [G=?]

15. G identifies the basis for S by identifying a cause of S.

Romans 2:23 [G=?]; Romans 6:4 [G=?]; Romans 8:3 [G=?]; Acts 24:2 (2nd) [G=?]

16. G identifies the basis for S by identifying a motivation for S.

2 Corinthians 2:4 [G=?]

17. G identifies the basis for S by identifying the source of power and/or authority for S.

Acts 11:28 [G=?]; Acts 21:4 [G=?]; Romans 1:5 [G=?]; Romans 2:16 [G=?]; Romans 12:1 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 2:10 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 6:14 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 12:8 [G=?]

Used to denote an EXPLANATORY REFERENCE POINT

G is used to denote someone or something that serves as a context or a reference point that serves to explain something significant and noteworthy about the nature of S.

18. G identifies the context or reference point from which to look at and understand S.

Acts 3:16 [G=p]; Acts 4:30 [G=p]; Acts 10:43 [G=p]; Acts 13:38 [G=p]; Romans 2:27 [G=?]; Romans 4:11 [G=p]; Romans 4:13 [G=?]; Romans 7:4 [G=?]; Romans 4:20 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 1:21 [G=p]; 1 Corinthians 4:15 [G=?]

Used to denote HOW SOMETHING CAME TO BE

G is used to denote how it is that S is done or how S comes to be.

MEDIUM

19. G identifies the medium of the action specified by S.

Acts 8:20 [G=?]; Acts 15:27 [G=?]; Acts 18:9 [G=?]; Romans 16:26 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 16:3 [G=?]

MANNER

20. G identifies the manner in which S is done.

Romans 8:25 [G=?]

MODE

21. G identifies the mode of the action specified by S.

Luke 8:4 [G=?]; Acts 15:32 [G=?]

METHOD or TECHNIQUE

22. G identifies the method or technique employed to perform the action specified by S.

Acts 8:18 [G=?]; Romans 16:18 [G=?]

INSTRUMENTALITY

23. G identifies the instrument employed to perform the action specified by S.

1 Corinthians 13:12 [G=?]; 1 Corinthians 14:9 [G=?]; 2 Corinthians 5:10 [G=?]

Used to denote an ATTRIBUTE

24. G identifies a quality or attribute of some event specified by S.

2 Corinthians 3:11 [G=?]

Used to denote the CONTENT of something

25. G identifies the content or substance of some thing specified by S.

Romans 5:5 [G=?]; Romans 5:21 [G=?]; Romans 10:17 [G=?]

Used to denote WHAT IS TRANSVERSED

SPACE TRANSVERSED

26. G identifies the route that is transversed by the movement specified by S.

Matthew 2:12 [G=?]; Matthew 8:28 [G=?]; John 14:6 [G=?]; Acts 20:3 [G=?]; Rom
15:28 [G=?]; 2 Cor 1:16 [G=?]

27. G identifies the sort of thing that is transversed by the movement
specified by S.

Matthew 12:1 [G=?]; Matthew 4:4 [G=?]; Matthew 7:13 [G=?]; Matthew 12:43 [G=?];
Matthew 19:24 [G=?]; Mark 2:23 [G=?]; Mark 7:31 [G=?]; Mark 9:30 [G=?]; Mark
10:25 [G=?]; Mark 11:16 [G=?]; Luke 4:30 [G=?]; Luke 5:19 [G=?]; Luke 6:1 [G=?];
Luke 11:24 [G=?]; Luke 13:24 [G=?]; Luke 17:11 [G=?]; Luke 18:25 [G=?]; John 4:4
[G=?]; John 10:1 [G=?]; John 10:2 [G=?]; John 10:9 [G=?]; Acts 9:25 [G=?]; Acts
9:32 [G=?]; Acts 14:22 [G=?]; 1 Cor 10:1 [G=?]

28. *διὰ ὅλου* indicates extent through the whole of some space or region with respect to something; hence it is usually translated as “entirely” or “throughout”.

John 19:23 [G=?]; Acts 13:49 [G=?]

TIME TRANSVERSED

29. G identifies the extent of time that is transversed by the movement specified by S.

Matthew 26:61 [G=?]; Mark 2:1 [G=?]; Mark 5:5 [G=?]; Mark 14:58 [G=?]; Luke 5:5 [G=?]; Acts 1:3 [G=?]

30. G identifies the nature of the sort of time that is transversed by the movement specified by S.

Acts 5:19 [G=?]; Acts 16:9 [G=?]; Acts 17:10 [G=?]; Acts 23:31 [G=?]

31. *διὰ παντοῦ* indicates duration through the whole of time with respect to something; hence it is usually translated “continually” or “unceasingly”.

Matthew 18:10 [G=?]; Luke 24:53 [G=?]; Acts 2:25 [G=?]; Acts 10:2 [G=?]; Acts 24:17 [G=?]; Rom 11:10 [G=?]