

~BACKBITING (81)

[Greek - *ka-ta-la-li-a'*, speak against,]

- This is a rendering of the Greek term *ka-ta-la-li-a'*. The related verb *ka ta-la-le'o* literally means speak against, doing so without justification and usually in a malicious or hostile manner.
- Maintain your conduct fine among the nations, that, in the thing in which they are **speaking against** you as evildoers, they may as a result of your fine works of which they are eyewitnesses glorify God in the day for his inspection. (1 Peter 2:12)
- Hold a good conscience, so that in the particular in which you are **spoken against** they may get ashamed who are speaking slightly of your good conduct in connection with Christ. (1 Peter 3:16)
- The disciple James linked the expression with wrongful judging or condemning, thus conveying the sense of unjustifiably censuring.
- Quit **speaking against** one another, brothers. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother **speaks against** Law and judges law. Now if you judge Law, you are, not a doer of Law, but a judge. (James 4:11)
- You sit and **speak against** your own brother, against the son of your mother you give away a fault. (Psalms 50:20)
- Backbiters, or persons who **speak against others maliciously** behind their back, are among those against whom Yehowah's wrath is directed, and his Word shows that all who continue as such are deserving of death.
- For God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who are **suppressing the truth in an unrighteous way**. (Romans 1:18)
- And just as they did not approve of holding God in accurate knowledge, God gave them up to a disapproved mental state, to do the things not fitting. (Romans 1:28)
- Filled as they were with all unrighteousness, wickedness,

- covetousness, badness, being full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malicious disposition, **being whisperers**. (**Romans 1:29**)
- **Backbiters**, haters of God, insolent, haughty, self-assuming, inventors of injurious things, disobedient to parents. (**Romans 1:30**)
 - Although these know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death, they not only keep on doing them but also consent with those practicing them. (**Romans 1:32**)
 - The apostle Paul expressed grave concern that, in addition to other serious wrongs, he might find members of the congregation at Corinth engaging in **backbiting**.
 - For I am afraid that somehow, when I arrive, I may find you not as I could wish and I may prove to be to you not as you could wish, but, instead, there should somehow be strife, jealousy, cases of anger, contentions, **backbitings**, whisperings, cases of being puffed up, disorders. (**2 Corinthians 12:20**)
 - For God's Word or message to have its full effect on new disciples of Jesus Christ, they must rid themselves of **backbiting** and all other forms of badness. Only then can the milk belonging to the word, Scriptural truths suited to their needs, promote growth to salvation.
 - Accordingly, put away all badness and all deceitfulness and hypocrisy and envies and all sorts of **backbiting**. (**1 Peter 2:1**)
 - And, as newborn infants, form a longing for the unadulterated milk belonging to the word, that through it you may grow to salvation. (**1 Peter 2:2**)