

~MIND (744)

- New In The Force Actuating Your Mind
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- Dullness Or Corruptness Of Mind
- Healing And Opening Up The Mind

• A faculty of the brain with which we gather information, reason, and draw conclusions. Mind is rendered from several related Greek words expressing such attributes of the mind as **thinking faculties, intellectual capacity, mental perception, intelligence, reason, thought, intention, remembrance, mental state or view, opinion, and mental inclination, attitude, or powers.**

• Though, at times, in various translations the word mind is used, in the same instances other translations employ the above descriptive and specific terms.

• In the **Hebrew** text, the words for remember and consider may be translated in certain places by such expressions as, **keep in mind** and **have in mind**. In the Hebrew Scriptures, mind appears in some versions as a rendering of the Hebrew words that are, literally and properly, heart, soul, and spirit.

• And you well know today, and you must call back to your **heart** that Yehowah is the true God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. There is no other. (**Deuteronomy 4:39**) Footnote

• Later Jehoram the king returned to get healed at Jezreel from the wounds that the Syrians got to inflict upon him when he fought Hazael the king of Syria. Jehu now said; If your **soul** agrees, do not let anyone go out in escape from the city to go and make report in Jezreel. (**2 Kings 9:15**), **Ro, JB**

• And that which is coming up into your **spirit** will itself positively not happen, in that you are saying; Let us become like the nations, like the families of the lands, in ministering to wood and stone. (**Ezekiel 20:32**)

See Also HEART

· New In The Force Actuating Your Mind

- The inclination of the **mind** of imperfect man is naturally toward wrong thinking. The Bible terms it the **fleshly frame of mind**.
- Let no man deprive you of the prize who takes delight in a mock humility and a form of worship of the angels, taking his stand on the things he has seen, puffed up without proper cause by his **fleshly frame of mind**. (**Colossians 2:18**)
- Christians are reminded that formerly they were enemies of God because their minds had been on the works that were wicked.
- Indeed, you who were once alienated and enemies because your **minds** were on the works that were wicked. (**Colossians 1:21**)
- The **mind** of the **physical**, literally, **soulical** man, as distinguished from the **mind** of the **spiritual** man, is inclined in the direction of **materialistic things**. The force that actuates his **mind** has been formed in him in part by inheritance and in part by the things he has been taught and has experienced.
- When a matter is presented to him, this force pushes or inclines his **mind** in a **materialistic or fleshly direction**. Christians are commanded, therefore, to be made new in the force, or spirit, **actuating your mind**.
- But that you should be made new in the **force actuating your mind**. (**Ephesians 4:23**)
- By a study of God's Word of truth and by the operation of God's spirit, this actuating force can be changed so that the persons dominant mental attitude is inclined in a right direction. Then, when a matter is presented to the person, the **mind** will be inclined by this force toward a proper spiritual course.
- These things we also speak, not with words taught by human wisdom, but with those taught by the spirit, as we combine spiritual matters with spiritual words. (**1 Corinthians 2:13**)
- But a physical man does not receive the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot get to know them, because they are examined spiritually. (**1 Corinthians 2:14**)

- However, the spiritual man examines indeed all things, but he himself is not examined by any man. (**1 Corinthians 2:15**)
- Such a person comes to have **the mind of Christ**, who was at all times actuated by the proper force, his mental inclination always being spiritual.
- For who has come to know the **mind** of Yehowah, that he may instruct him? But we do have **the mind of Christ**. (**1 Corinthians 2:16**)
- Now may the God who supplies endurance and comfort grant you to have among yourselves the same mental attitude that Christ Jesus had. (**Romans 15:5**)
- Mere knowledge or intellectual power is not enough to bring one into God's favor. These things themselves will not make the **mind** over in the direction of God's will.
- And quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by **making your mind over**, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (**Romans 12:2**)
- Yehowah says; I will make the wisdom of the wise men perish, and the intelligence of the intellectual men I will shove aside.
- For it is written: I will make the wisdom of the wise men perish, and the intelligence of the intellectual men I will shove aside. (**1 Corinthians 1:19**)
- It requires the help of God's spirit to get true understanding.
- Acquire wisdom, acquire understanding. Do not forget, and do not turn aside from the sayings of my mouth. (**Proverbs 4:5**)
- Do not leave it, and it will keep you. Love it, and it will safeguard you. (**Proverbs 4:6**)
- Wisdom is the prime thing. Acquire wisdom, and with all that you acquire, acquire understanding. (**Proverbs 4:7**)
- For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit

of man that is in him? So, too, no one has come to know the things of God, except the spirit of God. (**1 Corinthians 2:11**)

- **Wisdom, and good sense.**
- **This he caused to abound toward us in all wisdom and good sense. (**Ephesians 1:8**)**
- **In that he made known to us the sacred secret of his will. It is according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself (**Ephesians 1:9**)**

.. The Law Of The Mind

- **The apostle Paul calls that which directs the operation of this renewed **mind** the Law **of the mind**. It controls the new **mind** according to the Law of God, and the new **mind** delights in this law. But sins Law operating in fallen flesh fights against the Law **of the mind**, so that there is a constant conflict within the Christian.**
- **Can he be victorious? Yes, thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! God's undeserved kindness provides, on the basis of Christ's ransom sacrifice, forgiveness for the sins of the flesh and, additionally, the help of Holy Spirit.**
- **The Christian is in a situation different from that of the non-Christian, as Paul sums it up;**
- **I find, then, this Law in my case, that when I wish to do what is right, what is bad is present with me. (**Romans 7:21**)**
- **I really delight in the Law of God according to the man I am within. (**Romans 7:22**)**
- **But I behold in my members another Law warring against the Law of my **mind** and leading me captive to sins Law that is in my members. (**Romans 7:23**)**
- **Miserable man that I am! Who will rescue me from the body undergoing this death? (**Romans 7:24**)**
- **Thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So, then, with my **mind** I myself am a slave to God's law, but with my flesh to sins law. (**Romans 7:25**)**

- But I say; Keep walking by spirit and you will carry out no fleshly desire at all. (**Galatians 5:16**)
- For the flesh is against the spirit in its desire, and the spirit against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, so that the very things that you would like to do you do not do. (**Galatians 5:17**)
- How does the **mind** win out in the battle? The apostle illuminates the matter further, saying,
 - For the **minding** of the flesh means death, but the **minding** of the spirit means life and peace, because the **minding** of the flesh means enmity with God, for it, fallen, imperfect flesh, is not under subjection to the Law of God, nor, in fact, can it be. If, now, the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his spirit that resides in you.
 - For those who are in accord with the flesh set their **minds** on the things of the flesh, but those in accord with the spirit on the things of the spirit. (**Romans 8:5**)
 - For the **minding** of the flesh means death, but the **minding** of the spirit means life and peace. (**Romans 8:6**)
 - Because the **minding** of the flesh means enmity with God, for it is not under subjection to the Law of God, nor, in fact, can it be. (**Romans 8:7**)
 - So those who are in harmony with the flesh cannot please God. (**Romans 8:8**)
 - However, you are in harmony, not with the flesh, but with the spirit, if God's spirit truly dwells in you. But if anyone does not have Christ's spirit, this one does not belong to him. (**Romans 8:9**)
 - But if Christ is in union with you, the body indeed is dead on account of sin, but the spirit is life on account of righteousness. (**Romans 8:10**)
 - If, now, the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead

dwells in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his spirit that resides in you. (**Romans 8:11**)

•• The Meaning Of The Spirit

- In like manner the spirit also joins in with help for our weakness, for the problem of what we should pray for as we need to we do not know, but the spirit itself pleads for us with groanings unuttered. (**Romans 8:26**)
- Yet he who searches the hearts knows what the **meaning of the spirit** is, because it is pleading in accord with God for holy ones. (**Romans 8:27**)
- Paul shows that, when God's servants are praying, they may not always know exactly what they should pray for as they need to. But God knows that they desire his will to be done. He also knows what his servants need.
- God has in the past caused many inspired prayers to be recorded in his Word, expressing his will or **mind** for them. He therefore accepts these inspired prayers as being what his people should like to ask and pray for, and accordingly, he fulfills them.
- God knows the righthearted ones and also knows the meaning of the things that he caused his spirit to speak through the Bible writers. He knows what the meaning, **mind or thought**, of the spirit is when the spirit thus pleads, or intercedes, for them.

•• Loving With The Mind

- Yehowah foretold the making of a New Covenant under which the Holy Spirit would work to write his laws in the **minds** and hearts of his people.
- For this is the covenant that I shall covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says Yehowah. I will put my Laws in their **mind**, and in their hearts I shall write them. And I will become their God, and they themselves will become my people. (**Hebrews 8:10**)
- This is the covenant that I shall covenant toward them after those days, says Yehowah. I will put my Laws in their hearts,

and in their **minds** I shall write them. (**Hebrews 10:16**)

- In this way they are able to fulfill that upon which the whole Law and the Prophets hung, namely, to love Yehowah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole **mind**, and your neighbor as yourself.
- He said to him; You must love Yehowah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole **mind**. (**Matthew 22:37**)
- This is the greatest and first commandment. (**Matthew 22:38**)
- The second, like it, is this; You must love your neighbor as yourself. (**Matthew 22:39**)
- On these two commandments the whole Law hangs, and the Prophets. (**Matthew 22:40**)
- In answer he said; You must love Yehowah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole strength and with your whole **mind**, and, your neighbor as yourself. (**Luke 10:27**)
- He said to him; You answered correctly, keep on doing this and you will get life. (**Luke 10:28**)
- A person must love God with his whole heart, the desires, feelings, and emotions of the inner personality, his whole soul, his life and entire being, and his **whole mind**, his intellectual faculties. This latter phrase means that not only must God's servants love with feelings, emotions, and strength but they must also apply their **minds** vigorously in order to take in knowledge of God and Christ
- This means everlasting life, their taking in knowledge of you, the only true God, and of the one whom you sent forth, Jesus Christ. (**John 17:3**)
- To understand.
- And this loving him with ones whole heart and with ones whole understanding and with ones whole strength and this loving ones neighbor as oneself is worth far more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. (**Mark 12:33**)

- In order, that you may be thoroughly able to grasp mentally with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth. (**Ephesians 3:18**)
- To serve God and his purposes, and to share in declaring the Good News. They are counseled to keep their **minds** fixed on the things above
- Keep your **minds** fixed on the things above, not on the things upon the earth. (**Colossians 3:2**)
- To brace up their **minds** for activity, and to keep their senses completely.
- Hence brace up your **minds** for activity, keep your senses completely, set your hope upon the undeserved kindness that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (**1 Peter 1:13**)
- The apostle Peter saw the importance of arousing their clear thinking faculties to keep in **mind** the things learned.
- Beloved ones, this is now the second letter I am writing you, in which, as in my first one, I am arousing your clear thinking faculties by way of a **reminder**. (**2 Peter 3:1**)
- That you should remember the sayings previously spoken by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles. (**2 Peter 3:2**)
- They must keep close in **mind** the presence of the day of Yehowah.
- Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of persons ought you to be in holy acts of conduct and deeds of godly devotion. (**2 Peter 3:11**)
- Awaiting and keeping close in **mind** the presence of the day of Yehowah, through which the heavens being on fire will be dissolved and the elements being intensely hot will melt! (**2 Peter 3:12**)

- When speaking of miraculous gifts of the spirit as exercised in the early Christian congregation, Paul emphasized the need to use the **mind**. He said that if he were to pray in a tongue that he could not translate, his **mind** would be unfruitful.
- Again, if he were to sing praises in the same manner, how would it help the hearer who did not understand the tongue? Consequently, he said that he would rather speak five words with his **mind**, in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue. He then urged his brothers to become full grown in powers of understanding.
- Therefore let the one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may translate. (1 Corinthians 14:13)
- For if I am praying in a tongue, it is my gift of the spirit that is praying, but my **mind** is unfruitful. (1 Corinthians 14:14)
- What is to be done, then? I will pray with the gift of the spirit, but I will also pray with my **mind**. I will sing praise with the gift of the spirit, but I will also sing praise with my mind. (1 Corinthians 14:15)
- Otherwise, if you offer praise with a gift of the spirit, how will the man occupying the seat of the ordinary person say Amen, to your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying? (1 Corinthians 14:16)
- True, you give thanks in a fine way, but the other man is not being built up. (1 Corinthians 14:17)
- I thank God, I speak in more tongues than all of you do. (1 Corinthians 14:18)
- Nevertheless, in a congregation I would rather speak five words with my **mind**, that I might also instruct others orally, than ten thousand words in a tongue. (1 Corinthians 14:19)
- Brothers, do not become young children in powers of understanding, but be babes as to badness, yet become full-grown in powers of understanding. (1 Corinthians 14:20)
- Yehowah's servants are commanded to be fitly united in the **same mind** and in the **same line of thought**.

- Now I exhort you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you should all speak in agreement, and that there should not be divisions among you, but that you may be fitly united in the **same mind** and in the **same line of thought**. (**1 Corinthians 1:10**)
- Make my joy full in that you are of the **same mind** and have the same love, being joined together in soul, holding the one thought in mind. (**Philippians 2:2**)
- Finally, all of you be **like-minded**, showing fellow feeling, having brotherly affection, tenderly compassionate, humble in mind. (**1 Peter 3:8**)
- This means, of course, being united where the interests of pure worship are involved the important things not in individual tastes or in minor matters that will be resolved as maturity is reached.
- One man has faith to eat everything, but the man who is weak eats vegetables. (**Romans 14:2**)
- Let the one eating not look down on the one not eating, and let the one not eating not judge the one eating, for God has welcomed that one. (**Romans 14:3**)
- Who are you to judge the house servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for Yehowah can make him stand. (**Romans 14:4**)
- One man judges one day as above another, another man judges one day as all others, let each man be fully convinced in his own **mind**. (**Romans 14:5**)
- He who observes the day observes it to Yehowah. Also, he who eats, eats to Yehowah, for he gives thanks to God, and he who does not eat does not eat to Yehowah, and yet gives thanks to God. (**Romans 14:6**)
- For the kingdom of God does not mean eating and drinking, but means righteousness and peace and joy with Holy Spirit. (**Romans 14:17**)
- They are to be **of the same mind in the Lord**.

- Euodia I exhort and Syntyche I exhort to be of the same mind in the Lord. (Philippians 4:2)
- Not to be quarreling, but to think in agreement.
- Finally, brothers, continue to rejoice, to be readjusted, to be comforted, to think in agreement, to live peaceably, and the God of love and of peace will be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:11)
- Christians are to strive to know God better, to the extent that he reveals his mind on matters.
- O the depth of God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How unsearchable his judgments are and past tracing out his ways are! (Romans 11:33)
- For who has come to know Yehowah's mind, or who has become his counselor? (Romans 11:34)
- Now to him who can make you firm in accord with the Good News I declare and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the sacred secret which has been kept in silence for long-lasting times (Romans 16:25)
- But has now been made manifest and has been made known through the prophetic scriptures among all the nations in accord with the command of the everlasting God to promote obedience by faith. (Romans 16:26)
- And they are to have the mental attitude of obedience and humility of Jesus Christ, then they will have the mind of Christ.
- However, the spiritual man examines indeed all things, but he himself is not examined by any man. (1 Corinthians 2:15)
- For who has come to know the mind of Yehowah, that he may instruct him? But we do have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16)
- Peter counsels; Since Christ suffered in the flesh, you too arm yourselves with the same mental disposition.
- Therefore since Christ suffered in the flesh, you too arm yourselves with the same mental disposition, because the person

that has suffered in the flesh has desisted from sins. (1 Peter 4:1)

• Dullness Or Corruptness Of Mind

- The Israelites at Mount Sinai, because of not having hearts fully turned to Yehowah, were **dull in mental perception**, as were those who continued under the Law after God, through Jesus, had abolished it.
- And not doing as when Moses would put a veil upon his face, that the sons of Israel might not gaze intently at the end of that which was to be done away with. (2 Corinthians 3:13)
- But their mental powers were dulled. For to this present day the same **veil** remains unlifted at the reading of the old covenant, because it is done away with by means of Christ. (2 Corinthians 3:14)
- **They did not see that Jesus was the one pointed to by the Law.**
- For those things are a shadow of the things to come, but the reality belongs to the Christ. (Colossians 2:17)
- As to men who did not approve of holding God in accurate knowledge but who worshiped created things, God gave them up to a **disapproved mental state**, they are **in darkness mentally**, doing all manner of unprofitable and unfitting things.
- 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)
- This, therefore, I say and bear witness to in the Lord, that you no longer go on walking just as the nations also walk in the **unprofitableness of their minds**. (Ephesians 4:17)
- While they are in **darkness mentally**, and alienated from the life that belongs to God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the insensibility of their hearts. (Ephesians 4:18)
- **Corrupt-minded** men resisted the truth even in Moses time, and later such men fought true Christianity, some even claiming to be Christians, yet trying to divide and disrupt congregations.

- Now in the way that Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so these also go on resisting the truth, men completely corrupted in **mind**, disapproved as regards the faith. (**2 Timothy 3:8**)
- For there are many, I used to mention them often but now I mention them also with weeping, who are walking as the enemies of the torture stake of the Christ. (**Philippians 3:18**)
- And their finish is destruction, and their god is their belly, and their glory consists in their shame, and they have their **minds** upon things on the earth. (**Philippians 3:19**)
- He is puffed up with pride, not understanding anything, but being mentally diseased over questionings and debates about words. From these things spring envy, strife, abusive speeches, wicked suspicions. (**1 Timothy 6:4**)
- Violent disputes about trifles on the part of men corrupted in **mind** and despoiled of the truth, thinking that godly devotion is a means of gain. (**1 Timothy 6:5**)
- With **minds** and consciences defiled, nothing is clean to them, therefore they talk profitlessly in an effort to deceive the **minds** of true Christians by trying to bring them into bondage to ideas of men.
- For there are many unruly men, profitless talkers, and deceivers of the **mind**, especially those men who adhere to the circumcision. (**Titus 1:10**)
- It is necessary to shut the mouths of these, as these very men keep on subverting entire households by teaching things they ought not for the sake of dishonest gain. (**Titus 1:11**)
- A certain one of them, their own prophet, said; Cretans are always liars, injurious wild beasts, unemployed gluttons. (**Titus 1:12**)
- This witness is true. For this very cause keep on reproving them with severity, that they may be healthy in the faith. (**Titus 1:13**)
- Paying no attention to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn themselves away from the truth. (**Titus 1:14**)
- All things are clean to clean persons. But to persons defiled and

- faithless nothing is clean, but both their **minds** and their consciences are defiled. (**Titus 1:15**)
- They publicly declare they know God, but they disown him by their works, because they are detestable and disobedient and not approved for good work of any sort. (**Titus 1:16**)
 - For this reason it is essential for all Christians, and particularly for those in responsible positions, to be **sound in mind**.
 - For through the undeserved kindness given to me I tell everyone there among you not to think more of himself than it is necessary to think, but to think so as to have a **sound mind**, each one as God has distributed to him a measure of faith. (**Romans 12:3**)
 - The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, **sound in mind**, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach. (**1 Timothy 3:2**)
 - Likewise keep on exhorting the younger men to be **sound in mind**. (**Titus 2:6**)
 - But the end of all things has drawn close. **Be sound in mind**, therefore, and be vigilant with a view to prayers. (**1 Peter 4:7**)
 - The god of this system of things, the Devil, is responsible for **blinding the minds** of unbelievers to the illumination of the Good News about the Christ.
 - Among whom the god of this system of things has blinded the **minds** of the unbelievers, that the illumination of the glorious Good News about the Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine through. (**2 Corinthians 4:4**)
 - The danger exists, therefore, that this archenemy of God may seduce Christians by his cunning, to **corrupt their minds away** from the sincerity and the chastity that are due the Christ.
 - But I am afraid that somehow, as the serpent seduced Eve by its cunning, your **minds** might be corrupted away from the sincerity and the chastity that are due the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 11:3**)
 - Accordingly, it is necessary that Christians exhibit unity of **mind** and reasonableness, continuing in prayer, in order, that the peace of

God that excels all thought may guard their mental powers by means of Christ Jesus.

- **Euodia I exhort and Syntyche I exhort to be of the same **mind** in the Lord. (**Philippians 4:2**)**
- **Let your reasonableness become known to all men. The Lord is near. (**Philippians 4:5**)**
- **Do not be anxious over anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication along with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. (**Philippians 4:6**)**
- **And the peace of God that excels all thought will guard your hearts and your mental powers by means of Christ Jesus. (**Philippians 4:7**)**

.. Healing And Opening Up The Mind

- **Jesus restored soundness of **mind** to a man possessed by demons, illustrating his power to do this even to those driven insane by demons.**
- **So they came to Jesus, and they beheld the demon-possessed man sitting clothed and in his sound **mind**, this man that had had the legion, and they grew fearful. (**Mark 5:15**)**
- **Then people turned out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons came out, clothed and in his sound **mind**, sitting at the feet of Jesus, and they became fearful. (**Luke 8:35**)**
- **He also can open up the **minds** of those who have faith to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures.**
- **Then he opened up their **minds** fully to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures. (**Luke 24:45**)**
- **Timid persons or those feeling inferior intellectually can take comfort from the apostle John's words; We know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us **intellectual capacity** that we may gain the knowledge of the true one Yehowah God.**
- **But we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us**

intellectual capacity that we may gain the knowledge of the true one. And we are in union with the true one, by means of his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and life everlasting. (1 John 5:20)

- Paul showed the Corinthian congregation that he was sound in **mind** although he appeared in their eyes to **be out of his mind**, or, out of himself, when boasting about his credentials as an apostle, a thing a Christian would not normally do.
- He explains that he was forced to do this to bring them back to God, to save them from being pulled away. This was because they had looked to false apostles and were being turned in the wrong direction.
- For if we were out of our **mind**, it was for God, if we are sound in mind, it is for you. (2 Corinthians 5:13)
- I say again, Let no man think I am unreasonable. Still, if you really do, accept me even if as unreasonable, that I too may do some little boasting. (2 Corinthians 11:16)
- What I speak I speak, not after the Lords example, but as in unreasonableness, in this cocksureness peculiar to boasting. (2 Corinthians 11:17)
- Since many are boasting according to the flesh, I too will boast. (2 Corinthians 11:18)
- For you gladly put up with the unreasonable persons, seeing you are reasonable. (2 Corinthians 11:19)
- In fact, you put up with whoever enslaves you, whoever devours what you have, whoever grabs what you have, whoever exalts himself over you, whoever strikes you in the face. (2 Corinthians 11:20)
- I say this to our dishonor, as though our position had been weak. But if anyone else acts bold in something, I am talking unreasonably, I too am acting bold in it. (2 Corinthians 11:21)
- I have become unreasonable. You compelled me to, for I ought to have been recommended by you. For I did not prove to be inferior to your superfine apostles in a single thing, even if I am nothing. (2 Corinthians 12:11)

- **Indeed, the signs of an apostle were produced among you by all endurance, and by signs and portents and powerful works. (2 Corinthians 12:12)**
- **Have you been thinking all this while that we have been making our defense to you? It is before God that we are speaking in connection with Christ. But, beloved ones, all things are for your upbuilding. (2 Corinthians 12:19)**
- **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)**
- **Perhaps, when I come again, my God might humiliate me among you, and I might mourn over many of those who formerly sinned but have not repented over their uncleanness and fornication and loose conduct that they have practiced. (2 Corinthians 12:21)**
- **That is why I write these things while absent, that, when I am present, I may not act with severity according to the authority that the Lord gave me, to build up and not to tear down. (2 Corinthians 13:10)**