

Philippians 2:14-16 – Our Calling in Challenging Times

<p>Πάντα ποιεῖτε (~!)</p> <p>χωρὶς γογγυσμῶν καὶ διαλογισμῶν, ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ, λόγον ζωῆς ἐπέχοντες, εἰς καύχημα ἐμοὶ εἰς ἡμέραν Χριστοῦ, ὅτι οὐκ εἰς κενὸν ἔδραμον οὐδὲ εἰς κενὸν ἐκοπίασα.</p>	<p>Everything be doing</p> <p>without complaining and disputing, in order that you might become blameless and unmixed, children of God without blemish in the midst of a generation crooked and perverted, in which you are shining as lights in [the] world. word of life holding fast unto my boasting unto [the] day of Christ, because not unto vanity I ran, neither unto vanity I labored.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Command 2. Character <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No complaining • No arguing back 3. Conduct <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blameless • Separate • Holy 4. Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crooked • Perverted 5. Calling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shining as lights • In the world 6. Completion <p><i>What</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding the Word <p><i>When</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until shepherds boast • Until the Savior returns <p><i>Why</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persistence involved • Effort expended
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[Thayer] **γογγυσμός**, γογγυσμοῦ, ὁ (γογγύζω, which see), *a murmur, murmuring, muttering*; applied to a. secret debate: περί τίνος, John 7:12. b. secret displeasure, not openly avowed: πρὸς τινα, Acts 6:1; in plural χωρὶς or ἄνευ γογγυσμῶν without querulous discontent, without murmurings, i. e. with a cheerful and willing mind, Phil. 2:14; 1 Pet. 4:9 (where L T Tr WH read the singular). (Exo. 16:7ff; Sap. 1:10f; Antoninus 9, 37.)*

John 7:12 And there was much **complaining** among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people."

καὶ γογγυσμὸς περὶ αὐτοῦ ἦν πολὺς ἐν τοῖς ὄχλοις· οἱ μὲν ἔλεγον ὅτι ἀγαθὸς ἐστίν, ἄλλοι [δὲ] ἔλεγον· οὐ, ἀλλὰ πλανᾷ τὸν ὄχλον.

Acts 6:1 Now in those days, when *the number* of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a **complaint** against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

Ἐν δὲ ταῖς ἡμέραις ταύταις πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χῆραι αὐτῶν.

Phil 2:14 Do all things without **complaining** and disputing,

Πάντα ποιεῖτε χωρὶς γογγυσμῶν καὶ διαλογισμῶν,

1 Pet 4:9 Be hospitable to one another without **grumbling**.

φιλόξενοι εἰς ἀλλήλους ἄνευ γογγυσμοῦ,

[Thayer] **διαλογισμός**

διαλογισμός, διαλογισμοῦ, ὁ (διαλογίζομαι), the Septuagint for **חַבְדָּוָה** and Chaldean **ܚܝܘܘܬܐ**, in Greek writings from Plato down, *the thinking of a man deliberating with himself*; hence, **1. a thought, inward reasoning**: Luke 2:35; 5:22; 6:8; 9:46f; Rom. 14:1 (yet some bring this under 2); *the reasoning* of those who think themselves to be wise, Rom. 1:21; 1 Cor. 3:20; *an opinion*: κριταὶ διαλογισμῶν πονηρῶν, judges with evil thoughts, i. e. who follow perverse opinions, reprehensible principles, James 2:4 (cf. Winer's Grammar, 187 (176)); *purpose, design*: Matt. 15:19; Mark 7:21. **2. a deliberating, questioning**, about what is true: Luke 24:38; when in reference to what ought to be done, *hesitation, doubting*: χωρὶς γογγυσμῶν καὶ διαλογισμῶν, Phil. 2:14 ('γογγυσμῶν is the moral, διαλογισμῶν the intellectual rebellion against God' Lightfoot); χωρὶς ὀργῆς καὶ διαλογισμοῦ, 1 Tim. 2:8; (in the last two passages others still advocate the rendering *disputing*; yet cf. Meyer on Philippians the passage cited).*

Matt 15:19 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

ἐκ γὰρ τῆς καρδίας ἐξέρχονται διαλογισμοὶ πονηροί, φόνοι, μοιχεῖαι, πορνεῖαι, κλοπαί, ψευδομαρτυρίαι, βλασφημίαι.

Mark 7:21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

ἔσωθεν γὰρ ἐκ τῆς καρδίας τῶν ἀνθρώπων οἱ διαλογισμοὶ οἱ κακοὶ ἐκπορεύονται, πορνεῖαι, κλοπαί, φόνοι,

Luke 2:35 "(yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

καὶ σοῦ [δὲ] αὐτῆς τὴν ψυχὴν διελεύσεται ῥομφαία- ὅπως ἂν ἀποκαλυφθῶσιν ἐκ πολλῶν καρδιῶν διαλογισμοί.

Luke 5:22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts?"

ἐπιγνοὺς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς διαλογισμοὺς αὐτῶν ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν πρὸς αὐτούς· τί διαλογίζεσθε ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν;

Luke 6:8 But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "Arise and stand here." And he arose and stood.

αὐτὸς δὲ ᾔδει τοὺς διαλογισμοὺς αὐτῶν, εἶπεν δὲ τῷ ἀνδρὶ τῷ ξηρὰν ἔχοντι τὴν χεῖρα· ἔγειρε καὶ στήθι εἰς τὸ μέσον· καὶ ἀναστὰς ἔστη.

Luke 9:46 Then a dispute arose among them as to which of them would be greatest.

Εἰσηλθεν δὲ διαλογισμὸς ἐν αὐτοῖς, τὸ τίς ἂν εἴη μείζων αὐτῶν.

Luke 9:47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a little child and set him by Him,

ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἰδὼς τὸν διαλογισμὸν τῆς καρδίας αὐτῶν, ἐπιλαβόμενος παιδίον ἔστησεν αὐτὸ παρ' ἑαυτοῦ

Luke 24:38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τί τεταραγμένοι ἐστέ καὶ διὰ τί διαλογισμοὶ ἀναβαίνουσιν ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ ὑμῶν;

Rom 1:21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

διότι γνόντες τὸν θεὸν οὐχ ὡς θεὸν ἐδόξασαν ἢ ἠὲ χαρίστησαν, ἀλλ' ἐματαιώθησαν ἐν τοῖς διαλογισμοῖς αὐτῶν καὶ ἐσκοτίσθη ἡ ἀσύνετος αὐτῶν καρδία.

Rom 14:1 Receive one who is weak in the faith, *but* not to disputes over doubtful things.

Τὸν δὲ ἀσθενοῦντα τῇ πίστει προσλαμβάνεσθε, μὴ εἰς διακρίσεις διαλογισμῶν.

1 Cor 3:20 and again, "The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile."

καὶ πάλιν· κύριος γινώσκει τοὺς διαλογισμοὺς τῶν σοφῶν ὅτι εἰσὶν μάταιοι.

Phil 2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing,

Πάντα ποιεῖτε χωρὶς γογγυσμῶν καὶ διαλογισμῶν,

1 Tim 2:8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

Βούλομαι οὖν προσεύχεσθαι τοὺς ἄνδρας ἐν παντὶ τόπῳ ἐπαίροντας ὀσίους χεῖρας χωρὶς ὀργῆς καὶ διαλογισμοῦ.

James 2:4 have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

οὐ διεκρίθητε ἐν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ ἐγένεσθε κριταὶ διαλογισμῶν πονηρῶν;

[Thayer] **ἄμεμπτος**, -ον (μέμφομαι to blame), *blameless, deserving no censure* (Tertullian *irreprehensibilis*), *free from fault or defect*. Luke 1:6; Phil. 2:15; 3:6;

1 Thess. 3:13 (WH marginal reading ἀμέμπτως); Heb. 8:7 (in which nothing is lacking); in the Septuagint equivalent to **אָמֵן**, Job 1:1,8 etc., common in Greek writings. (Cf. Trench, sec. ciii.)*

[Thayer] **ἀμέμπτως**

ἀμέμπτως, adverb, *blamelessly, so that there is no cause for censure*: 1 Thess. 2:10; (3:13 WH marginal reading); 5:23. (From Aeschylus down. Cf. Trench, sec. ciii.)*

Luke 1:6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord **blameless**.

ἦσαν δὲ δίκαιοι ἀμώτεροι ἐναντίον τοῦ θεοῦ, πορευόμενοι ἐν πάσαις ταῖς ἐντολαῖς καὶ δικαιώμασιν τοῦ κυρίου ἄμεμπτοι.

Phil 2:15 that you may become **blameless** and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ,

Phil 3:6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, **blameless**.

κατὰ ζῆλος διώκων τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, κατὰ δικαιοσύνην τὴν ἐν νόμῳ γενόμενος ἄμεμπτος.

1 Thes 3:13 so that He may establish your hearts **blameless** in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

εἰς τὸ στηρίξαι ὑμῶν τὰς καρδίας ἀμέμπτους ἐν ἀγιωσύνῃ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ πατρὸς ἡμῶν ἐν τῇ παρουσίᾳ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ μετὰ πάντων τῶν ἁγίων αὐτοῦ, [ἀμήν].

Heb 8:7 For if that first *covenant* had been **faultless**, then no place would have been sought for a second.

Εἰ γὰρ ἡ πρώτη ἐκείνη ἦν ἄμεμπτος, οὐκ ἂν δευτέρας ἐζητεῖτο τόπος.

[Thayer] **ἀκέραιος**, -ον (κεράννυμι); a. *unmixed, pure*, as wine, metals, b. of the mind, *without admixture of evil, free from guile, innocent, simple*: Matt. 10:16; Rom. 16:19; Phil. 2:15; (and frequent in secular writings). (Cf. Ellicott on Philippians, the passage cited; Trench, sec. lvi.; Tittmann 1:27f.)*

Matt 10:16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and **harmless** as doves.

Ἴδου ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω ὑμᾶς ὡς πρόβατα ἐν μέσῳ λύκων· γίνεσθε οὖν φρόνιμοι ὡς οἱ ὄφεις καὶ ἀκέραιοι ὡς αἱ περιστραφαί.

Rom 16:19 For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and **simple** concerning evil.

ἡ γὰρ ὑμῶν ὑπακοὴ εἰς πάντας ἀφίκετο· ἐφ' ὑμῖν οὖν χαίρω, θέλω δὲ ὑμᾶς σοφοὺς εἶναι εἰς τὸ ἀγαθόν, ἀκεραίους δὲ εἰς τὸ κακόν.

Phil 2:15 that you may become blameless and **harmless**, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ,

[Thayer] **ἄμωμος**, -ον (μῶμος), *without blemish*, free from faultiness, as a victim without spot or blemish: 1 Pet. 1:19 (Lev. 22:21); Heb. 9:14; in both places allusion is made to the sinless life of Christ. Ethically, *without blemish, faultless, unblamable*: Eph. 1:4; 5:27; Col. 1:22; Phil. 2:15 L T Tr WH; Jude 1:24; Rev. 14:5. (Often in the Septuagint; (Hesiod, Simonides, Jamblichus), Herodotus 2, 177; Aeschylus Pers. 185; Theocritus, 18, 25.) (Synonym: see Trench, sec. ciii.; Tittmann 1:29f.)*

Eph 1:4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

καθὼς ἐξελέξατο ἡμᾶς ἐν αὐτῷ πρὸ καταβολῆς κόσμου εἶναι ἡμᾶς ἁγίους καὶ ἀμώμους κατενώπιον αὐτοῦ ἐν ἀγάπῃ,

Eph 5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

ἵνα παραστήσῃ αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ ἔνδοξον τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, μὴ ἔχουσαν σπίλον ἢ ρυτίδα ἢ τι τῶν τοιούτων, ἀλλ' ἵνα ᾖ ἁγία καὶ ἄμωμος.

Phil 2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ,

Col 1:21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

νυνὶ δὲ ἀποκατήλλαξεν ἐν τῷ σώματι τῆς σαρκὸς αὐτοῦ διὰ τοῦ θανάτου παραστήσαι ὑμᾶς ἁγίους καὶ ἀμώμους καὶ ἀνεγκλήτους κατενώπιον αὐτοῦ,

Heb 9:14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

πόσῳ μᾶλλον τὸ αἷμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὃς διὰ πνεύματος αἰωνίου ἑαυτὸν προσήνεγκεν ἄμωμον τῷ θεῷ, καθαριεῖ τὴν συνείδησιν ἡμῶν ἀπὸ νεκρῶν ἔργων εἰς τὸ λατρεύειν θεῷ ζῶντι.

1 Pet 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

ἀλλὰ τιμίῳ αἵματι ὡς ἀμνοῦ ἀμώμου καὶ ἀσπίλου Χριστοῦ,

Jude 1:24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

Τῷ δὲ δυναμένῳ φυλάξαι ὑμᾶς ἀπταιστούς καὶ στησαι κατενώπιον τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ ἀμώμους ἐν ἀγαλλιάσει,

Rev 14:5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

καὶ ἐν τῷ στόματι αὐτῶν οὐχ εὐρέθη ψεῦδος, ἄμωμοί εἰσιν.

[Thayer] **σκολιός**, σκολιά, σκολιόν (opposed to ὀρθός, ὀρθιος, εὐθύς (cf. σκώληξ)), from Homer down, *crooked, curved*: properly, of a way (Prov. 28:18), τὰ σκολιά, Luke 3:5 (opposed to ἡ εὐθεῖα namely, ὁδός, from Isa. 40:4); metaphorically, *perverse, wicked*: ἡ γενεά ἡ σκολιά, Acts 2:40; with διεστραμμένη added, Phil. 2:15 (clearly so Deut. 32:5); *unfair, surly, froward* (opposed to ἀγαθός καὶ ἐπιεικής), 1 Pet. 2:18.*

Luke 3:5 Every valley shall be filled And every mountain and hill brought low; The **crooked** places shall be made straight And the rough ways smooth;

πᾶσα φάραγξ πληρωθήσεται καὶ πᾶν ὄρος καὶ βουνὸς ταπεινωθήσεται, καὶ ἔσται τὰ σκολιὰ εἰς εὐθείαν καὶ αἱ τραχεῖαι εἰς ὁδοὺς λείας·

Acts 2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this **perverse** generation."

ἐτέροις τε λόγοις πλείοσιν διεμαρτύρατο καὶ παρεκάλει αὐτοὺς λέγων· σῶθητε ἀπὸ τῆς γενεᾶς τῆς σκολιᾶς ταύτης.

Phil 2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a **crooked** and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ,

1 Pet 2:18 Servants, be submissive to *your* masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **harsh**.

Οἱ οἰκέται ὑποτασσόμενοι ἐν παντὶ φόβῳ τοῖς δεσπόταις, οὐ μόνον τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς καὶ ἐπιεικέσιν ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῖς σκολιοῖς.

[Thayer] **διαστρέφω**; 1 aorist infinitive διαστρέφαι; passive participle διεστραμμένος (cf. WH's Appendix, p. 170f); from Aeschylus down; a. *to distort, turn aside*: τὰς ὁδοὺς κυρίου τὰς εὐθείας, figuratively (Prov. 10:10), to oppose, plot against, the saving purposes and plans of God, Acts 13:10. Hence, b. *to turn aside from the right path, to pervert, corrupt*: τὸ ἔθνος, Luke 23:2 (Polybius 5, 41, 1; 8, 24, 3); τινα ἀπὸ τίνος, to corrupt and so turn one aside from, etc. Acts 13:8 (Exo. 5:4; *voluptates animum detorquent a virtute*, Cicero); διεστραμμένος, *perverse, corrupt, wicked*: Matt. 17:17; Luke 9:41; Acts 20:30; Phil. 2:15.*

Matt 17:17 Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and **perverse** generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me."

ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· ὃ γενεὰ ἄπιστος καὶ διεστραμμένη, ἕως πότε μεθ' ὑμῶν ἔσομαι; ἕως πότε ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; φέρετέ μοι αὐτὸν ὧδε.

Luke 9:41 Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and **perverse** generation, how long shall I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here."

ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· ὃ γενεὰ ἄπιστος καὶ διεστραμμένη, ἕως πότε ἔσομαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς καὶ ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; προσάγαγε ὧδε τὸν υἱόν σου.

Luke 23:2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this *fellow* **perverting** the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King."

Ἦρξαντο δὲ κατηγορεῖν αὐτοῦ λέγοντες· τοῦτον εὗραμεν διαστρέφοντα τὸ ἔθνος ἡμῶν καὶ κωλύοντα φόρους Καίσαρι διδόναι καὶ λέγοντα ἑαυτὸν χριστὸν βασιλέα εἶναι.

Acts 13:8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking **to turn** the proconsul away from the faith.

ἀνθίστατο δὲ αὐτοῖς Ἐλύμας ὁ μάγος, οὕτως γὰρ μεθερμηνεύεται τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, ζητῶν διαστρέψαι τὸν ἀνθύπατον ἀπὸ τῆς πίστεως.

Acts 13:10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, *you* son of the devil, *you* enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease **perverting** the straight ways of the Lord?

εἶπεν· ὃ πλήρης παντὸς δόλου καὶ πάσης ῥαδιουργίας, υἱὲ διαβόλου, ἐχθρὲ πάσης δικαιοσύνης, οὐ παύση διαστρέφων τὰς ὁδοὺς [τοῦ] κυρίου τὰς εὐθείας;

Acts 20:30 "Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking **perverse** things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς ὀπίσω αὐτῶν.

Phil 2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and **perverse** generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

ἵνα γένησθε ἄμεμπτοι καὶ ἀκέραιοι, τέκνα θεοῦ ἄμωμα μέσον γενεᾶς σκολιᾶς καὶ διεστραμμένης, ἐν οἷς φαίνεσθε ὡς φωστῆρες ἐν κόσμῳ,