

Acts 18:23b "... he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples." 24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. 26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly. 27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace: 28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

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Acts 14:27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles. 28 And there they abode long time with the disciples.

C. The Third Missionary Journey: Exhortation, 18:23b-21:26

1. Asia Minor: Be Strong, 18:23b

Acts 18:23b "...he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples."





Original Word: καθεξῆς Transliteration: kathexés Definition: in order, in succession, in the time immediately after, just after. https://biblehub.com/greek/2517.htm

**Original Word:** ἐπιστηρίζω **Transliteration:** epistérizó **Definition:** I prop up, uphold, support, confirm, make stronger. (strengthening)

Properly, "prop up, uphold, support, confirm" (Souter), i.e. support (establish) in an *apt*, *fitting* way; to confirm as it *builds on* the Lord's previous work of faith (note the force of the prefix *epi*, "*upon*"). <u>https://biblehub.com/greek/1991.htm</u>

<u>Acts 14:22</u> Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 15:32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed *them*. ... <u>41</u> And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

a. A Time of Preparation, 18:24-28

(1) Apollos: A Gifted Man, 18:24

Acts 18:24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.





<u>Acts 19:1</u> And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

<u>1 Cor. 1:12</u> Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.

<u>1 Cor. 3:4</u> For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?
<u>5</u> Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?
<u>6</u> I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. ...
<u>22</u> Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life,

or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

<u>1 Cor. 4:6</u> And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and *to* Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think *of men* above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

<u>1 Cor. 16:12</u> As touching *our* brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time.

<u>Titus 3:13</u> Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them.

**Original Word:** λόγιος **Transliteration:** logios **Definition:** eloquent, gifted with learning.

*lógios* (from *lógos*, "reason, word") – properly, characterized by divine *reason* (used only in Acts 18:24). <u>https://biblehub.com/greek/3052.htm</u>

Eloquent (λόγιος) = learned, a man of letters, skilled in literature and the arts, esp. versed in history and the antiquities, skilled in speech, eloquent, rational, wise <a href="https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G3052&t=KJV">https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G3052&t=KJV</a>

Original Word: δυνατός Transliteration: dunatos Definition: (a) of persons: powerful, able, (b) of things: possible. (mighty)

*dynatós* (an adjective) – properly, able, describing what is made possible because of the *power* (ability) exerted by the subject; "*preeminent* ability or power in something" (*WS*, 1055). <u>See</u> <u>1411(*dynamis*). https://biblehub.com/greek/1415.htm</u>

#### (2) Apollos: A Godly Man, 18:25

<u>Acts 18:25</u> This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

**Original Word:** ζέω **Transliteration:** zeó **Definition:** (lit: I boil, am boiling), I burn (in spirit), am fervent.

Be ardently passionate (literally "boiling" with interest or desire); "to be deeply committed to something, with the implication of accompanying desire – 'to be earnest, to set one's heart on, to be completely intent upon'" (*L* & *N*, 1, 25.76); *very fervent*. See (*zēlos*). https://biblehub.com/greek/2204.htm

Rom. 12:11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

# (3) Apollos: A Gracious Man, 18:26

Acts 18:26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto *them*, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

<u>Rom. 16:3</u> Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:
<u>4</u> Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.
<u>5</u> Likewise greet the church that is in their house.
Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ. Original Word: ἀκριβῶς Transliteration: akribós Definition: carefully, exactly, strictly, distinctly. ("more perfectly")

Properly, extremely accurate, very exact; "*more* (*very*) accurate" because researched down to the finest detail ("factually precise").

This root (*akrib-*) refers to gaining *exact information* with the *highest level*of accuracy ("exactness") and is acquired by *probing investigation* to provide a *comprehensive circumspect* (precise) view in *strict* adherence to the facts. <u>Mt. 2:8</u> And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

Luke 1:3 It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,

<u>Acts 18:25</u> This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

Eph. 5:15 then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

<u>1 Thess. 5:2</u> For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

### (4) Apollos: A Guided Man, 18:27

<u>Acts 18:27</u> And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

Original Word: βούλομαι Transliteration: boulomai Definition: I will, intend, desire, wish. (disposed)

*boúlomai* – to plan with *full resolve* (determination). *boúlomai* ("*resolutely* plan") is a strong term that underlines the predetermined (and determined) intention driving the planning (wishing, resolving).

DISPOSED, *participle passive* Set in order; arranged; placed; adjusted; applied; bestowed; inclined. http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/disposed

#### (5) Apollos: A Great Man, 18:28

Acts 18:28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, *and that* publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

**Original Word:** διακατελέγχομαι **Transliteration:** diakatelegchomai **Definition:** I effectively (utterly) refute.

*diakatelégxomai* (from *diá*, "thoroughly"; *katá*, "contrary to, *down* against"; and *elenxō*, "*convict*, *proving* what is wrong or shameful") – properly, "prove all the way through" (literally "back-and-forth" until finished); (figuratively) demonstrating an idea (thesis) is true by *completely refuting* what opposes it, i.e. to *fully prevail* in a debate by also putting *down* (*katá*) what is wrong (or wrongly opposes the truth, used only in Ac 18:28). <u>https://biblehub.com/greek/1246.htm</u>

## **Conclusion**

<u>1 Cor. 3:3</u> For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?
<u>4</u> For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I *am* of Apollos; are ye not carnal?
<u>5</u> Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?
<u>6</u> I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

<u>7</u> So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

<u>8</u> Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. <u>9</u> For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building. ...
<u>21</u> Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;
<u>22</u> Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;
<u>23</u> And ye are Christ's; and Christ *is* God's.