

Philemon 4-7

4 I thank my God, making mention of you in my prayers,
 5 hearing of your love and faith toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints,
 6 that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.
 7 For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints are refreshed by you, brother.

..., **hearing** of your love and faith

Galatians 5:6 (NKJV)

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision **avails** anything, but faith *working* through love.

(Faith working through love has a function in Christ Jesus)

hearing of your love and faith **avails much**; **Avails: to be useful - to be or become of use or have a function. The hearing of their faith and love was the function that caused Paul to rejoice and be moved to pray.**

Working: to function - to do what something is used for; perform as expected when operating.

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NKJV)

15 Therefore, I also, **after I** heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, -

16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:
 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,
 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power
 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church
 23, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Colossians 1:3-8 (NKJV)

3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; -

5 – because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

7 as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,

8 who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

...the sharing of your faith: **participation, fellowship** - the act of sharing in the activities or privileges of an intimate association or group, especially use of marriage and the churches.

1 John 1:3-4 (NKJV)

3 ... that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may **have fellowship with us**; and truly **our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ**.

4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

1 John 1:7 (NKJV)

7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Philemon 4-7

4 I thank my God, making mention of you in my prayers,

5 hearing of your love and faith toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints,

6 **that the sharing of your faith may become effective** by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

Effective: producing or capable of producing an intended result.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the **effective working** by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself **in love**.

effective working: operation - process or manner of functioning or operating.

The intended result

John 15:8-11 (NKJV)

8 By this, My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

6 that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

Knowing every good thing (what those good things are and where they originate) that is in you in Christ Jesus.

...in Christ Jesus

John 16:33 (NKJV)

33: " 33These things I have spoken to you, that **in Me** you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Philippians 4: 6-7 (NKJV)

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 3:14 (NKJV)

14 But their minds were blinded. For, until this day, the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because **the veil is taken away in Christ.**

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NKJV)

4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV)

3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Colossians 1:14 (NKJV)

14 **in whom we have redemption** through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Peace 2 Thessalonians 2:2 (NKJV)

2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

Galatians 5:19-26 (NKJV)

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,

20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies,

21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

The fruit of the Spirit is what fills us or is in us, because the Spirit is in us.

Romans 8:7-11 (NKJV)

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

The spiritual-mindedness is in us in Christ Jesus

John 14:21 (NKJV)

21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

John 15:3-5 (NKJV)

3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

John 15:9-11 (NKJV)

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (NKJV)

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom, declaring to you the testimony of God.

2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

The effectiveness of Paul's preaching was manifest in the Corinthians' coming to faith in Jesus Christ for justification. It wasn't Saul of Tarsus who imprisoned believers for abandoning the worship of the law for faith in Jesus, but Paul, who also believed in Jesus for justification before God.

Paul was no longer operating in the carnal mind because the Spirit of Christ was in him.

Paul was operating in faith, motivated by God's love.

This is the pattern for Christians in every era. The same pattern that Jesus acted in.

Galatians 5:6 (NKJV)

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision **avails** anything, but faith *working* through love.

(Faith working through love has a function in Christ Jesus)

Faith must continue to work... through us, but it must be through love.

Faith without works is dead: James 2:14-17 (NKJV)

14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,

¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Philemon 4-7 Part II

Manifestation of the Truth

Colossians 1:9-14 (NKJV)

9 For this reason, we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask **that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will** in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

Colossians 1:3-5 (NKJV)

3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

1 Thessalonians 1:3-4 (NKJV)

3 ...remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,

4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

patience of hope: Romans 5:1-5 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

4 and perseverance, character, and character, hope.

5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Hope is the result of justification and righteousness; when viewed from the position of God's love for us, it produces love through us.

Filled: supplied - to be or become generously supplied with; also in a metaphorical sense. Philippians 1:9-12 (NKJV)

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,

11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and **increasing in the knowledge of God**;

11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

John 8:27-30 (NKJV)

27 They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.

29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

1 Peter 4:1-11 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves** also with the same **mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the **will** of God.

* **Arm yourselves: to be armed (prepared) - to be or become prepared with the proper equipment... for a task.**

* **mind: mental attitude - a complex mental state involving beliefs, feelings, values, and dispositions to act in certain ways. Spiritual-mindedness**

Will: inclination (attitude) - an attitude of mind, especially one that favors one alternative over others.

Luke 22:42 (NKJV)

42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done."

John 4:32-34 (NKJV) Samaritan woman

32 But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."

33 Therefore, the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?"

34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."

Psalms 40:7-8 (NKJV)

7 Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me.

8 I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."

3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the **will** of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.

5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

1 Peter 1:10-17 (NKJV)

10 Of this salvation, the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you,

11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

12 To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

13 Therefore, **gird up** the loins of your **mind**, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; (Colossians 1:5,6)

14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;

15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;

gird up: to get one's mind ready for action, to be ready to learn and to think, to be alert

References for girding up?

Notice the relation of these words to 1 Peter 4:1 on the previous page

Mind: that which is responsible for one's thoughts and feelings, especially the seat of the faculty of reason

And notice also that the "arming of the mind" is a lot like reckoning, considering that when we regard ourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God, we're girding up the loins of our mind.

Colossians 1:1-4 (NKJV)

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,
4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

Colossians 1:5-6 (NKJV)

5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,
6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

Hebrews 6:9-12 (NKJV)

9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.
10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.
11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,
12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Blinded minds

John 9:1-7 (NKJV)

1 Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.
2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.

4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7 And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

The purpose for healing this man was not just that he might have his physical sight restored but to make a point that men are blinded from the reality of God and His initial intent and that Jesus came to restore that by giving life, that life restores us to fellowship with God, it restores our minds to be in harmony with God our Creator our heavenly Father, to be in His likeness.

Another point in this context is that man's religion is not light; it's not reality.

The life of God exceeds physical life, as life is distinct from death.

Blindness is the death of the eyes. The sight that is restored is what was stolen by deceit in the Garden of Eden.

A man can't restore his mind to the state that God intended when He created man, but we see that intended state in Christ

John 9:35-41 (NKJV)

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

36 He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

37 And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

38 Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

39 And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?"

41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore, your sin remains.

Manifestation of the Truth cont.

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.

2 But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the **truth** commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the **light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Commending: to recommend - to present as worthy of regard, kindness, or confidence.

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing-ref ch3:7-18.

2 Corinthians 6:4-7 (NKJV)

4 But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,

5 in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

6 by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,

7 by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

In talking about the fruits of the Spirit we could say evidence, or proof, or manifestation of the Spirit.

truth(statement) - a true statement; with the implication that the statement is dependable.

As the Corinthians witnessed the faithful and consistent composure of the Apostles and their fellow-workers in difficulties and persecution the trustworthiness in the doctrine grew. (faithful in that they didn't change their mind and turn back or change the message to avoid the difficulties that accompanied preaching the truth.)

John 3:19–21 (NKJV)

19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

John 5:31–33 (NKJV)

31 "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true.

32 There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true.

33 You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth.

John 8:31–32 (NKJV)

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

2 John 4 (NKJV)

4 I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we received a commandment from the Father.

3 John 2–4 (NKJV)

2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

3 For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth.

4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

1 Thessalonians 2:17–20 (NKJV)

17 But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire.

18 Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us.

19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NKJV)

1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,
 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.
 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2 Timothy 3:1-7 (NKJV)

1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:
 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,
 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!
 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,
 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Acts 18:24-28 (NKJV)

24 Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus.
 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John.
 26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
 27 And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace;
 28 for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.