

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. ⁹For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you ¹⁰always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you (ESV) [For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established (NKJV)]

You must be strengthened/established!

1 Cor. 3:1 (KJV) - Is your conversion the end? You are *born again*.

James 1:2-4 - Now you are a target of the Devil through doubt, discouragement, difficulties, and discord (Philippians 4:2-3)

Ephesians 4:14 - Correct doctrine helps us to avoid such pitfalls. Forewarned is forearmed!

2 Cor. 2:11 – The Devil's bag of tricks – Lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life (1 John 2:16).

Gal. 3:1-2 – Paul's desire is to protect these babes in Christ from false teachers

Eph. 3:14-21 – Rooted and grounded. If you are not, you risk bringing the name of Christ into disrepute.

2 Corinthians 3:2-3 – Living epistles

Paul longs to be with the Romans so that their hearts and minds might be established.

Paul

Speaks from the heart

First... where's second, third, and fourth?

Anacoluthon: an unexpected discontinuity in the expression of ideas within a sentence, leading to a form of words in which there is logical incoherence of thought. When anacoluthon occurs unintentionally it is considered to be an error in sentence structure, and results in incoherent nonsense. However, it can be used as a rhetorical technique to challenge the reader to think more deeply, or in "stream of consciousness" literature to represent the disjointed nature of associative thought.

Prayer life

1. Personal contact and communication. "I thank **my God**..." see Acts 27:21-26 "God, whose I am and whom I serve"
2. Through Jesus Christ – There is no access to God, not even to thank Him unless it is through Jesus Christ. (John 14:6). Buddhism, Islam, Judaism all falsely allow direct access to the Father (Hebrews 10:19-25).
3. Verses 9-10. Praying, not for self, but for others.