THE QUESTION

What sins does a complaining spirit lead to, and how does it harm the church?

Asked by a THF member on June 28, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 9 numbered quotations · the 28 early Christian passages and 260 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-sins-does-a-complaining-spirit-lead-to-and-how-does-it-harm-the-church

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

The early writers treated murmuring as a serious sin. The Didache warns it leads to blasphemy, and the Apostolic Constitutions says complaining against church leaders is really complaining against God. Cyprian links it to ingratitude and unbelief, while Clement and Hermas show how envy and slander bring strife and division into the church.

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HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
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POINT 1 OF 8

Murmuring leads on to blasphemy

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Didache lists sins that grow into worse sins. It warns that being a murmurer leads to blasphemy. In its place it urges meekness and patience, and receiving what happens as good, since nothing happens apart from God.

1

> "My child, do not be a murmurer, since that leads to blasphemy. Do not be self-willed or evil-minded, because blasphemies come from all these things."
>
> *later in the same passage*
>
> "Receive the things that happen to you as good, knowing that nothing comes to pass apart from God."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 3 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 1, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Complaining against leaders is complaining against God

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Apostolic Constitutions warns deacons not to stir up grumbling against their bishop. It uses Moses' words to the people in the wilderness to show that such murmuring is aimed at God himself.

2

> "But do nothing secretly in a way that could bring reproach on the bishop, lest you stir up murmuring against him. For the murmuring will not be against him, but against the Lord God."
>
> *later in the same passage*
>
> "Your murmuring is not against us, but against the Lord our God.""

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 23, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 3 OF 8

Murmuring grows from ingratitude and unbelief

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Cyprian looks back at the people freed from Egypt as a picture for Christians. They forgot what God had done, murmured against Moses, and wanted to go back to slavery, when they should have trusted God.

3

"Yet they were faithless and ungrateful toward God. They murmured against Moses, looking back to the hardships of the desert and of their labor."

later in the same passage

"Not understanding the divine benefits of liberty and salvation, they wanted to return to the slavery of Egypt—that is, of the world from which they had been brought out—when they should instead have trusted and believed God, since He who delivers His people from the devil and the world also protects them after He has delivered them."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 21, page 7** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

Bear trouble patiently instead of complaining

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Cyprian says the apostles kept a rule not to complain in hard times. He calls believers to endure bravely, since God uses trials to show what is in the heart.

4

"The apostles kept this rule from the law of the Lord: not to complain in trouble, but to accept bravely and patiently whatever happens in the world."

later in the same passage

"We must not complain in adversity, beloved brothers, but must bear patiently and courageously whatever happens, since it is written, "The sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; a contrite and humbled heart God does not despise.""

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 17, page 7** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

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POINT 5 OF 8

Envy and discontent turn into strife

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement traces a church quarrel back to people who had plenty yet rebelled. From that came envy, strife and disorder, and members rose up against their leaders. He lists whispering and evil-speaking among the things God hates.

5 “From this came rivalry and envy, strife and rebellion, persecution and disorder, war and captivity. So, the worthless rose up against the honored, those with no reputation against the renowned, the foolish against the wise, the young against the elderly.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 27, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

6 “If our understanding is fixed by faith towards God; if we earnestly seek the things which are pleasing and acceptable to Him; if we do the things which align with His blameless will; and if we follow the way of truth, casting away from us all unrighteousness and iniquity, along with all covetousness, strife, evil practices, deceit, whispering, and evil-speaking, all hatred of God, pride and arrogance, vanity and ambition. For those who do such things are hateful to God; and not only they who do them, but also those who take pleasure in those who do them.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 25, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

A fault-finding spirit misses God's work

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen points out that Jesus' critics saw him heal the sick yet were not amazed. Instead they came looking for something to blame, and found only a small matter of custom.

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7 “They were not amazed at the power in Jesus, which healed those who touched even the border of His garment. Instead, with a fault-finding spirit, they accused the disciples before their Teacher, not about breaking a commandment of God, but about one tradition of the Jewish elders.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on Matthew* 11 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 16, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Slander keeps people in constant conflict

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Hermas warns that even listening to and believing evil talk makes us share in the sin. He calls slander restless: it never stays at peace. Avoiding it brings peace with everyone.

8 “But if you listen, you will share in the sin of the one who speaks evil, if you believe the slander you hear.”

later in the same passage

“For slander is evil, and it is an unstable demon. It never stays in peace, but always remains in conflict. Keep yourself from it, and you will always be at peace with everyone.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hermas,** *Shepherd* (c. 90–150 AD) **Source 4, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Evil talk can scatter Christ's flock

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Apostolic Constitutions warns church leaders about harsh, slanderous people who set out to scatter Christ's sheep. Someone pushed out unfairly may lose heart and drift away from the church altogether.

9 “For there are many who delight in doing harm, who are rash in speech, slanderous, haters of the brothers, and make it their business to scatter the sheep of Christ.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 22, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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THE LIMITS

What these passages don't tell us

- These passages do not give a full list of every sin that complaining leads to.
- They speak mostly of grumbling against God and church leaders, and say less about honest sorrow or lament in prayer.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 28 early Christian passages and 260 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–28, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 29–145, in Bible order), then 143 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *28 passages from 12 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · sources 1–2*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 3 (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** "child, be not a murmurer, since it leads the way to blasphemy… [continues online] **read ›**

2 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 2 (on point 7) shall not speak evil. You shall bear no grudge… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome, *c. 88–99 AD · source 3*

3 *Second Epistle* 4 (1885 English; on point 5) "brethren, let us confess Him by our works, by loving one another, by not committing adultery, or speaking evil of one another, or cherishing envy… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · sources 4–6*

4 *Shepherd* **Quote 8, page 5** "But if you listen, you will share in the sin of the one who speaks evil, if you believe the slander you hear. For if you believe it, you too… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Shepherd* (on point 7) "haughtiness, insolence, lies, backbiting, hypocrisy, remembering wrongs, and every kind of slander. These are the deeds that are most wicked in human life. Therefore, the servant of God must restrain… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Shepherd* (on point 7) "Deceit. And their followers are called Sorrow, Wickedness, Wantonness, Anger, Falsehood, Folly, Backbiting, and Hatred. The servant of God who bears these names will indeed see the kingdom of God… [continues online] **read ›**

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Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · source 7*

7 *Epistle to the Magnesians* (on point 2) “Dathan and Abiram did not speak against the law, but against Moses, and were cast down alive into Hades… [continues online] **read ›**

Tatian, *c. 150–180 AD · sources 8–9*

8 *Diatessaron* 26 (on point 6) tax collectors and sinners came to him to hear his word. But the scribes and the Pharisees were complaining and saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." When… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Diatessaron* 20 6:61 Jesus knew within himself that his disciples were complaining about this, and he said to them, "Does this offend you?" John 6:62 "What then if you should… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · source 10*

10 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English; on point 3) “murmur ye, as some of them murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 11–14*

11 *Stromata* 3 (on point 3) they were being chastened for their sins, bore it badly and groaned. With these words they were murmuring that other nations, though they behave wickedly, are not punished, while they… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Stromata* 1.10 (on point 7) “And just as people whose speech is evil are no better than those whose actions are evil—for slander serves the sword, and evil-speaking causes pain, and from these… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Instructor* 3.8 (on point 2) have gone in the way of Cain, and run greedily after the error of Balaam, and perished in the gainsaying of Core." For fear keeps from growing insolent those who… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Stromata* 5.5 (1885 English; on point 6) “the turtle-dove murmuring shows the thankless slander of fault-finding, and is rightly expelled the house… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · source 15*

15 *On Modesty* 2 (on point 6) “the Lord Himself demonstrates the manner in which He threatens such as judge: “For with what judgment you judge, judgment shall be given on you… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · source 16*

16 *Commentary on Matthew* 11 **Quote 7, page 5** “Pharisees and scribes from Jerusalem came to Him and said, "Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 17–21*

17 *Treatises* **Quote 4, page 3** “happens in the world. In this matter, the Jewish people always offended, because they kept murmuring against God, as the Lord God testifies in the book of Numbers, saying, “Let… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Treatises* (1885 English; on point 4) “let each one cease complaining about God, or about us, if he should perceive that himself deserves what he suffers… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Treatises* (on point 4) also urged him, in her impatience at the sharpness of his pain, to say something against God in a complaining and bitter voice, he answered and said, "You speak as… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Epistles* (on point 7) “sat and spoke against your brother, and slandered your own mother's son… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *Treatises* **Quote 3, page 3** “is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in this wilderness… [continues online] **read ›**

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Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 22–23*

22 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 9, page 5** "is a murderer. John 8:44. And anyone who is unjustly separated because of your lack of care in judging will be overcome with sorrow and left without comfort. Then… [continues online] **read ›**

23 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 2, page 2** "12:8. And again, Moses says to those who rose up against him, "Your murmuring is not against us, but against the Lord our God… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *sources 24–28*

24 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English; on point 7) "thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile… [continues online] **read ›**

25 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English) **Quote 6, page 4** "sittest, and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (on point 5) is right and holy, therefore, men and brethren, to obey God rather than follow those who, through pride and rebellion, have become the leaders of a detestable competition. For we… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Quote 5, page 4** ate and drank, grew large and fat, and rebelled." From this came rivalry and envy, strife and rebellion, persecution and disorder, war and captivity. So, the worthless rose up against… [continues online] **read ›**

28 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (on point 5) "we have committed through any suggestion of the adversary. And those who have been leaders of rebellion and disagreement should have respect for the common hope. For those who live… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *117 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

29 **Exodus 15:24** And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" **read ›**

30 **Exodus 16:2** the whole congregation of the children of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. **read ›**

31 **Exodus 16:7** and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against God. And what are we, that you grumble against us?" **read ›**

32 **Exodus 16:8** And Moses said, "This shall be when the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and bread in the morning to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling with which you grumble against us. And what are we? For your grumbling is not against us, but against God." **read ›**

33 **Exodus 16:9** Moses said to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before God, for he has heard your grumbling.'" **read ›**

34 **Exodus 16:12** "I have heard the grumbling of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, 'Toward evening you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" **read ›**

35 **Exodus 17:3** There the people were thirsty for water, and there the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why is this? Have you brought us up out of Egypt to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?" **read ›**

36 **Leviticus 19:16** You shall not go about with deceit among your nation; you shall not rise up against the blood of your neighbor. I am the Lord your God. **read ›**

37 **Leviticus 19:17** You shall not hate your brother in your mind. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and you shall not bear sin because of him. **read ›**

38 **Numbers 11:1** Now the people were grumbling wickedly before the Lord; and the Lord heard, and his anger burned with wrath; and fire from the Lord blazed up among them and consumed part of the camp. **read ›**

39 **Numbers 14:2** All the children of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, **read ›**

40 **Numbers 14:27** "How long must I bear with this evil congregation? I have heard what they grumble before me, the grumbling of the children of Israel which they have grumbled concerning you. **read ›**

41 **Numbers 14:36** And the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and grumbled against it before the congregation, bringing out evil words about the land— **read ›**

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42 **Numbers 16:3** They gathered together against Moses and Aaron and said, “Let it be enough for you that all the congregation, every one of them, is holy, and the Lord is among them! Why then do you set yourselves up against the congregation of the Lord?” **read ›**

43 **Numbers 16:11** So then, you and all your congregation are gathered together against God. And Aaron, who is he, that you grumble against him?” **read ›**

44 **Numbers 17:6** So Moses spoke to the children of Israel, and all their leaders gave him a rod, one rod for each leader, by the houses of their families, twelve rods; and the rod of Aaron was among their rods. (Septuagint Numbers 17:21 (Numbers 17:6 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

45 **Numbers 20:3** And the people hurled insults at Moses, saying, “Would that we had died in the destruction of our brothers before the Lord! **read ›**

46 **Numbers 21:5** And the people spoke against God and against Moses, saying, “Why is this? Have you brought us out of Egypt to kill us in the wilderness? For there is no bread and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread.” **read ›**

47 **Numbers 26:9** And the sons of Eliab: Nemuel, Dathan, and Abiram. These were those called from the congregation; these are the ones who rose up against Moses and Aaron in the congregation of Korah, in the rebellion against the Lord. **read ›**

48 **Numbers 27:14** because you transgressed my word in the wilderness of Zin, when the congregation resisted sanctifying me: you did not sanctify me at the water before them.” This is the Water of Dispute in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. **read ›**

49 **Deuteronomy 1:26** Yet you would not go up, but you disobeyed the word of the Lord our God. **read ›**

50 **Deuteronomy 1:27** You grumbled in your tents and said, “Because the Lord hated us, he brought us out of the land of Egypt to hand us over into the hands of the Amorites, to utterly destroy us. **read ›**

51 **Deuteronomy 19:18** The judges shall inquire diligently; and behold, if the witness is an unjust witness who has testified unjustly, and has risen up against his brother, **read ›**

52 **Deuteronomy 19:19** then you shall do to him as he wickedly planned to do against his brother, and you shall remove the evil from among yourselves. **read ›**

53 **Deuteronomy 28:54** The man who is tender and very pampered among you shall look with a grudging eye on his brother, and on the wife he holds close, and on the children who remain, whatever may be left to him, **read ›**

54 **1 Samuel 15:23** For sin is omen-reading; the teraphim bring grief and toil. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, the Lord also shall reject you from being king over Israel.” **read ›**

55 **Psalms 15:3** who has not deceived with his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbor, nor taken up an insult against those nearest to him; (Septuagint Psalm 14:3 (Psalm 15:3 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

56 **Psalms 50:20** You sat and spoke against your brother, and you set a stumbling block before your mother’s son. (Septuagint Psalm 49:20 (Psalm 50:20 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

57 **Psalms 106:25** And they grumbled in their tents; they did not listen to the voice of the Lord. (Septuagint Psalm 105:25 (Psalm 106:25 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

58 **Psalms 107:11** because they rebelled against the oracles of God and provoked the counsel of the Most High. (Septuagint Psalm 106:11 (Psalm 107:11 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

59 **Proverbs 6:19** An unrighteous witness kindles lies, and sends disputes between brothers. **read ›**

60 **Proverbs 10:18** Righteous lips cover hostility, but those who utter abuse are most foolish. **read ›**

61 **Proverbs 11:11** but by the mouths of the ungodly it is torn down. **read ›**

62 **Proverbs 20:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

63 **Song of Solomon 3:4** Scarcely had I passed from them when I found him whom my soul has loved. I held him and did not let him go, until I brought him into my mother’s house, and into the chamber of her who conceived me. **read ›**

64 **Isaiah 1:26** And I will establish your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning; and after this you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful mother city Zion. **read ›**

65 **Isaiah 3:16** Thus says the Lord: Because the daughters of Zion were haughty, and walked with outstretched neck, with winks of the eyes, and with the gait of their feet, at the same time trailing their tunics and at the same time playing with their feet, **read ›**

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66 **Isaiah 3:21** and the earrings, and the garments bordered with purple, and the garments with purple in the middle, **read ›**

67 **Isaiah 6:4** And the beam above the door was lifted up at the voice with which they cried, and the house was filled with smoke. **read ›**

68 **Isaiah 9:10** “The bricks have fallen, but come, let us cut stones, and cut down sycamores and cedars, and build ourselves a tower.” (Septuagint Isaiah 9:9 (Isaiah 9:10 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

69 **Isaiah 59:13** We have acted ungodly and have lied, and we have turned away from following our God; we have spoken unrighteous things and have disobeyed; we conceived, and meditated unrighteous words from our heart. **read ›**

70 **Jeremiah 9:4** Beware, each one, of his neighbor, and do not trust in your brothers; for every brother will trip up with the heel, and every friend will walk deceitfully. (Septuagint Jeremiah 9:3 (Jeremiah 9:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

71 **Jeremiah 11:3** and you shall say to them: Thus says the Lord God of Israel: Cursed is the man who will not listen to the words of this covenant, **read ›**

72 **Jeremiah 30:14** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

73 **Jeremiah 37:21** The king gave orders, and they put him into the prison house, and gave him one loaf a day from outside, where they bake, until the bread was gone from the city. And Jeremiah stayed in the court of the prison. (Septuagint Jeremiah 44:21 (Jeremiah 37:21 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

74 **Jeremiah 49:20** Therefore hear the counsel of the Lord, which he has counseled against Idumea, and his plan, which he has planned against those who dwell in Teman: surely the least of the sheep will be swept away; surely their dwelling place will be made desolate against them; (Septuagint Jeremiah 30:14 (Jeremiah 49:20 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

75 **Amos 1:10** And I will send forth a fire upon the walls of Tyre, and it shall devour its foundations. **read ›**

76 **Amos 1:11** Thus says the Lord: For three ungodly deeds of Idumea, and for four, I will not turn away from them, because they pursued their brother with the sword, and he destroyed the mother upon the earth, and seized his trembling for a testimony, and kept his onrush forever. **read ›**

77 **Micah 5:10** And it shall be in that day, says the Lord, that I will utterly destroy the horses from your midst, and I will destroy your chariots; (Septuagint Micah 5:9 (Micah 5:10 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

78 **Wisdom of Solomon 1:10** For a jealous ear hears all things, and the muttering of complaints is not hidden. **read ›**

79 **Wisdom of Solomon 1:11** Beware, then, of useless grumbling, and keep your tongue from slander; for no secret word goes out empty, and a lying mouth slays the soul. **read ›**

80 **Wisdom of Solomon 14:26** disturbance of the good, forgetfulness of favors, defilement of souls, confusion of sex, disorder in marriage, adultery, and shameless conduct. **read ›**

81 **Wisdom of Sirach 5:14** Do not be called a gossip, and do not lie in ambush with your tongue; for shame is upon the thief, and an evil condemnation upon the double-tongued. **read ›**

82 **Wisdom of Sirach 7:12** Do not plow a lie against your brother, nor do the same to a friend. **read ›**

83 **Wisdom of Sirach 9:18** A talkative man is feared in his city, and he who is rash in his speech will be hated. **read ›**

84 **Wisdom of Sirach 10:20** Among brothers their leader is honored, and those who fear the Lord in his eyes. **read ›**

85 **Wisdom of Sirach 11:7** Do not find fault before you examine; understand first, and then rebuke. **read ›**

86 **Wisdom of Sirach 12:16** The enemy will speak sweetly with his lips, but in his heart he will plan to throw you down into a pit; the enemy will weep with his eyes, but if he finds an opportunity, he will not be satisfied with blood. **read ›**

87 **Wisdom of Sirach 19:15** Question a friend, for slander often happens; and do not believe every word. **read ›**

88 **Wisdom of Sirach 21:28** The gossip defiles his own soul, and will be hated where he lives. **read ›**

89 **Wisdom of Sirach 28:9** And a sinful man will trouble friends, and he casts slander among those who are at peace. **read ›**

90 **Wisdom of Sirach 28:13** Curse the gossip and the double-tongued, for they have destroyed many who were at peace. **read ›**

91 **Wisdom of Sirach 28:14** A third tongue has shaken many, and driven them from nation to nation; it has pulled down strong cities, and overthrown the houses of nobles. **read ›**

92 **Wisdom of Sirach 28:15** A third tongue has driven out courageous women, and deprived them of their labors. **read ›**

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93 **Wisdom of Sirach 29:17** and one who is ungrateful in mind will abandon the one who rescued him. **read ›**

94 **Wisdom of Sirach 29:25** You will entertain and give drink with no thanks, and besides this you will hear bitter words: **read ›**

95 **Wisdom of Sirach 29:28** These things are hard for a man who has sound judgment: rebuke over lodging and the insults of a lender. Concerning Children **read ›**

96 **Wisdom of Sirach 34:15** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

97 **Wisdom of Sirach 34:24** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

98 **Wisdom of Sirach 40:5** wrath and jealousy and trouble and unrest, and fear of death, and resentment and quarreling; and in the time of rest upon the bed the sleep of night alters his knowledge. **read ›**

99 **Wisdom of Sirach 41:7** Children will blame an ungodly father, for they will be disgraced because of him. **read ›**

100 **Wisdom of Sirach 41:18** of a trespass before a judge and a ruler, of lawlessness before a congregation and a people, of unrighteousness before a partner and a friend, and of theft before the place where you live; **read ›**

101 **Wisdom of Sirach 45:18** Strangers rose up together against him and were jealous of him in the wilderness, the men with Dathan and Abiram, and the congregation of Korah, in wrath and anger. **read ›**

102 **1 Maccabees 11:11** Ptolemy found fault with Alexander because he coveted Alexander's kingdom. **read ›**

103 **2 Maccabees 7:35** For you have not yet escaped the judgment of the Almighty God, who watches over all. **read ›**

104 **2 Maccabees 7:36** For our brothers, after enduring a brief pain, have now fallen under God's covenant of everlasting life; but you, by the judgment of God, will receive just penalties for your arrogance. **read ›**

105 **3 Maccabees 2:26** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

106 **3 Maccabees 3:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

107 **3 Maccabees 3:23** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

108 **4 Maccabees 1:26** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

109 **4 Maccabees 3:16** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

110 **4 Maccabees 3:21** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

111 **4 Maccabees 6:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

112 **4 Maccabees 9:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

113 **4 Maccabees 12:17** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

114 **1 Enoch 95:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

115 **1 Enoch 98:15** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

116 **1 Enoch 103:14** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

117 **Matthew 7:3** Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not consider the beam that is in your own eye? **read ›**

118 **Luke 6:41** Why do you see the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye, but do not consider the beam that is in your own eye? **read ›**

119 **Luke 7:9** When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude who followed him, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith, no, not in Israel." **read ›**

120 **John 2:17** His disciples remembered that it was written: The zeal for your house shall eat me up. **read ›**

121 **John 6:43** Therefore Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. **read ›**

122 **John 7:12** There was much grumbling among the multitudes concerning him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others said, "Not so, but he leads the multitude astray." **read ›**

123 **Acts 11:3** saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!" **read ›**

124 **Romans 1:29** being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, malice; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness; secret slanderers, **read ›**

125 **Romans 1:31** without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, irreconcilable, unmerciful; **read ›**

126 **Romans 2:1** Therefore you are without excuse, O man, whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things. **read ›**

127 **Romans 2:8** but to those who are self-seeking and disobey the truth while obeying unrighteousness, indignation and wrath; **read ›**

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128 **Romans 9:3** For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brothers' sake, my relatives according to the flesh **read ›**

129 **Romans 9:7** Nor are they all children because they are Abraham's seed. But, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." **read ›**

130 **Romans 14:10** But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. **read ›**

131 **1 Corinthians 10:10** Do not grumble, as some of them also grumbled, and perished by the destroyer. **read ›**

132 **Galatians 5:20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousies, outbursts of anger, rivalries, divisions, heresies, **read ›**

133 **Galatians 6:1** Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of meekness, looking to yourself so that you also are not tempted. **read ›**

134 **Philippians 2:14** Do all things without grumbling and disputing, **read ›**

135 **1 Timothy 6:4** he is puffed up, understanding nothing, but sick with disputes and quarrels about words, from which come envy, strife, slanders, evil suspicions, **read ›**

136 **2 Timothy 3:2** For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, **read ›**

137 **Hebrews 3:16** For some, when they heard, provoked him; but not all who came out of Egypt through Moses. **read ›**

138 **Hebrews 12:15** looking carefully lest there be any man who falls short of the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you and many be defiled by it, **read ›**

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

140 **James 3:1** Let not many of you be teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive heavier judgment. **read ›**

141 **James 4:11** Do not speak against one another, brothers. He who speaks against a brother and judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. **read ›**

142 **James 5:9** Do not grumble, brothers, against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door. **read ›**

143 **3 John 1:10** Because of this, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds: he speaks nonsense against us with evil words. And not content with these things, he himself does not receive the brothers, and he prevents those who wish to and casts them out of the church. **read ›**

144 **Jude 1:8** Yet in the same way these dreamers also defile the flesh, reject authority, and slander dignitaries. **read ›**

145 **Jude 1:16** These are grumblers and complainers, walking according to their own lusts; their mouth speaks boastful things, flattering people for gain. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *143 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Exodus 14:28

Deuteronomy 32:15

Psalms 34:11 · 34:14 · 37:11 · 37:35 · 50:16 · 50:18 · 119:9 · 133:1

Proverbs 1:33 · 2:3 · 2:21 · 3:23 · 4:10 · 11:13 · 16:18

Isaiah 43:19

Jeremiah 5:8

Micah 6:6

Matthew 5:5 · 5:9 · 5:16 · 5:20 · 5:21 · 5:22 · 5:24 · 5:25 · 5:27 · 5:42 · 6:12 · 6:24 · 7:1 · 7:2 · 7:9 · 8:4 · 8:22 · 9:13 · 10:8 · 10:28 · 12:7 · 12:37 · 14:35 · 15:1 · 18:3 · 19:17 · 21:15

Mark 10:2 · 10:18

Luke 6:30 · 6:36 · 6:37 · 9:60 · 11:4 · 11:5 · 12:4 · 12:58 · 16:13 · 18:19

John 1:6 · 2:3 · 5:16 · 5:24 · 8:12 · 8:44 · 10:16 · 12:25 · 12:28 · 13:35 · 14:6 · 20:23

Acts 8:30 · 21:26

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Romans 1:8 · 1:23 · 1:26 · 1:32 · 3:8 · 3:15 · 3:26 · 6:12 · 6:14 · 6:15 · 6:16 · 7:24 · 8:28 · 11:22 · 12:8 · 12:9 · 14:4 · 15:5

1 Corinthians 1:23 · 1:24 · 5:1 · 5:5 · 5:12 · 6:1 · 9:20 · 9:23 · 9:25 · 9:27 · 14:13 · 15:34

2 Corinthians 1:21 · 5:7 · 6:14 · 6:18 · 11:13

Galatians 2:3 · 3:13 · 5:10 · 5:13 · 6:7

Ephesians 2:5 · 2:14 · 2:20 · 4:20 · 4:32 · 5:1 · 5:5 · 6:12

Philippians 3:15 · 3:20

Colossians 4:2

1 Timothy 4:10

Titus 3:2

Hebrews 1:1 · 10:26 · 11:36

James 1:14

1 Peter 3:18 · 4:3 · 4:6

1 John 1:6 · 2:3 · 2:4 · 2:18 · 3:1 · 3:3 · 5:16

Jude 1:5

Revelation 2:6 · 3:21

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What sins does a complaining spirit lead to, and how does it harm the church?” on June 28, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY