

A word-search puzzle from the Bible Pages. Theme: 2 Corinthians 3, the Spirit versus the letter.

A version with larger text on A4-printers is found at the address www.biblepages.net/npa010.htm#26

51 words are hidden in this puzzle. They are printed across, or up or down, or diagonally, backwards or forwards, but always in a straight line, with no letters skipped. Each letter may form a part of more than one word. All letters do not belong to words, and there is no “hidden message”.



List of words (connected to 2 Corinthians 3 – regarding the choice of these words, see page 2):

ABOLISHED, APOSTLE, AWAY, BEHOLDING, BLINDED, CHANGED, CHAPTER, CHILDREN, CONDEMNATION, CORINTHIANS, COUNTENANCE, COVENANT, DEATH, DECLARED, DONE, ENGRAVED, EPISTLE, EXCELS, FACE, FLESH, GIVES, GLORIOUS, HEARTS, IMAGE, INK, ISRAEL, JUSTIFICATION, KILLS, LETTER, LIBERTY, LIFE, MINISTRATION, MIRROR, MOSES, NEW, OLD, OPEN, PAUL, READING, RECEIVED, REMAINS, RIGHTEOUSNESS, SAINTS, SECOND, SPIRIT, STONE, TABLETS, TESTAMENT, THREE, VEIL, WRITTEN

An article on 2 Corinthians 3:6–8: www.biblepages.net/nca111.htm

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Some notes on the choice of words in this puzzle

The words in this puzzle are connected to 2 Corinthians 3. For those who are not very familiar with that chapter, the choice of words in this puzzle might seem a bit odd. The following explains what they refer to.

The words “**second**”, “**Corinthians**”, “**chapter**”, “**three**”, “**apostle**”, “**Paul**” and “**saints**” (who **received** the Holy Spirit who is mentioned in 2 Corinthians 3:3, 6, 8, 17 and 18) do not need any explanation here. But then come other words. Most of them are highlighted in bold style, in the quote below. (There are some differences between the words in the maze on page 1 and the below-quoted KJV-1769, such as “flesh” instead of “fleshy”, “gives” instead of giveth”, “kills” instead of “killeth”, “tablets” instead of “tables”, “mirror” instead of “glass”, and “veil” instead of “vail”.)

2 Corinthians 3:1 Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? 2 Ye are our **epistle** written in our **hearts**, known and read of all men: 3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, **written** not with **ink**, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in **tables** of **stone**, but in fleshy tables of the heart. 4 And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: 5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; 6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the **new** testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the **letter killeth**, but the **spirit giveth life**. 7 But if the ministration of **death**, written and **engraven** in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the **face** of **Moses** for the glory of his **countenance**; which glory was to be done away: 8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9 For if the **ministration of condemnation** be glory, much more doth the ministration of **righteousness** exceed in glory. 10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that **excelleth**. 11 For if that which is **done away** was **glorious**, much more that which **remaineth** is glorious. 12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a **vail** over his face, that the **children** of **Israel** could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is **abolished**: 14 But their minds were **blinded**: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the **old testament**; which vail is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **liberty**. 18 But we all, with **open face beholding** as in a **glass** the glory of the Lord, are **changed** into the same **image** from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. (KJV-1769)

What about the words “covenant” and “justification” which appear in the maze but not in this KJV-quote? Well, for instance WEB clarifies things in verse 6, by its translation “servants of a new **covenant**” (instead of “ministers of the new testament”). The Greek text has *diathêkê*, mostly translated as “covenant”. And then, in verse 9, for instance the LO version makes things a bit clearer, by its translation “for if the ministration of condemnation was glorious, much more does the ministration of **justification** abound in glory”. The Greek text of verse 9 has *dikaïosunê*, and yes, that word could be used even in the meaning “justification”. (Cf. *dikaïos*, “just”, and *dikaïoô*, “to justify”.) In the case of verse 9, it is obvious that the apostle Paul, who was comparing the two covenants, was talking about justification versus condemnation.

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