

THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS:

Finally, brethren, whatever is **true**, whatever is **honorable**, whatever is **just**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **gracious**, if there is any **excellence**, if there is anything **worthy of praise**, **THINK** about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, **Do**; and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8-9

True /Greek: *alēthes*=Unconcealed, manifest, conforming to reality, genuine/ Many things in the world are false, deceptive and illusory, promising what they cannot deliver, offering the way to love, peace and hope which they cannot give.(Ex: people turning to psychics for understanding their futures) A person should set his/her mind on the genuine things which are trustworthy, unailing, solid—upon the true God and His word.

Honorable /Greek: *semnos*= August, venerable, grave, honest, nobly serious (characteristically used of the gods & temples of the gods/ Describes a person who moves through the world as if it were the temple of God. Describes things which are serious and dignified, fit for the Christian mind to dwell on.

Just /Greek: *dikaios*= righteous, a state of being right, right conduct, doing ones duty / The Greeks used *dikaios* to describe a person who gives to God and men what is their due, it is the word for duty faced and duty done. Pertaining to right, that which is just, which is expected by the one who sets the rules whereby man must live, expected as duty conforming to the rules of God or society

Pure /Greek: *hagnos*= Clean, innocent, modest, chaste/ Describes what is morally undefiled. When it is used ceremonially, it describes things which have been cleansed & made fit to enter the presence of God and to be used in His service. The world is full of sordid, filthy things which can soil the way we think. The follower of Christ sets the mind on wholesome, pure things so that he/she may have clean thoughts in the sight of God.

Lovely /Greek: *prospheiles*= Pleasing, agreeable (*pros*=toward *phileo*=to love) / That which calls forth love. The mind of the disciple should be set on lovely things like kindness, patience, sympathy—those actions call forth love in others. Many in the world set their minds on revenge, hate, envy, harshness, criticism and these things call forth fear, resentment, hate, negative reactions in people.

Gracious (of good report) /Greek: *euphemos*= Literally =Fair speaking / Could say it describes the things which are fit for God to hear. Keeping away from the mean, ugly, false and impure words of the general world.

Excellence (virtue) /Greek: *arete*= described every kind of excellence / From Vines: “denotes whatever procures preeminent estimation for a person or thing; hence: intrinsic eminence, moral goodness, virtue”. Being pleasing to God, the excellence of God revealed in the work of salvation. *Arete* denotes in a moral sense what gives man his worth—moral excellence.

Praise /Greek: *epainos*= approbation, commendation, praise / Praise for God and His works, anything worthy of praise

Think /Greek: *logizomai*= To take an inventory, ie estimate, to reckon / From Vines: Here it signifies “make those things the subjects of your thoughtful consideration,” or “carefully reflect on them”.

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Let us put away from our minds those things which are false, dishonest, unjust, impure, unlovely, of evil report or things which are base, second rate.

**KEEP YOUR HEART WITH ALL VIGILANCE; FOR FROM IT FLOW THE
SPRINGS OF LIFE. Pro 4: 23**