

Romans 1:29-31 words

Notes:

1. There is a difference in Greek texts as to the wording. As an example I am comparing the KJ version with the ASV version. KJ has more words compared to ASV.
2. Many attempts have been made to split the words into groupings.
 - a. The first grouping has the linguistic similarity of 4 or 5 Nouns that are singular, dative and end with *-ia*.
 - b. The 2nd group starting with "Full of" linguistically has the following nouns as genitives until "whisperers" or "gossips" breaks the pattern with another accusative noun.
 - c. After "inventors of evil things" (Group #4) all the words are adjectives that begin with an alpha negative (disobedient is an adjective with alpha negative beginning, parents is a noun, but in the Greek the "disobedient" is the last word of vs. 30 so "fits" with the rest of the adjectives that follow it.
 - d. The people that like the doubling of the Group #3 words, "Whispering Backbiters", "godhating insolents", "arrogant boasters", "inventors of cruelties" have a point that the words could go together. But why not say the same thing about the other words? However, they also like the repeated pattern of 4-5-4-5 if you double the 3rd grouping and don't use all the words in the AV (such as in the ASV).

Rom. 1:29-31 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, (30) Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, (31) Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

AV (KJ):

Vs. 29:

Unrighteousness	Group #1 of
Fornication	4 or 5 words
Wickedness	
Covetousness	
<u>Maliciousness</u>	
Full of Envy	Group #2 of
Murder	5 or 7 words
Debate	
Deceit	
<u>Malignity</u>	
Whisperers	

Vs. 30:

Backbiters	Group # 3 of
Haters of God	4 groups of two
Despiteful	(whipering backbiters)
Proud	or 7 single words
Boasters	or 5 single words
<u>Inventors of evil things</u>	
Disobedient to parents	

Vs. 31:

Without understanding	Group #4
Covenantbreakers	6 words or
Without natural affection	5 words
Implacable	
Unmerciful	

ASV:

Vs. 29:

Unrighteousness

Wickedness

Covetousness

Maliciousness

Full of Envy

Murder

Strife

Deceit

Malignity

Whisperers

Vs. 30:

Backbiters

Hateful to God

Insolent

Haughty

Boastful

Inventors of evil things

Disobedient to parents

Vs. 31:

Without understanding

Covenant-breakers

Without natural affection

Unmerciful

i. Vs. 29:

1. ADIKIA[ἀδικία] {ad-ee-kee'-ah} - **Unrighteousness**
2. PORNEIA[πορνεία] {por-ni'-ah} - **Fornication**
 - a. BS – various kinds of unlawful sexual intercourse. “unchastity”, “prostitution”, “fornication”. H saying this is first “as most prominent”.
 - b. Vine – Illicit sexual intercourse.
 - c. Robertson – Fornication. R doesn't believe it belongs here.
3. PONERIA[πονηρία] {pon-ay-ree'-ah} - **Wickedness**
 - a. BW – “wickedness”, “baseness”, “maliciousness” or “sinfulness”
 - b. Hodge - defines as “malice” = the disposition to inflict evil.
 - c. Vine – “wickedness”
 - d. Robertson – Active wickedness
4. PLEONEXIA[πλεονεξία] {pleh-on-ex-ee'-ah} - **Covetousness**
 - a. Hodge has “rapacity”, the desire to have more than is our due.
 - b. Vine – Covetousness, literally “a desire to have more”. PLEON = “more” and ECHO = “to have”. Always in a bad sense in Scripture.
 - c. Robertson - Covetousness
5. KAKIA[κακία] {kak-ee'-ah} - **Maliciousness**
 - a. Hodge – Malignity. Malice in exercise.
 - b. Vine – badness in quality(the opposite of ARETE, excellence). Evil, malice, maliciousness, naughtiness, wickedness.
 - c. Lightfoot – the vicious character generally.
 - d. Robertson - Maliciousness, inward viciousness of disposition.
6. PHTHONOS [φθόνος] {fthon'-os} - **Envy**
 - a. Hodge – puts PHTHONOS and PHONOS together(he spells it PHINOS) saying “united either from similarity of sound or because the former tends to the latter”.
 - b. Vine – Envy. The feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others. Always in an evil sense in Scripture.
 - c. Robertson - Envy
1. PHONOS [φόνος] {fon'-os} - **Murder**
 - d. Hodge – see PHTHONOS above.
 - e. Vine – Murder. If plural, murders. But if in the sense of “slaughter” then that word is substituted.
 - f. Robertson - Murder (envy & murder are like sounding words in the Greek).
2. ERIS [ἔρις] {er'-is} - **Debate**
 - g. Hodge – Contention.
 - h. Vine – Contention, debate, strife, variance. Vine under “contention”. Strife, quarrel, especially rivalry, contention, wrangling.
 - i. Robertson - Strife
3. DOLOS[δόλος] {dol'-os} - **Deceit**
 - j. Hodge – is a bait, food exposed to entrap an animal; then the disposition to deceive, or an act of deception.
 - k. Vine – primarily a bait, snare; hence craft, deceit, guile.
 - l. Lenski – Cunning.
4. KAKOETHIA [κακοήθεια] {kak-o-ay'-thi-ah} - **malignity**
 - m. Hodge – Malevolence. The disposition to make the worst of everything.
 - n. Vine – Malignity. Literally bad manner or character (kakos = “bad”, ethos = “manner”). An evil disposition that tends to put the worst construction on everything, malice, malevolence, craftiness. In Rom. 1:29 it is accompanied with DOLOS, guile.
 - o. Robertson - malignity(only here in NT), KAKOS + ETHOS. A tendency to put a bad construction on things. Depravity of heart and a malicious disposition.

7. PSITHURISTES [ψιθυριστής] {psith-oo-ris-tace'} – **Whisperers**

- a. Hodge – “whisperer”. Clandestine slanderer.
- b. Vine – “A whisperer”, occurs in an evil sense in Rom. 1:29.
- c. Robertson - PSITHURISTAS = Whisperers. Onomatopoeic. Only here in NT.

b. Vs. 30:

i. Continuing with the words...

1. KATALALOS [κατάλαλος] {kat-al'-al-os} – **Backbiters**

- a. Hodge – “detractor”. One who speaks against others.
- b. Vine – “backbiter”. (KATA = “against”, LALEO = “to speak”)
- c. BW – included “Slanderer”
- d. YLT – “evil speakers”
- e. Robertson - Backbiters. From root KATALALEO = “To talk back” whether openly or secretly.

2. THEOSTUGES [θεοστυγής] {Theo Stuges}– **Haters of God or Hateful to God**

- a. NOTE: Because we began vs. 29 “being filled with” as a Perfect Passive, that passive sense carries down to all the words. The words themselves may be presented as “active” to us, so “God haters” applies to them. But the Passive carried forward may better present their condition as “Hateful to God”. AV has “haters of God”, ASV has “hateful to God”.
- b. Hodges – “hateful to God” or “hating God”. NOTE: It is passive. H says because all wicked men, and not any particular class, are the objects of The Divine displeasure. He says most commentators view it as the active.
- c. Vine - (Theos = God, Stugeo = “to hate”). So “haters of God” or “hateful to God”. H thinks because the next words are “insolent” and “haughty” the context makes him lean toward “hateful to God.”
- d. Robertson - Hateful to God. THEOS(God) + STUGEO(to hate).

3. HUBRITSTES [ὑβριστής] {hoo-bris-tace'} – **Insolent AV has Despiteful**

- a. Hodges - “the insolent”
- b. Vine – rendered “instolent” but violent, injurious, despiteful.
- c. Robertson - Insolent. From old word root HUBRIZO = “to give insult to”. Only here in NT.

4. PHUPEREPHANOS [ὑπερήφανος] {hoop-er-ay'-fan-os} – **Proud**

- a. Hodges - “the self-conceited”
- b. Vine – Proud. (Huper = “above”, PHAINOMAI – “to appear”, “to be manifest”) Signifies showing oneself above others, preeminent. It is always used in Scripture in the bad sense of arrogant, disdainful.
- c. Robertson - Haughty. To appear above others, arrogant in thought and conduct. “stuck up”.

5. ALAZON [ἀλαζών] {al-ad-zone'} – **Boasters**

- a. Hodges - “boasters”
- b. Vine – “a boaster”. Primarily signifies a wanderer about the country (“ale” = wandering). A vagabond, hence an imposter.
- c. Robertson - Boastful. From “ale” = “wandering”. (dac - As in wandering from the right way). Empty pretenders, swaggerers, braggarts.

6. EPHEURETAS KAKON [ἐφευρετής κακῶν] – **Inventors of evil things**

- a. Hodges - Inventors of crimes
- b. Vine – An inventor, contriver. Only here in NT. (in our context it is “inventors of evil things”).
- c. Robertson - Inventors of evil things. Inventors of new forms of vice.

7. ONEUSIN APEITHEIS [ονεύσιν ἀπειθείς] {ap-i-thace'} – **Disobedient to parents**

- a. Hodges, Robertson - disobedient to parents.
- b. Vine – (A negative, PEITHO = “to persuade”) hence unpersuadable. Denotes obstinacy, obstinate rejection of the will of God.

c. Vs. 31:

i. All the words in vs. 31 begin with the Alpha negative

1. ASUNETOS [ἀσύνετος] {as-oon'-ay-tos} – **Without understanding.**

- a. Hodges - Without insight into moral or religious things, i.e. blinded, besotted, so as to think evil good and good evil.
- b. Vine – (A negative, SUNIEMI = “to understand”). Without discernment, or understanding; hence “senseless”. R.V. “void of understanding”.
- c. Robertson - Without understanding.

2. ASUNTHETOS [ἀσύνθετος] {as-oon'-thet-os} – **Covenant-breakers**

- a. Hodges - Perfidious. (of, relating to, or characterized by perfidy. Perfidy – the quality of state of being faithless, disloyal. Treachery.
- b. Vine – ASUNTHETOS. Covenant-breakers. The negative of SUNTITHEMI which means “to determine to agree”, “to assent” or “to covenant”. So the negative is refusing to abide by covenants made. Faithless.
- c. V saying in LXX it is found in Jer. 3:8-11.
- d. Trench ασυνθετος, ασπονδος.
 - i. ασυνθετος occurs only once in the NT, here in Romans.
 - ii. However T saying it appears in Jer. 3:8-11 several times.
 - iii. T saying here it is those “who being in a covenant and treaty with others, refuse to abide by” them. ASUNTHETOS assumes a state of peace, which they who are unrighteous interrupt. (where ASPONDOS assumes a state of war which those refuse to bring to an equitable close).

- e. Robertson - Covenant-breakers. These two words making another pun. Men “false to their engagements”

3. ASTORGOS [ἄστοργος] {as'-tor-gos} – **Without natural affection**

- a. Hodges – Those in whom the natural affection for parents and children is suppressed.
- b. Vine - (A neg. + Storge=love of kindred, especially parents for children and children for parents).
- c. Robertson - Without natural affection. STORGE = love of kindred. Only here and II Tim. 3:3

4. ASPONDOS [ἄσπονδος] {as'-pon-dos} – **Implacable**

- a. implacable. (not capable of being appeased). Placare in Latin means “to soothe”. They cannot be soothed. Most often attached to foe, enemy, hatred, hostility. Placate is to soothe or appease.
- b. Vine – (A neg. + sponde = “a libation”). So literally “without a libation”. i.e. “without a truce” because a libation accompanied the making of treaties and compacts. Hence, one who cannot be persuaded to enter into a covenant.
- c. Trench. This is the other part of his comparison of ASUNTHETOS and ASPONDOS. Vine interpreting Trench saying “ASPONDOS may signify untrue to one’s promise, while ASUNTHETOS is not abiding by one’s covenant, treacherous.
- d. Robertson - Implacable. Not in all texts.

5. ANELEEMON [ἀνελεήμων] {an-eleh-ay'-mone} – **Unmerciful**

- a. Hodges – without pity.
- b. Vine – unmerciful. (A neg. N euphonic. ELEIMON = merciful). V saying it is also in 1:21.
- c. Robertson - Unmerciful. A + ELEEMON = Merciful.