

# APOLLOS

Daniel F Cates

Name means "destroyer" (Nelson, Hitchcock) or "given by Apollo" (Smith)  
Shared name with Greek god Apollo, "the sun" (Strong)

## Personal

Jew from Alexandria, Egypt ([Act 18:24](#), "And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, ...")

## Characteristics

Eloquent ([Act 18:24](#), "an eloquent man")

"*fluent*, that is, an *orator*: - eloquent" (Strong)

"learned, a man of letters, skilled in literature and the arts, especially versed in history and the antiquities ... skilled in speech, eloquent ... rational, wise" (Thayer)

Fervent ([Act 18:25](#), "being fervent in the spirit")

"to *be hot* (*boil*, of liquids; or *glow*, of solids), that is, (figuratively) *be fervid* (*earnest*):" (Strong)

"**Deriv.**: *zestós* ([G2200](#)), fervent, hot; *zēlos* ([G2205](#)), zeal" (CWSD)

Diligent ([Act 18:25](#), "he spake and taught diligently")

"*exactly*: - circumspectly, diligently, perfect (-ly)" (Strong)

Bold ([Act 18:26](#), "An he began to speak boldly in the synagogue")

"to *be frank* in utterance, or *confident* in spirit and demeanor: - be (wax) bold, (preach, speak) boldly" (Strong)

Knew Old Testament strongly ([Act 18:24](#), "mighty in the scriptures")

"*powerful* or *capable* (literally or figuratively)" (Strong)

Knew somewhat of the Lord ([Act 18:25](#), "This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; ... knowing only the baptism of John")

"Way" includes the process; he knew nothing beyond the baptism of John ([Act 18:25](#))--may himself have been baptized of John

"by implication a *progress* (the route, act or distance); figuratively a *mode* or *means*: - journey, ..." (Strong)

Teachable ([Act 18:26](#), "they took him unto *them*, and expounded unto him")

Mighty ([Act 18:28](#), "he mightily convinced the Jews")

Unashamed ([Act 18:28](#), "and that publickly")

## Actions

Went to Ephesus ([Act 18:24](#)) where he was "taught more perfectly" of Aquila and Priscilla ([Act 18:26](#))

Went to Achaia [the area of Corinth ([Act 19:1](#))] ([Act 18:27](#)) where he helped the brethren

Was so influential at Corinth that he was hailed like Peter and Paul when ones bragged of their conversions ([1Co\\_1:12](#), "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.") Truly, neither he, nor Paul, nor Peter were important, "but God that giveth the increase" ([1Co\\_3:4-7](#))

Did not go to Rome s Paul would have preferred ([1Co\\_16:12](#), "As touching *our* brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time."); we don't know why, but perhaps there would be other opportunities

Paul later desired Apollos' company again ([Tit\\_3:13](#), "Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them.")

### Lessons

One can be eloquent, fervent, diligent, bold, and wrong

Every one should be teachable

The Message, not the messenger, is what is important!

Not all brethren have to do all things the same way