

3. Solitary; without a companion; afflicted.
Tamar remained *desolate* in Absalom's house.

2 Sam. xiii.

Have mercy on me, for I am *desolate*. Ps. xxv.

4. Deserted of God; deprived of comfort.
My heart within me is *desolate*. Ps. cxlii.

DESOLATE, *v. t.* [L. *desolo*, *desolatus*; *de* and *solo*, to lay waste, solus, alone; *Sp. desolar*; *Fr. desoler*; *It. desolare*.]

1. To deprive of inhabitants; to make desert. The earth was nearly *desolated* by the flood.

2. To lay waste; to ruin; to ravage; to destroy improvements or works of art. An inundation *desolates* fields. Whole countries have been *desolated* by armies.

DESOLATED, *pp.* Deprived of inhabitants; wasted; ruined.

DESOLATELY, *adv.* In a desolate manner.

DESOLATER, *n.* One who lays waste or desolates; that which desolates.

DESOLATING, *ppr.* Depriving of inhabitants; wasting; ravaging.

DESOLATION, *n.* The act of desolating; destruction or removal of inhabitants; destruction; ruin; waste.

Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to *desolation*. Matt. xii.

2. A place deprived of inhabitants, or otherwise wasted, ravaged and ruined.

How is Babylon become a *desolation* among the nations. Jer. l.

3. A desolate state; gloominess; sadness; destitution. *Shak. Thomson.*

The *abomination of desolation*, Roman armies which ravaged and destroyed Jerusalem.

Matt. xxiv.

DESOLATORY, *a.* Causing desolation.

DESPAIR, *v. n.* [Fr. *désespérer*. See the Verb.]

1. Hopelessness; a hopeless state; a destitution of hope or expectation.

We are perplexed, but not in *despair*. 2 Cor. iv.

All safety in *despair* of safety placed. *Denham.*

2. That which causes despair; that of which there is no hope.

The mere *despair* of surgery, he cures. *Shak.*

3. Loss of hope in the mercy of God. *Sprat.*

DESPAIR, *v. i.* [Fr. *désespérer*; *des* and *esperer*, to hope; *It. disperare*; *Sp. desesperar*; *Arm. desperî*; from *L. despero*; *de* and *spero*, to hope.]

To be without hope; to give up all hope or expectation; followed by *of*.

We *despaired* even of life. 2 Cor. i.

Never *despair* of God's blessings here, or of his reward hereafter. *Wak.*

DESPAIRER, *n.* One without hope. *Dryden.*

DESPAIRFUL, *a.* Hopeless. *Sidney.*

DESPAIRING, *ppr.* Giving up all hope or expectation.

DESPAIRINGLY, *adv.* In a despairing manner; in a manner indicating hopelessness; as, he speaks *despairingly* of the sick man's recovery.

DESPATCH. [See *Dispatch*.]

DESPECTION, *n.* [L. *despectio*.] A looking down; a despising. [Little used.]

DESPERADO, *n.* [from *desperare*.] A desperate fellow; a furious man; a madman;

a person urged by furious passions; one fearless, or regardless of safety.

DESPERATE, *a.* [L. *desperatus*, from *despero*, to despair.] Without hope.

I am *desperate* of obtaining her. *Shak.*

2. Without care of safety; rash; fearless of danger; as a *desperate* man. Hence,

3. Furious, as a man in despair.

4. Hopeless; despairing of; lost beyond hope of recovery; irremediable; irrecoverable; forlorn. We speak of a *desperate* case of disease, *desperate* fortunes, a *desperate* situation or condition.

5. In a popular sense, great in the extreme; as a *desperate* sot or fool. *Pope.*

DESPERATELY, *adv.* In a desperate manner; as, in despair; furiously; with rage; madly; without regard to danger or safety; as, the troops fought *desperately*.

2. In a popular sense, greatly; extremely; violently.

She fell *desperately* in love with him. *Addison.*

DESPERATENESS, *n.* Madness; fury; rash precipitance.

DESPERATION, *n.* A despairing; a giving up of hope; as *desperation* of success. *Hammond.*

2. Hopelessness; despair; as, the men were in a state of *desperation*. Hence,

3. Fury; rage; disregard of safety or danger; as, the men fought with *desperation*; they were urged to *desperation*.

DESPICABLE, *a.* [Low *L. despicibilis*, from *despicio*, to look down, to despise; *de* and *specio*, to look.]

That may be or deserves to be despised; contemptible; mean; vile; worthless; applicable equally to persons and things; as a *despicable* man; *despicable* company; a *despicable* gift.

DESPICABLENESS, *n.* The quality or state of being despicable; meanness; villainess; worthlessness.

DESPICABLY, *adv.* Meantly; vilely; contemptibly; as *despicably* poor.

DESPICIENCY, *n.* [L. *despicia*.] A looking down; a despising. [Little used.] *Mede.*

DESPISABLE, *a.* Despicable; contemptible.

DESPISAL, *n.* Contempt. *Obs.*

DESPISE, *v. t.* *despice*. [I doubt whether this word is formed from the *L. despicia*. In *Sp.* and *Port.* *pisar* is to tread down, and to *despise*. It appears to be of different origin from *despite*, and to be formed on the root of the Spanish word. We probably see its affinities in *Sp. pison*, a rammer, and the *L. piso*, to stamp, whence *pestillum*, *Eng. pestle*, *piston*, &c. The primary sense then is to thrust, drive, and hence to cast off or tread down, to despise.]

1. To contemn; to scorn; to disdain; to have the lowest opinion of.

Fools *despise* wisdom and instruction. Prov. i.

Else he will hold to the one, and *despise* the other. Matt. vi.

2. To abhor. *Shak.*

DESPISED, *pp.* Contemned; disdained; abhorred.

DESPISEDNESS, *n.* The state of being despised.

DEPISER, *n.* A contemner; a scorner.

DESPISING, *ppr.* Contemning; scorning; disdain.

DESPISINGLY, *adv.* With contempt.

DESPITE, *v. n.* [Fr. *despiter*; *Norm. despiter*; *Arm. desped*; *It. despito*, spite, malice. *Qu.* from *L. despectus*, *despicio*. See *Spite*.]

1. Extreme malice; violent hatred; malignity; malice irritated or enraged; active malignity; angry hatred.

With all thy *despite* against the land of Israel. *Ezek. xxv.*

Thou wretch! *despite* o'erwhelm thee. *Shak.*

2. Defiance with contempt, or contempt of opposition. [See *Spite*.]

He will rise to fame in *despite* of his enemies.

3. An act of malice or contempt; as a *despite* to the Most High. *Milton.*

DESPITE, *v. t.* To vex; to offend; to tease. *Raleigh.*

DESPITEFUL, *a.* Full of spite; malicious; malignant; as a *despiteful* enemy. *King Charles.*

Haters of God, *despiteful*, proud, boasters. *Rom. i.*

DESPITEFULLY, *adv.* With *despite*; maliciously; contemptuously.

Pray for them that *despitefully* use you. *Matt. v.*

DESPITEFULNESS, *n.* Malice; extreme hatred; malignity.

DESPITEOUS, *a.* Malicious. *Obs.* *Milton.*

DESPITEOUSLY, *adv.* Furiously. *Obs.* *Spenser.*

DESPOIL, *v. t.* [L. *despolio*; *de* and *spolio*, to spoil; *Fr. dépouiller*; *It. spogliare*; *Sp. despojar*; *Port. id.* See *Spoil*.]

1. To strip; to take from by force; to rob; to deprive; followed by *of*; as, to *despoil* one of arms; to *despoil* of honors; to *despoil* of innocence.

2. To strip or divest by any means. *Woodward.*

DESPOILED, *pp.* Stripped; robbed; bereaved; deprived.

DESPOILER, *n.* One who strips by force; a plunderer.

DESPOILING, *ppr.* Depriving; stripping; robbing.

DESPOILATION, *n.* The act of despoiling; a stripping.

DESPOND, *v. i.* [L. *despondeo*; *de* and *spondeo*, to promise; literally, to throw to or forward.]

1. To be cast down; to be depressed or dejected in mind; to fail in spirits.

I should despair, or at least *despond*. *Scott's Letters.*

2. To sink all courage, spirit or resolution; to lose by loss of hope.

Others depress their own minds, and *despond* at the first difficulty. *Locke.*

Note. The distinction between *despair* and *despond* is well marked in the foregoing passage from Scott. But although *despond* implies a total loss of hope, which *despond* does not, at least in every case, yet *despondency* is followed by the abandonment of effort, or cessation of action, and *despair* sometimes impels to violent action, even to rage.

DESPONDENCY, *n.* A sinking or dejection of spirits at the loss of hope; loss of courage at the failure of hope, or in deep affliction, or at the prospect of insurmountable difficulties.

DESPONDENT, *a.* Losing courage at the