



## **QA: Why Is There So Much Strife and Arguing?** by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

### **QUESTION: Why is there so much strife and arguing?**

**ANSWER: Because people voice their opinions & feelings, and aren't after truth. "Strife" is battling with someone, and it doesn't matter what the "issue" is. "Truth" settles everything:**

Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day. (**Psalms 25:5**)

#### **1. The God-given Wisdom of Solomon Exposes the Cause:**

It is honorable for a man to stop striving, Since any fool can start a quarrel. (**Proverbs 20:3**)

A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calls for blows. (**Proverbs 18:6**)

He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered. (**Proverbs 28:25**)

An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression. (**Proverbs 29:22**)

**Those who cause strife are "fools," "proud," "angry," "furious" and speak from their wrong emotions without truth.**

#### **2. Strife Starts More Than Can Be Stopped:**

The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts. (**Proverbs 17:14**)

Our expression might be "strife is like when the dam breaks." Contained water, when released cannot be stopped, and flooding after rainstorms always cause damage and, frequently, death.

A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calls for blows. A fool's mouth is his destruction, And his lips are the snare of his soul. (**Proverbs 18:6-7**)

By definition, a "fool" is anyone who disregards God's Word! The time to "stop contention" is before it escalates to a "quarrel."

Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave; Yes, strife and reproach will cease. (**Proverbs 22:10**)

A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, But the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness. (**Proverbs 15:1-2**)

Even Christians must...

Put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. (**Colossians 3:8**)

Because ...

The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. (**James 3:6**)

Inflammatory language causes burning, lootings, beatings, murders, mayhem and chaos, and never comes from a good heart with a good motive or results in good actions.

### 3. **New Testament Summary:**

If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. (**1 Timothy 6:3-5**)

— *jtp11, August 13, 2023*