

Come let us Grow Together: Contention

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding in things pertaining to God.

“The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.” (Pro 17:14) How very true are these words of wisdom. Once contention is released the flood pours out like water causing grief, sorrow, anguish, anger, wrath, and regret for those who are sorry. Therefore be wise and “leave off contention, before it be meddled with.”

“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.” (Pro 15:1) “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.” (James 1:19-20) “Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.” (Eccl 7:9) “Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.” (Pro 22:24-25)

It is so important to understand that we are instructed by the Word of God not to make friendship with those that are angry and furious people because you will learn their ways and it will become a snare to your soul! How many children grow up in homes with angry and contentious parents and others they bring into their home and learn their ways and end up at school being diagnosed with mood and mental disorders when in reality they simply have learned the ways of their household and need to be delivered by living an upright lifestyle by being born again and following after the Bible.

“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.” (Mt 5:5-9)

“Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.” (Pro 13:10) Contention is born out of pride! Can you let pride go and follow after the meek, merciful, and the peacemakers? “He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.” (Pro 17:27) “He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.” (Pro 16:32)

Self control is a great antidote for contention and this antidote is found in Godly love. “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” (Mt 22:37-40) “Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.” (Rm 13:10) “And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity

shall cover the multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8) “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” (1 Cor 13:13) “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.” (1 Peter 1:22)