



QA: Why Is There So Much Hate Today? 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 hatred today? - August, 2020

ANSWER: Whatever the "rationale" or "reason" for hatred and violence, **there can be no question that in the world, "hatred" is preached and practiced!** As a reminder of the ways of the world from which a Christian is delivered, Paul wrote:

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. (**Titus 3:3**)

Two different Greek words are used for the "hateful" and "hating," but there is yet a third used to list as a "work of the flesh" that disqualifies anyone from inheriting "the kingdom of God" (**Galatians 5:19-21**). In this latter list of "works of the flesh," hatred is one of a progression of seven attitudes that separate and divide people with conflict and hurt (http://www.johntpolkll.com/files/documents/Chart_7StepsToSchism.pdf). "Hatred" is a wrong motive that produces a wrong action, "strife."

The Old Testament Book of Proverbs, a record of the wisdom of Solomon, says much about this powerful, negative attitude:

1. It is stirred up and transmitted like a virus by the wrong attitudes:

A wrathful man stirs up strife,
But he who is slow to anger allays contention (**Proverbs 15:18**) ...
A perverse man sows strife,
And a whisperer separates the best of friends (**Proverbs 16:28**) ...
He who loves transgression loves strife,
And he who exalts his gate seeks destruction (**Proverbs 17:19**) ...
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**).

Which is why we are told:

Make no friendship with an angry man,
And with a furious man do not go,
Lest you learn his ways
And set a snare for your soul (**Proverbs 22:24-25**).

2. **It must be stopped by quarantining and avoiding those who provoke it:**

Cast out the scoffer, and contention will leave;
Yes, strife and reproach will cease; (**Proverbs 22:10**) ...
Where there is no wood, the fire goes out;
And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.
As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire,
So is a contentious man to kindle strife (**Proverbs 26:20-21**)

Because as God knows, like a virus, it is practically impossible to stop it once it starts: "The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts" (**Proverbs 17:14**)

3. **It is NOT the way of a Christian:**

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**)

— — — *John T Polk II, August 2, 2020*