

# We Must Not Strive

Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

[MightyFortressChurch.org](http://MightyFortressChurch.org)

## Scripture Study

### Galatians 5:19-26

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

✠ Note that strife is listed with other things that we consider sin.

✠ Next look at the fruit of the spirit. The works of the flesh and the fruit of the spirit cannot abide together.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another. (KJV)

### James 3:13-18

13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

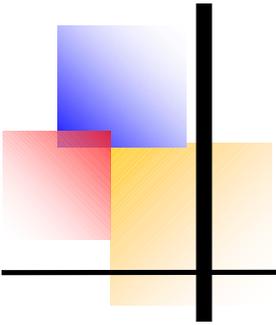
18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace. (KJV)

✠ There are two kinds of wisdom one is earthly, sensual, and devilish.

### James 3:17

But the wisdom from above is first of all pure (undefiled); then it is peace - loving, courteous (considerate, gentle), [It is willing to] yield to reason, full of compassion and good fruits; it is wholehearted and straightforward, impartial and unfeigned (free from doubts, wavering, and insincerity).

(AMP)



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## 2 Timothy 2:22-26

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

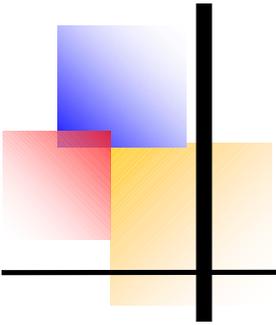
23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will. (KJV)

✠ Paul told Timothy even foolish questions can gender strife and when we are in strife we have been taken captive by the devil at his will. Walking in love is our greatest weapon against strife. The devil cannot stop faith, or the weapons of our warfare which are mighty through God to the pulling down of the devil's strong holds. The devil has been stripped of his authority. When you are abiding in the vine the devil is no match for you. The devil is crazy but not completely dumb, he has ran into the Word of God before and every time it has defeated him. So knowing this, the devil looks for ways around the Word. One of the things he uses is strife which will stop our love and faith from working. And without faith and love it is impossible to please God. Remember faith works by love. The devil knows you cannot and will not receive anything from God without faith. So if the devil can get you into strife and keep you there he has overcome you with a cheap trick. He has succeeded in tricking God's warriors into laying down their weapons without a fight and surrendering to him. So the next time you are tempted to get into strife remember 2 Timothy 2:22-26 and the illustration below.



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## Study Questions

1. Strife is a work of the flesh. Name at least 5 other works of the flesh, more if possible.
2. List all the fruit of the spirit.
3. Complete the following verse: And they that are Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Complete the following verse: For where envying and strife is, \_\_\_\_\_.
5. List at least 5 qualities that are a part of the wisdom that is from above.
6. Complete the following: The servant of the Lord must not strive; \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Refer to 2 Timothy verse 23 and complete the following: Paul said, \_\_\_\_\_ can gender strife.
8. What did God reveal to you in your study?

## Extra Blessing

**(Study To Show Yourself Approved Unto God 2 Timothy 2:15)**

Proverbs Chapter 3