

THE CONTENDER

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)  
Church of Christ: 1112 Nth. 16th Street, Pekin, Ill. 61554 10/18/70  
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THE WAR QUESTION

The Christian is the best citizen any government has for we give no trouble to the powers that be. A Christian is loving, kind, and peaceful. He pays his taxes. He goes about doing good to all men and is meek and quiet. He is moral. He establishes model homes which are the bulwark of the nation. The only time there is ever a conflict between the Christian and the powers that be is when human governments conflict with the divine government--in other words when the Christian is asked to do something that God forbids him doing. Then of course, the words of Peter and the rest of the apostles in Acts 5:29 should be followed. "We ought to obey God rather than men"

I. FOR WHAT CAUSE DOES GOD ALLOW THE CHRISTIAN TO KILL?

A. To Establish Earthly Government Of Man?

1. What we owe government. Rom. 13:1-7, I Tim. 2:1-3

B. Can We Slay And Be Slain For Religious Freedom?

1. Is God pleased with the many churches of man? Eph. 4:4; Col. 1:18; Matt. 15:13, Ps. 127:1

2. Would we not be killing for the Atheists as well?

C. Can We Kill To Keep Our Personal Possessions?

1. Matt. 5:38-42; Rom. 8:36

D. Can We Kill Others For The Spread Of The Church Of Christ?

1. "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world; then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now is my kingdom not from hence." (John 18:36)

2. Prophecy and fulfillment

a. Is. 2:2-4 "...neither shall they learn war anymore."

b. II Cor. 10:3-6 "For though we walk in the flesh we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal..."

ORDER OF SERVICES

\* Lord's Day: 10:00 a.m. Bible Study\*  
\* 10:45 a.m. Worship \*  
\* 6:00 p.m. Bible Study\*  
\* 6:45 p.m. Worship \*  
\* Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Bible Study\*  
\* 7:30 p.m. Bible Study\*  
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"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against, principalities against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12

II. WHO DOES GOD ALLOW THE CHRISTIAN TO KILL?

A. Can We Kill Our Brethren?

1. I Jn. 3:10-19 "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."

2. Heb. 13:1; Rom. 12:10; James 5:9

B. Might We Slay Our Neighbors?

1. Gal. 5:14 "For all the law is fulfilled in one word even this Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

2. Luke 10:25-37 The Good Samaritan

C. Perhaps We May Kill Our Enemies With God's Blessing?

1. Matt. 5:43-45 "...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven...."

2. Christians must not even take vengeance on those that do us wrong but must let God through the government avenge. Romans 12:19-21; 13:6

III. Scriptures Violated By Christians Killing In War

A. I Thess. 5:13 "And be at peace among yourselves."

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B. II Cor. 13:11 "...live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

c. Heb. 12:14 "Follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the lord."

D. II Pet. 3:14 "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace and blameless."

E. I Pet. 3:8-13 "...let him seek peace, and ensue it."

F. I Tim. 2:2 "...that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life.."

G. Col. 3:13 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts.."

H. Now in all candor, are these scriptures and others, being obeyed by faithful Christians who slay in the heat of battle?

#### IV. THE COMPLETENESS OF SCRIPTURES NEWS & NOTES: Bro. Bob Choate has

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3:16,17

##### A. "All Good Works"

1. Master to servant Eph. 6:9

2. Elder to church I Pet. 5:2

3. Child to parents Eph. 6

4. Father to children Eph. 6:4

5. Husband to wife Eph. 5:25

6. Wife to husband Eph. 5:22

7. Servants to master Eph. 6

8. Christians to elders Heb 13

9. Neighbor to neighbor Jas 2:8 she who uses the sword shall perish

10. Christian to world Rom 12:17 by the sword? And shall the son of

##### B. Scripture Does Not Tell Us

How To Act as A Devil, A Man

Of The World Anyone's Enemy

Or A Man In Carnel Warfare

With God's Blessing

invited all song leaders and young married couples to his home tomorrow night 7:00 to practice singing. See you there! Brethren, lets try to be closer one to another after all we're all in one family. You know, some come faithfully great distances, and others need encouragement for one reason or another. What do you say?

##### A VOICE FROM THE PAST ON WARFARE:

"I think we must first inquire whether warfare is proper at all for Christians... Shall it be held lawful to make an occupation of the sword, when the Lord proclaims that she who uses the sword shall perish by the sword? And shall the son of peace take part in the battle when it does not even become him to sue at law? And shall he apply the chain and the prison, and the torture, and the punishment, who is not the avenger even of his own

wrongs? Shall he, forsooth, either keep watch-service for others more than for Christ, or shall he do it on the Lord's Day, when he does not even do it for Christ himself? And shall he keep guard before the temples which he has renounced?... Then how many other offenses there are in the performance of camp offices, which we must hold to be a transgression of God's law, you may see by a slight survey..... Of course, if faith comes later and finds one pre-occupied with military service, their case is different, as in the instance of those whom John used to receive for baptism, and the centurion whom Peter instructs; yet, at the same time, when a man becomes a believer and the faith has been sealed, there must be either an immediate abandonment of it, WHICH HAS BEEN THE COURSE OF MANY; or all sorts of quibbling will have to be resorted to in order to avoid offending God." Tertullian, De Corona, Chapter 11

In closing let me make it abundently clear that we are not Communists nor Hippies. A Christian Cannot be a Communist, (nor even a Socialist) (Heb. 11:6, Acts 5:4; 21:8) Neither can we be hippies. (I Cor. 11:14; II Thess. 3:10) and when we take advantage of the C.O. classifications we are violating no law but simply are doing what the law allows.

SOME OBJECTIONS: (Space doesn't permit all but here are common ones)

1. Philippian Jailor still had job after baptism Acts 16:23, 36 Ans.

How much could he learn in 6 hrs. Who could he kill? Acts 19:19 believers practiced majical arts needed teaching.

2. Christ commands Apostles to buy swords Lk. 22:31-38 Ans. Former to coming bad times note: 2 swords "It is enough"