

# Grab Your Hat and Run!

## CONTENTIOUS



## PEOPLE

### INTRODUCTION:

Grab your hat and run. Run from what? A fire? A flood? A fight? No, someone said that the only way to win out with a contentious person is to GRAB YOUR HAT AND RUN from them. The dictionary defines one who is contentious as being perverse, wearisome, tendency to quarrels and disputes, apt to arouse and argument! Salvation in a person's life is the beginning (Proverbs 9:10) and not the end. The Christian life is a developing experience, and the more we grow in Christ the less contentious and wearisome we will be. Holiness is not a snapshot, it's a time exposure. Note in the book of Proverbs, our book of detached sayings, just a few verses with the word CONTENTION in them. I'll make some running comments on these, and then ask you to turn over this sheet for our study of the evening dealing with the idea of a healthy relationship with each other:

1. 17:14 – *“The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.”*  
- Stop tampering with the dam as it is about to burst. Remember the program, YOU ASKED FOR IT? Cool it!
2. 18:6 – *“A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes.”*  
- It takes a fool to specialize in starting continual arguments. Don't become a fool by answering a fool. See Proverbs 26:4
3. 22:10 – *“Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.”*  
- The church should discipline the one who scorns the Bible's teachings about sowing discord among the brethren. Get the scorner out to bring about peace in God's House.
4. 26:21 – *“As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.”*  
- The troublesome man feels at home in generating trouble and recruits others. He fires up others with his contentious spirit.
5. 21:19 – *“It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.”*  
- GRAB YOUR HAT AND RUN! Take your chances with the animals in the wilderness who can't talk back rather than with a non-stop talking man (18:6) or woman (21:19).

By Rev. Charles Svoboda



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P.O. Box 272 Hinsdale, Illinois 60522-0272  
708-579-3800 or 708-579-3801 – Fax: 708-579-3844  
www.biblereLATEDministries.org - djbauer1@juno.com