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Subject: Re: Bulletin Board

Posted by [james](#) on Sun, 10 Jul 2011 15:00:40 GMT

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Contending or Contentious...

Contend: strive; fight. compete. assert; maintain. (Oxford American Dictionary)

Contentious: quarrelsome. likely to cause an argument. (Oxford American Dictionary)

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." ~Jude 3

"But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath." ~Romans 2:8

Two words that sound similar, but have very different meaning when found in scripture. We're exhorted to **CONTEND** for the faith; but to not be **CONTENTIOUS**. I see sometimes when reading internet Christian forums, earnest brethren contending for the faith and gospel of Jesus Christ, instructing with patience and wisdom the truths of God's Word, learning from each other and sharing. Yet, far too often I see contentious people who seem like the only goal they have is to argue and cause division, just waiting for the opportunity to start controversy and disrupt what is being shared.

Thankfully, we don't have that problem very often here on Overcomers Online, but I thought as I read Romans chapter two this morning, it would be good to be reminded just what happens to the contentious...

V9 "Tribulation and anguish, upon evry soul of man that doeth evil..."

...and a reminder to those who earnestly contend for the faith through patience and well doing...

V10 "But glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good..."