

CouplesInBloom.com – Christian Haters Beautiful Fight

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Quote from a former Christian hater: “I fought the **good fight**” ⇨ 2 Timothy 4:7. Saul of Tarsus *hated* Christians *and fought* them hard because their definition of God was different than his. Even the meaning of the name Saul means *demand*. What changed this **Christian hater’s** mind? What is the difference between a **good fight** and a bad one?

The Bible word **good** here translates **beautiful**, where **value** and **virtue** are what make it **beautiful**. God Himself informed Saul that fighting Christians is *in fact* fighting **God!** ⇨ Acts 9:1-7. Fighting against Christians is *foolish* and has **no value**; they are *merely* representatives of God’s Son Jesus Christ ⇨ 2 Corinthians 5:20. **This** truth humbled *demand* Saul who became Paul, which means *little* ⇨ Acts 13:9. Now the **good fight**:

The **Christian hater’s fight turns beautiful** once they *learn* life is about **who God is**, *not* about **what people think!** The opponent becomes the proponent like Paul who called himself the worst sinner *ever* ⇨ 1 Timothy 1:15-16, yet ended up with a clear conscience ⇨ 2 Timothy 1:3. This complete transformation is a **beautiful** gift from God, who alone owns such power! No one can ever deserve this gift; God is good and just loves to give it.

This is a **huge** lesson for marriage. **Pretend you hate your spouse**, or something about them. Hate eats you up inside and you want revenge for feeling violated. You, like Saul, need to know **two things**: **1.** fighting and revenge resolve nothing, and **2.** fighting and revenge make you hypocritically guilty of the very **same** sin of violation you are so upset about! ⇨ Romans 2:1-4. What are we supposed to **do** with the downward spiral of **hate**?

God did **two things**: **1.** He told us not to take revenge, but to let Him do it ⇨ Romans 12:19, and **2.** He created a kindness that leads people to repentance ⇨ Romans 2:4. This means **trusting God resolves hate**. God is exclusively God; He *laughs* at those who fight Him; then, only if they do not repent, He *destroys* them in His anger ⇨ Psalm 2:1-6.

Since marriage is patterned after intimacy with God, **hate** between spouses works the same way: **repentance heals relationships** and **revenge destroys relationships**. When couples disagree, fighting brings failure. The real problem is related to **sin**... either the issue and / or how we handle it ⇨ James 4:1-8. Spouses, like Christian haters, need to fight a **good fight** instead: fighting **for value** and **virtue**, which come by trusting God.

It will be horrible for **Christian haters** when they face God on Judgment Day, where their life videos replay their rejection of trusting God, dooming them to hell forever. Spouses need **such** a revelation about what **they fight** about! We need **beautiful fights**: **for** God’s righteousness and not **against** people. Otherwise, **we are the Christian haters**.

Changing a fight into a **good fight** can be difficult, but God blesses the one who does ⇨ Matthew 5:9-12. Likewise, evil fighting **is** sin and **has** consequences, so do **not** pervert God’s patience as permission to sin ⇨ Matthew 13:24-43. God holds back judgment **only** for a while, hoping people repent! The Bible defines what good is: do **not** redefine it! ⇨ Revelation 22:18-19. Realize God’s Word is serious: bad **is bad** and good **is good**.

Paul says to grow to a place where we **love** having God show up ⇨ 2 Timothy 4:8. Quit being a **Christian hater**. Have a **beautiful fight** instead. ♥ Loren and Kathy Falzone