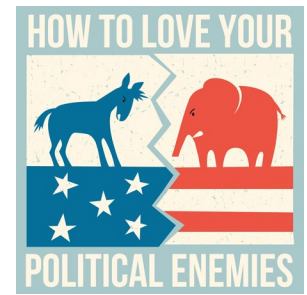


Love Your (political) Enemies!

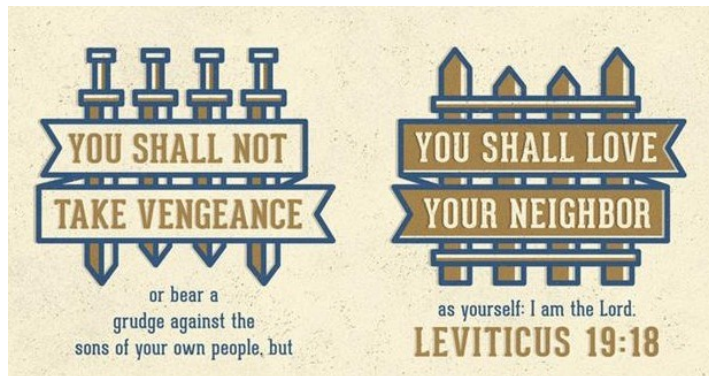
Jesus gathered people around Him, up on a mountain, and what He said has a direct application to our lives today. Why? There is hatred, fear, anger, lies, more lies, and division. “You have heard that it has been said, “Love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, “Love your enemies. Bless them that curse you, do good to those who hate you, pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, so that you may be children of your



Father who is in heaven.” For He makes His sun to shine on the evil and the good. He sends rain on the just and on the unjust. If you just love them who love you, what reward do you have? Don’t the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brethren, what do you do that’s more than others? Don’t the tax collectors do the same thing? Therefore, be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:43-48).

You, *yes you*, the one reading this article—do *you* have emotions? Do you ever get mad at someone? It’s so easy to say, “They made me so mad,” and try to excuse any reaction you may have. But ask honestly: How should I respond to this person? You look at this country, you look at what is going on politically—and it’s not just in the last month, or the last year, or the last twelve years—you can easily see a constant stream of accusations about how “evil” the other side is. If you don’t believe me, just ask them and they’ll tell you.

But what’s worse is that these emotions have gotten into the church (the blood bought body of believers)!



There are Christians who have gotten so caught up in the “political spirit of the age,” that they now have people who they instantly view as an enemy. However, we are to love one another! We are to love one another—even IF we consider “them” our enemy. Brothers and sisters in Christ should *never* be enemies. We should always show love for one another. Period. End of story. Get this...If there are people who are enemies (politically), people we disagree with (politically), we’re still supposed to love them! “Bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us.” We’re not supposed to try to undermine them. Let’s treat one another with LOVE. Let’s do kind things for the one another... instead of condemning and hating.

Neither “side” seems willing to budge and do what the Scriptures teach.

Obviously you can understand in your head that not all Republicans hate all Democrats, and that not all Democrats hate all Republicans. There ARE good people who support each party. And if you don’t know any, visit with the “other side” and you’ll see. And yet, what we’re viewing in the media right now, what’s being put out on the news are the extremes of both sides. And when that’s all that’s seen, it stirs people up into a frenzy of anxiety, anger, fear, etc. Are you there? We are being “trained” to think that everybody that disagrees with us (politically) is an enemy! It is true? Yes or no? If we think so, remember this: **Love your enemies. Bless those who curse you. Do good to those who hate you. Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.** Apply toward EVERYONE in your life the practical and appropriate words of Jesus Christ your Savior.