

“Avoid Contrary Souls” By Kirk Hunt

Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

Romans 16: 17–18 NKJV

Unleashed in the world are men and women who deliberately cause wounds, separation and needless controversy. Contrary souls are not always easy to spot. Contrary souls can be dealt with, once detected.

Contrary souls assault others because they can, and the victim cannot (usually) retaliate. Contrary souls start brawls among others, because they somehow profit from the disturbance. Contrary souls violate Scripture and take pleasure, or income, from the act.

Most groups have one or two souls who are (usually) at the root of controversies and clashes. In too many churches, extended families, or workplaces a sigh goes up when certain names are spoken. Everyone knows that bad news is associated with certain souls.

They may hide for a season, but sooner or later their contrary nature is exposed. Once they are out in the open, you can start to minimize the damage and heartache they cause. Shining Scripture and Godly wisdom on their toxic words and ways will always begin the healing process.

You may not be able to evade seeing a contrary soul, but you can avoid giving them room to operate. You can avoid letting them get away with their selfish and self-serving actions. The aggravation you avoid may be your own.

Think: Scripture commands me to identify and avoid those who act contrary to Scripture.

Pray: “Lord, help me to first see, then respond to contrary souls, according to Scripture.”

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