

WHEN IS IT RIGHT TO FIGHT?

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." Rom. 12:18

1. WHAT IS THE REAL CAUSE OF WAR?

Selfishness and Pride

"Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition you can't satisfy, so you fight to get your way by force." James 4:1-2 (JB)

"The effect of pride is fighting." Prov. 13:10

2. IS IT EVER RIGHT TO FIGHT? YES

"There is a time for war and a time for peace." Eccl. 3:8

1. To preserve freedom

2. To defend innocent people

"When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers." Prov. 21:15

3. To stop the spread of evil

"(Government) is there to serve God for your benefit. If you break the law, however, you may well have fear. . . he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of justice to bring punishment on the wrongdoer." Rom. 13:4 (JB and NIV)

3. WILL THE WORLD EVER HAVE PERMANENT PEACE? Yes

"He (Jesus) will settle disputes among great nations. They will hammer their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will never again go to war, never prepare for battle again." Isa. 2:4 (GN)

4. ARE THESE THE FINAL WARS?

No one knows

(Jesus) "Don't be fooled. Many will come in My name saying, 'I am He!' and 'The time has come!' But don't follow them. Don't be afraid when you hear of wars and revolutions; such things must happen but they do not mean the end is near. Countries will fight each other and kingdoms will attack one another." Luke 21:8-9 (GN)

"No one knows that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father!" Matt. 24:36

"It's not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. But . . . you are to be My witness . . . to the ends of the world." Acts 1:7-8

5. HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND DURING WAR?

1. Pray

"First of all pray . . . for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life . . ." 1 Tim. 2:1-2

2. Trust God

"The Lord is my light and salvation - whom shall I fear? . . . Though an army besiege me . . . and war break out against me, even then I will be confident." Ps. 27:1,3

3. Seek Peace

"Turn from evil and do good. Seek peace and pursue it!" Ps. 34:14

4. Support Each Other

"Carry each other's burden . . . and fulfill the law of Christ." Gal. 6:4