

Define “contentious woman”.

Edgar Smith describes contentiousness in the Bible as someone who:

...[C]ontends, disputes, quarrels, pleads, strives, debates, chides, defies, fights, accuses, etc...., sometimes with the formal sense of “engage in a lawsuit.” In Mic. 6:2 *yāḳaḥ* refers to arguing a case in a court of law....

...Terms used in the NT are: Gk. *diamáchomai* (Acts 23:9, NEB “take sides”); *éstin ... pálē* (Eph. 6:12, AV “wrestle”) and *epagonízomai* (Jude 3), both athletic imagery; and *diakríno* (Jude 9), “dispute.”¹

A contentious woman is undesirable (Pr 25:24, 27:15).

Bruce Waltke wrote:

Hostile speech from the wife is as unexpected and unwelcome as the rain from the north wind and as from a sly tongue...The nagging wife presents a striking contrast with a sexually satisfying wife ([Pr] 5:18–19).²

A wife should be agreeable (1 Co 7:1–5) and submissive to her husband (Eph 5:22) who is her spiritual leader (1 Co 14:34, 35).

¹ Smith, E. W. (1979–1988). Contend; Contender; Contention; Contentious. In G. W. Bromiley (Ed.), *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, Revised* (Vol. 1, pp. 766–767). Wm. B. Eerdmans.

² Waltke, B. K. (2005). [*The Book of Proverbs, Chapters 15–31*](#) (p. 334). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.