



QA: Why Do People Protest? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Why do people protest?

ANSWER: To "protest" simply means "to express disapproval." There are ways this may be done, but in our day these are mostly violent, rude, ugly and wrong.

1. **Acceptably, offering comparison to truth is right.** This is as God does: "For the LORD has a complaint against His people, And He will contend with Israel" (**Micah 6:2**). "Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, But such as keep the law contend with them" (**Proverbs 28:4**). This is exactly what is required of Christians, and that is "to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (**Jude 1:3**).
2. **Unacceptably, contradicting truth but not establishing their case.**

On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul. (**Acts 13:44-45**)

The Jews changed nothing in the truth Paul preached; they offered nothing to add or take away the Bible facts Paul had preached; they did not expose any mishandling or misstatement of truth by Paul; they were not motivated by a "love of the truth" (**2 Thessalonians 2:9-10**) but by their own personal desire for popularity ("envy" also "jealousy"). **And they exposed their lack of vocabulary** in their choice of verbal attack:

- "**contradicting**" means negating what Paul positively affirmed. These are people willing to interrupt, shout, or otherwise demonstrate their childish petulance by throwing a tantrum! Literally, the word means "**anti-word**" and they are "anti's" of the first order. They have nothing positive to offer, so they simply tag the truth with "not!" These are "negative nabobs" who live in the objective case and kickative mood.
- "**blaspheming**" means saying things purely designed to hurt, misrepresent, or render distasteful, either the message or messenger they cannot logically refute! This comes from narrow minded, bigoted, prejudiced people who usually don't have a grasp of the subject they are misrepresenting. Sadly, this whole approach appeals to the young mindset who feel they must not approve of much of anything said or done before them! Maybe "Gen Z" should be called "Generation N-egative."

3. **Destructive Protesting is nothing more than pure thievery and rioting.** Jesus said, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy" (**John 10:10**). Raw riotous destruction cannot be disguised by calling it "Black Lives Matter (BLM) Protesting."

4. **The Bible's broad brush for all such attacks is:**

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight! (**Isaiah 5:20-21**)

According to **Proverbs 28:4**, they should never be encouraged, but condemned, praying that they will "repent" (**Acts 17:30**).

--- jtpll, October 1, 2023