



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“If you love and pray for those who wronged you, are against you or do not agree with you and view them as a friend, you will win out at the end.”

Love Your Enemies

My wife lived through the 1969 riots in York, Pa. She went to York High when there were armed police and police dogs in the halls. She was shot at while teaching preschoolers in the school basement. The dry cleaner was torched just a block away. On the night when man first walked on the moon, her family was hiding on the floor in the house because there was a shooter in the area. The police shot out their street lights. A neighbor gave her father a rifle for protection.

On July 17, 1969, with racial tensions at the boiling point, a black youth who burned himself playing with lighter fluid blamed a local white gang known as the Girarders. That same day, seventeen-year-old Taka Nii Sweeney was shot by an unseen gunman. Eleven others were hurt when people in six blocks of the city reverted to rock-throwing, barricading and shooting from behind bushes and poles. Fighting lasted through the night and into the next day. Nine more people were injured. Officer Henry C. Schaad, who was killed by a bullet while riding in a police armored truck.

A few days later, Lillie Belle Allen was killed when her car stalled on Newberry Street and Gay Avenue. More than one hundred rounds were fired at the car. The day after Allen's death, Governor Shafer declared a state of emergency and ordered an emergency curfew as two hundred National Guard troops arrived in York. See [Wikipedia link](#)

Today, in the US and around the world, there are a growing number of mass shootings, riots, wrongfully killings, and racial tensions. Many cry more equal rights, gun control, black lives matters, build a wall, and export the foreigners. But all these are just bandages. The real problem is the sinful heart of man. Pastor John MacArthur of Grace Church, in LA, was right on with his message: [“Riots in the Street: A Biblical Perspective”](#). Take a moment to read it.

If everyone would practice these principles, to those they do not agree with, there would be no issues: “Do unto others as you would have them do to you.” Luke 6:31 NIV “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” Matt 22:39 “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.” Matt 5:44 “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” Rom. 12:21 But the greatest of all: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.” Matt 22:37



York PA 1969

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*“I destroy my enemies when I
made them my friends.”
Abraham Lincoln*



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