



**TRAIL TIP:**

**Never Take anything into a Fight that you aren't willing to eat.**

Growing up I was the younger of two brothers. There was sufficient age difference that I was always the smaller kid until I reached Middle School age. [We called it Junior High back in those days.] So up until that time, I had to defend myself against sudden and unforeseen older and bigger brotherly aggression. My parents had not heard of Dr. Spock I don't think. That's not the Spock of *The Enterprise*; but rather Dr. Benjamin Spock a well-noted author of a How to Raise Children's Book of Philosophy that disregarded spanking and adhered to a more peaceable solution. His son didn't turn out without problems either and somewhere along the way people quite referring to him and buying his books.

No, we were sort of left to work things out on our own; that is, unless my life was in danger which I am sure at times it must have seemed that it was to me.

Now my brother is still living and in case he reads or hears of this *Trail Tip* let me be perfectly clear; he liked to throw a punch every now and then just to keep the younger brother in his place. Out of nowhere; just ka-pow. This tended to make me look for something to help even the fight out so I am sure that is where my Dad came up with the phrase: ***Never take anything into a Fight that you aren't willing to eat.*** He had been one of four brothers himself and may have learned this truth from his own experience, I don't know.

One thing I have learned along the way from my dad is that whether it's words you take into a fight or a big stick, with either one, you'd best be willing to eat it.

That tells me that you'd be smart to choose your weapons carefully.

This is especially true of the words you speak; and essential when you are in a battle of words. There is a time to stand your ground! And there is a time to keep silent and walk away.

Remember:

***Proverbs 13: 2-3*** *A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence. He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.*