



## "Anger"

Is it ever right to be angry? Can a Christian be angry and truly be walking with God? If you are angry, how do you deal with it in a God-honoring way? What if your nature is to be easily angered? These are questions that need real answers from Scripture so we can have a healthy look at the monster of anger that sometimes takes us down roads we really had no intention of taking. Let's begin by exploring the wisdom God gives us on the subject from the book of wisdom called Proverbs.

### Proverbs on Anger

1. **Read Proverbs 15:1** – What types of words are contrasted?
2. The Hebrew word for turns away meant to repel, to turn around. Wrath is a word for anger that contains rage. How does a gentle answer turn away severe anger?
3. What does the harsh word do? How? Can you think of a specific example of this truth?
4. **Read Proverbs 22:24** – How do we deal with people who have violent tempers?
5. If God wants everyone to be saved, which He does, then why do you think He would make this statement?
6. What does that say to you if you have a hot temper and are easily angered?
7. **Read Proverbs 29:11** – What does God say about someone who refuses to control his anger?
8. Notice God is not criticizing the man's anger but his refusal to control it. What light does this shed on the topic?
9. **Read Proverbs 29:22** – Why is being an angry man such a problem?
10. How does a hot temper cause us to sin?
11. Can you think of a time when you wish you could take back some word or action that was caused by your temper?
12. **Read Proverbs 30:33** – What picture is painted of anger?
13. How do we stir up anger?

## Moses' Example of Anger

1. **Read Exodus 2:11-15** – Obviously Moses went further than he had planned. Pharaoh's daughter had raised him as her son. He has far more power than this Egyptian who is beating the Hebrew slaves. What do Moses' actions cost him?
2. **Read Exodus 32:1-35** – It is interesting that Moses was so angry that he broke the 10 commandments on stone tablets before the eyes of the people falsely worshiping. Was God mad at Moses for doing this? Who was God mad at?
3. It seems that Moses' anger was justified because it was a righteous anger defending the holiness and glory of God. Moses was attacking the people of God who were worshiping idols as God.
4. **Read Numbers 20:1-13**. What did God tell Moses to do?
5. Moses was acting in anger and it caused him to add to God's instructions. What did Moses do that was not following God's instructions?
6. Why does God tell Moses he will not lead the people into the Promised Land?
7. Moses was a great servant of God and yet his anger that was not righteous caused him some problems and suffering and missed opportunities. How is that true in your life?

## Paul on Anger

1. **Read Romans 13:1-5** – The Greek word in verse 4 translated "wrath" is a word that means controlled anger. Anger with a purpose. Who is given this anger and why is it given to them? Notice the anger is allowed by God for the purpose of protecting the innocent and punishing law breakers.
2. How would this Scripture be true of our armed forces?
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 13:5** – How does the love of God living in us keep us from anger?
4. If you are easily angered, what do you think God is telling you from this passage?
5. Can you truly be filled with this love of God and have a short fuse that blows up frequently?
6. **Read Ephesians 4:25-27** – Is it implied that you will get angry at times?
7. What is the command of God to be obeyed when we do get angry?
8. What is the solution to resolving your anger?
9. How does putting off conflict resolution give the Devil a foothold in your life?
10. **Read Colossians 3:5-8** – What is it that causes the wrath or anger of God to come down?

11. How is anger a relative of all the things listed in verse 8 that belong to the earthly nature?
12. **Read Colossians 3:12-17** – What instructions does God give to lead us out of an angry lifestyle?
13. What will you do to begin the journey to allow God to have control of your anger?

### **James on Anger**

1. **Read James 1:19-20** – How do being quick to listen and slow to speak help us be slow to anger?
2. Why is anger seen by God as something that must be controlled?
3. How does anger cause us to live a life that is not pleasing to God?
4. What personal experiences with anger have caused you to be embarrassed before God?

### **The Apostle Peter's Comments on Anger**

1. **Read 1 Peter 5:7-11** – All we have read shows us that anger must be controlled. We cannot allow it to control us. Why does Peter say our self-control is so important?
2. When we suffer, we will get angry, God knows that. However, what promise does God give if we trust Him and allow Him to guide us?

### **Jesus on Anger**

1. **Read Matthew 5:21-22** – How does Jesus say God views the person with a deep anger who doesn't resolve it?
2. Anger destroys the respect we should have for all God's creation. God created everyone in His own image. Our goal is to create love and peace, not anger and division.
3. Who is in danger of the fire of hell?
4. To say 'You fool' was to use the term 'MŌROS.' The word meant you were pronouncing this person as morally worthless, judging his heart and character with scorn. You are saying they are not worth the breath of life, not worth salvation. It is an extreme form of judgmental anger. It is very dangerous in God's eyes to arrive at this depth of anger toward your fellow man.
5. **Read John 2:12-17.** In this event in the temple, why does Jesus become angry enough to take on the entire crowd?
6. **Read Psalm 69:6-9** – David foretold this event in the temple when Jesus would clean house 1,000 years before Jesus was born! What does David call Jesus' anger?

7. Jesus' anger was under control, even though it was radical enough to back down a crowd of people and cause crooked businessmen to run rather than fight for their business! There is a right time to get angry when the house of God is being used for illegal profits in the name of faith. Jesus' anger was directed at them not because they were attacking Him, but because they were attacking the House of God. That is a righteous anger that we see Jesus displays just as Moses did.

**Conclusion: (lessons learned)**

- Will we ever get angry? Yes, we are human and we live in a fallen world.
- Is anger a sin? No, not unless we refuse to control it. We can learn great lessons of faith from anger.
- What if I get angry often? Then you need to experience more of God's love and walk more closely to His Word. Deepen your relationship with Jesus.
- How do we deal with our anger? Resolve conflicts immediately.
- When God's house, the church, is being distorted, should we simply look the other way and keep peace? No! We should correct the problem, but only by aligning it with God's Word, not our will.
- God expects His people to be examples of peace-makers, not trouble-makers. This is only done by living a life of sacrificial love for God and for our fellow man.

