

ANGER

THE CHRISTIAN'S ATTITUDE REGARDING ANGER:

1. We are to be slow in anger: Proverbs 14:29 and James 1:19
Amplified Bible: "He who is slow to anger has great understanding."
NIV: "A patient man has great understanding..."
Being patient is evidence of wisdom.
A quick-tempered individual (hasty in spirit) promotes foolishness.
Four examples of a hasty spirit:
 - a. Rehoboam (1 Kings 12)
 - b. Jehoram (2 Kings 5:7)
 - c. Jonah (Jonah 4:8-9)
 - d. Martha (Luke 10:40)
2. We are not to sin in our anger: Ephesians 4:26-27; Psalm 4:4
When we become legitimately angry (with a righteous anger) against sin, we are not to allow that anger to cause us to sin. The devil would like to cause our anger to intensify causing the righteous anger to become sin itself. That's why we are to deal with it before the sun goes down and do not give the devil a foothold.
3. We are to get rid of anger: Ephesians 4:31; Colossians 3:8
Anger may be only one of many things in this "package".
Anger can lead to some other things in this list. They are all related:
bitterness, rage, insult, slander
Anger leads to injurious words spoken and outrageous acts.

THE EFFECTS OF ANGER ARE SEEN IN:

1. Attempted assassinations: Esther 2:21
This was an intense anger mixed with many other evil emotions – completely consuming an individual which eventually destroyed their life.
2. Punishment: Proverbs 19:19
A hot-tempered person never learns how to stay out of trouble. His anger controls him. If you rescue them once you will have to keep doing it over and over. The solution only comes with deliverance from the anger.

ANGER IS PACIFIED BY:

1. Kindly suggestions: 2 Kings 5:10-14
Naaman's anger was aroused because he felt the king of Israel had done nothing for him and Elisha didn't even show the courtesy of meeting personally with him. His pride got in the way.
It was Naaman's servants who didn't join him in the anger but rather gently gave a suggestion to him (they didn't attack him because of his anger).
2. Righteous execution: Esther 7:10
The king's anger was pacified when Haman was hung.

3. A gentle answer: Proverbs 15:1

Anger that has been stirred up will only feed anger (from one individual to the next)

Gentleness disarms it.

Five examples of turning away anger:

- a. Aaron (Leviticus 10:16-26)
- b. Reubenites (Joshua 22:15-34)
- c. Gideon (Judges 8:1-3; Proverbs 15:18)
- d. Hannah (1 Samuel 1:15-17)
- e. Abigail (1 Samuel 25:23)

EXAMPLES OF JUSTIFIABLE ANGER:

Jacob: Genesis 31:36

Moses: Exodus 32:19

Samson: Judges 14:1, 19

Saul: 1 Samuel 11:6

Samuel: 1 Samuel 15:16-31

Jonathan: 1 Samuel 20:34

Christ: Mark 3:5