



The Life, Wisdom, and Writings of King Solomon

Today's Message:

Wisdom Concerning Anger
(various Proverbs)

*Bereans Sunday School Class
Countryside Bible Church
3/13/2022*

Introduction



Introduction



Definitions of Anger:

- A. American Psychological Association: “An emotion characterized by antagonism toward someone or something you feel has done you wrong”

- B. Webster (1828): “A violent passion of the mind excited by a real or supposed injury; usually accompanied with a propensity to take vengeance, or to obtain satisfaction from the offending party.”

Theme: In order to control our anger, and influence others’ anger, we need to understand its roots, and work to be prepared.

I. What Solomon says about Our Anger



A. Anger Causes Foolish Behavior

- 12:16 – A fool’s anger is known at once, but a prudent man conceals dishonor
 - Immediate Foolish Decisions
- 14:17 – A quick-tempered man acts foolishly and a man of evil devices is hated
 - Senseless Foolish Decisions
- 19:19 – A man of great anger will bear the penalty, for if you rescue him, you will only have to do it again
 - Repeated Foolish Decisions
- 29:22 – An angry man stirs up strife, and a hot-tempered man abounds in transgression
 - Sinful Foolish Decisions

I. What Solomon says about Our Anger



B. Our Anger can Define our Character

- 19:3 – The foolishness of man ruins his way, and his heart rages against the Lord
 - It ruins our perspective and we blame the Blameless One
- 22:24-25 – Do not associate with a man given to anger, or go with a hot-tempered man, or you will learn his ways and find a snare for yourself
 - It can be contagious
- 27:4 – Wrath is fierce, and anger is a flood, but who can stand before jealousy?
 - It becomes overwhelming and leaves destruction in its wake
- 29:9 – When a wise man has a controversy with a foolish man, the foolish man either rages or laughs, and there is no rest
 - We become impossible to reason with

I. What Solomon says about Our Anger



C. Wisdom is to be Slow to Anger

- 14:29 – He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who is quick-tempered exalts folly
- 15:18 – A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but the slow to anger calms a dispute
- 16:32 – He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who captures a city
- 17:14 – The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so abandon the quarrel before it breaks out
- 19:11 – A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression
- 29:11 – A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back

I. What Solomon says about Our Anger



C. Wisdom is to be Slow to Anger

1. God is Slow to Anger (Exodus 34:5-7) – as those created in His image, so ought we to be
2. Being slow with our Anger defuses situations



II. What Solomon says about Others' Anger



A. Our Words and Actions can Soften Anger in Others

- 15:1 – A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger
- 16:4 – The fury of a King is like messengers of death, but a wise man will appease it
- 29:8 – Scorners set a city aflame, but wise men turn away anger



II. What Solomon says about Others' Anger



B. Our Words and Actions can Promote Anger in Others

- 14:35 – The King's favor is towards a servant who acts wisely, but his anger is towards him who acts shamefully
- 20:2 – The terror of a King is like the growling of a lion. He who provokes him to anger forfeits his own life



Application



- Solomon focused on the practical goals:
 - We have a Requirement to Control our own anger
 - We have an Opportunity to Influence others' anger
- To do that, we need to train Effectively



Application



- We need to understand the roots of Anger:
 - It is a response to idolatry in the heart – something that is taking the place of Christ as that which is most important to us
- We train to refocus on the correct object of worship, Jesus.
 - By studying Scripture (Acts 17:10-11)
 - By prayer (Luke 22:41-44)
 - By gathering with believers (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Our training is guaranteed to produce results!



III. What about Righteous Anger?



A. God displays Righteous Anger

1. God's wrath is a frightening reality! (Nahum 1:2-7)
2. God's Righteous anger is distinctly different than ours:
 - a) His Righteous Anger is a response to assaults on His Holiness
 - God alone is WORTHY of praise and therefore right to EXPECT it
 - All wrongs committed are against God, and against His Holiness (Psalm 51:3-4)
 - b) His Righteous Anger is SLOW
 - c) His Righteous Anger is always Just (James 1:19-20)

III. What about Righteous Anger?



- B. Jesus displayed Righteous Anger (John 2:13-17)
- C. God's People can display Righteous Anger
 - 1. David with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:26,36,46-47)
 - 2. Moses with Israelites (Ex 32:19-20)
 - 3. Phineas (Num 25:11)

Application:

- When was the last time we felt righteous anger?
- There are times when we should be *more* angry (for God's Holiness)