

Introduction:

- A story is told of a woman whose little girl was throwing a temper tantrum as the two went up and down the aisles of a busy grocery store. The toddler sat in the cart screaming and flailing about. As she continued shopping, she could be heard calmly muttering, "Don't yell, Susie. Calm down, Susie. Don't get excited, Susie." A woman passing by commended her saying, "You certainly are doing a great job trying to calm down your little girl." My little girl?! Lady, I'm Susie!
- When things get crazy, the best we can do is to calm *ourselves*.
- "*Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all*" (2 Thessalonians 3:16).
- God can get angry...actually very angry. But, we must remember that He is fundamentally good and not angry. God is Love! The Bible does not say, God is anger.

I. An Angry Jesus

- A. Five times scriptures show Jesus when He is angry.
1. How does He get away with it?
 2. What made Jesus' anger not sinful?
 - a) Jesus was angry for the right reasons.
 - b) Anger was not selfishly motivated in Jesus; it was not about Him. In fact we do not see Jesus getting angry because of injustice towards Him. It was about injustice done to others.
 - c) His anger was directed towards injustice and sinful behavior that kept men from God.
 - d) Jesus was not out of control when He was angry. Ie. When going through Samaria, the Samaritans were not open to Jesus and his disciples. His disciples wanted to call down fire. Note: They were angry because of injustice to them. Jesus rebuked them. This was a powerful lesson for the days ahead. We don't get angry because of what is done to us. These are those we are sent to. We get angry at the injustice done to others and especially those who do not let the people come to God.
 - e) Jesus' anger produced good results. It is what we do with our anger that determines if it is sin or not.
- B. Jesus became angry when the religious leaders defiled the outer court of the temple. This is what cause Him to "clean house."
1. At the start of his ministry. John 2:13-17. He fashioned a whip.
 2. His last week. (Matt 21:12-14, Lk 19:45-47, Mark 11:15-19)
 3. Jesus' problem with Pharisees and people was that the market was set up in the court of the Gentiles. This was the only space outsiders were allowed to enter. If they're not able to encounter God in the outer courts, they have little chance of

- being drawn close in to him. That is what “ticked” Jesus off!
4. His anger was described as zeal for the house of God.
- C. Jesus became angry when religious lawyers blocked people from God’s love and compassion. Man with a withered hand.
1. *“And he said to them, “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.” (Mark 3:4-5, ESV).*
 2. He looked with anger. And did what was right. He was angry when religious people blocked love and compassion from those He came to save.
- D. Jesus became angry when children were forbidden to come near Him.
1. Don’t push kids aside!
 2. *“And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.” (Mark 10:13-14, ESV)*
 3. ἀγανακτώ - “to be indignant against what is judged to be wrong—‘to be indignant, to be angry with.” Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 761). United Bible Societies.
 4. “What made Jesus indignant was the idea that the little ones with the most faith would be treated like second-class citizens in the kingdom of God. That was unacceptable!”
- E. Jesus became angry at sickness, cleanse a leper. Mark 1:40-43
1. One Greek text says that Jesus was indignant at the lepers disease. A form of ‘orge’
 2. “Assuming that Jesus is the subject, the anger can be understood as an expression of righteous indignation at the ravages of sin, disease and death which take their toll even upon the living, a toll particularly evident in a leper.” Lane, W. L. (1974). [The Gospel of Mark](#) (p. 86). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
 3. Jesus is not indignant with the leper but with the sickness that bound him.
- F. Jesus became angry at death outside Lazarus tomb.
1. Greek. embrimaomai - indignation. Webster 1828 indignation: Anger or extreme anger, mingled with contempt, disgust or abhorrence.
 2. “to have an intense, strong feeling of concern, often with the implication of indignation.” Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 293). United Bible Societies.
 3. What was Jesus angry at? Death itself. Jesus cares for people! And anything or anyone who comes between Jesus and His people will be subject to His wrath.

II. How Can We Be Angry And Not Sin?

- A. We must be angry for the right reasons. The following demonstrate righteous anger.
1. Jesus was angry because of the human condition. Sin, sickness, poverty.
 2. Jesus was angry because of the things that kept people from God.
 3. Jesus was angry because of death.
 4. Jesus was angry because children were pushed aside.
- B. We must not be selfishly motivated by anger.
1. Most of man's anger is selfishly and pridefully motivated.
 2. We are moved because of something negatively affecting us or frustrating us.
 3. IE. Slow drivers in the fast lane, a crying baby on an airplane, couldn't care less medical or government workers, inefficiency and incompetence. We want it our way (selfishness) and we want it now (impatience)
- C. Be slow to anger. James 1:19-21.
1. *"A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention."* (Proverbs 15:18, ESV). Quick temper or quick anger is not productive. Before Jesus cleansed the temple the first time; he made a cord/whip. Slow to anger.
 2. *"The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, ..."* (Nahum 1:3, ESV)
 3. *"Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."* (Proverbs 16:32, ESV)
 4. *"Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools."* (Ecclesiastes 7:9, ESV). Quick anger is uncontrolled anger. When anger is uncontrolled it is definitely controlling you.
 5. If we consider these scriptures we are sure to put anger in its place.
- D. Don't let the sun go down on your anger.
1. *"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,"* (Ephesians 4:26, ESV)
 2. It festers the longer it stays. Ie. bitterness, resentment. Therefore keep a short account of records of wrong! 1 Cor 13:5. Love counters anger!
 3. Unchecked anger breeds separation among spouses, and the covenant community.
 4. Paul is saying to deal with your selfish anger quickly. Do not give the devil a foothold!
 5. Anger sets us up for judgement. *"But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire."* (Matthew 5:22, ESV)
 6. The right heart is: *"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."* (Ephesians 4:32, ESV)
- E. Lean into the Holy Spirit.

1. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."
(Galatians 5:22-23, ESV)
2. You do not have an anger problem you have self control and kindness problem.
3. Anger died with the old man when you were born again. You have put on Christ so put off anger and put on the new man in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion:

- Solomon was a wise man at one point and had much to say about anger that was wise:
 - *"He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, but he who is impulsive exalts folly."* Proverbs 14:29 NKJV
 - *"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."* Proverbs 15:1
 - *"A hot tempered man stirs up conflict, but a man slow to anger calms strife."* Proverbs 15:18
 - *"Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."* Proverbs 16:32