

The Destructiveness of **Anger**

America is **Angry**, it's a **Sign** of the **Times**

But realize this, that in the **last days** **difficult times** will come.
For **men** will be lovers of self, lovers of money, **boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient** to parents, **ungrateful, unholy unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure** rather than **lovers of God**, (II Timothy 3:1-4)

A. The **Recognition** of a “**Righteous**” **Anger**

1. **God's Anger** over **sin** and **unrighteousness** (Psalm 7:11) (Romans 1:18)
2. **Jesus' righteous Anger** (Mark 3:5) (John 2:13-16)
3. **God's people** and **righteous Anger** (Exodus 32:19) (Ephesians 4:26)

B. The **Ravages** of **Anger**

Cease from **anger** and **forsake wrath**;

Do not **fret**; *it leads* only to **evildoing**.

For **evildoers** will be **cut off**,

But those who **wait** for the **LORD**, they will inherit the land.
(Psalm 37:8-9)

Do **not** be **eager** in your heart to be **angry**,

For **anger** **resides** in the bosom of **fools**. (Ecclesiastes 7:9)

An **angry man** stirs up **strife**,

And a **hot-tempered man** **abounds** in **transgression**. (Proverbs 29:22)

Like a city that is **broken into** and **without walls**

Is a **man** who has **no control** over **his spirit**. (Proverbs 25:28)

A **man of violence** **entices** his neighbor

And **leads him** in a way that is **not good**. (Proverbs 16:29)

Scorners set a city **aflame**,

But **wise men** turn away **anger**. (Proverbs 29:8)

C. The **Root** of **Unrighteous Anger** → **Sin**

...but for **Cain** and for his offering **He (God)** had no regard.
So **Cain** became very **angry** and his **countenance fell**.

Then **the LORD** said to Cain,
“Why are you **angry**? And why has your **countenance fallen**?
If you **do well**, will not *your countenance* be **lifted up**?

And if you do **not do well**, **sin** is **crouching** at the **door**;
and **its desire** is for **you**, but you must **master it**.”

Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were
in the field, that Cain rose up **against** Abel his brother and **killed him**.
(Genesis 4:5-8)

What is the **source** of **quarrels** and **conflicts** among **you**?
Is not the **source** your **pleasures** that **wage war** in **your members**?

You lust and **do not have**; so you **commit murder**.
You are **envious** and **cannot obtain**; so you **fight** and **quarrel**.
You do not have because you **do not ask**. (James 4:1-2)

D. The **Restraint** of **Anger** - **How**?

This you know, my beloved brethren.
But everyone must be quick to **hear**, slow to **speak** and slow to **anger**;
for the **anger of man** does **not** achieve the **righteousness of God**.
(James 1:19-20)

A **gentle answer** turns away **wrath**,
But a **harsh word stirs up anger**. (Proverbs 15:5)

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.
(Proverbs 22:24-25)

BE ANGRY, AND yet **DO NOT SIN**;
do not let the **sun go down** on your **anger**,
and do **not** give the **devil** an opportunity.

He who **steals** must **steal no longer**; but rather he must **labor**,
performing with his own hands what is **good**,
so that he will have *something* to **share** with one who **has need**.

Let no **unwholesome word** proceed from your **mouth**,
but only such a *word* as is **good** for edification
to the **need of the moment**,
so that it will give **grace** to those who **hear**...

Let all ***bitterness*** and ***wrath*** and ***anger*** and ***clamor*** and ***slander*** be **put away** from you, along with **all *malice***.

Be **kind** to **one another**, **tender-hearted**, ***forgiving*** each other, just as **God in Messiah** also has ***forgiven*** you.
(Ephesians 4:26-29, 31-32)

But refuse **foolish** and **ignorant speculations**, knowing that they produce **quarrels**.

Lord's bond-servant must **not** be **quarrelsome**, but be **kind** to all, able to **teach**, **patient** when **wronged**,
(II Timothy 2:23-24)

Diffusing an *Angry* Nation It begins with the **Power of Prayer**

“...for the **weapons** of our **warfare** are ***not*** of the **flesh**, but **divinely powerful** for the **destruction** of **fortresses**.”
(II Corinthians 10:4)

→ **Pray** that **God** would “**pour forth**” **His Spirit**, and bring about a **true spiritual revival** in **America**, and throughout the **world**

‘For **I will** pour out **water** on the **thirsty land**
And **streams** on the **dry ground**;
I will ***pour out My Spirit*** on **your offspring**
And **My blessing** on your **descendants**; (Isaiah 44:3)

→ **Pray** that many in **America**, and throughout the **world** would experience **true Peace**, not just the **temporary** absence of hostility, but a **real lasting inner Peace** that comes from a **reconciled relationship** with the **living God**—a **Peace** that is offered through the **message** and **hope** of the **gospel of Messiah**.

Therefore, having been ***justified by faith***, we have **peace with God** ***through*** our **Lord Jesus the Messiah**,...(Romans 5:1)

→ **Pray** that many in **America** would be made “**alive to God**,” and return to the **truths** and **principles** of **God's word**—**Pray** that our **legislators** and **judges** consider the ***laws of God*** when they establish **laws**, and make **judicial decisions** for the **governance** of our **society**. (Psalm 19:7-10)

→ **Pray** that **righteousness** would **prevail** over **wickedness**—that we would **overcome evil** with **good** (Romans 12:21).

→ **Pray** that the **church** (the **body of believers**) will be **faithful**, **uncompromising**,

and **courageous** in our **witness** to the world of the **truth** of the **gospel**,
and the need for **all men** to receive **salvation** and **eternal life**.

Do all things without ***grumbling*** or ***disputing***;
so that you will prove yourselves to be **blameless** and **innocent**,
children of God above reproach in the midst of a **crooked** and **perverse generation**,
among whom you appear as **lights** in the **world**,
holding fast the **word of life**, so that in the **day of Messiah**
I will have reason to **glory** because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.
(Philippians 2:14-16)

Closing Quotes

- * “Do not say, “I cannot help having a ***bad temper***.” Friend, you **must** help it.
Pray to God to help you overcome it at once, for either you must **kill it**, or
it will you. You cannot carry a ***bad temper*** into **heaven**.” – Charles Spurgeon
- * ***Anger*** is a **stone** cast into a **wasp’s nest** – Malabar Proverb
- * “***Anger*** doesn’t solve **anything**. It builds **nothing**, but it can **destroy everything**.”
- * “**Speak** when you are **angry** and you will make the **best speech** you will ever
regret.”— Ambrose Bierce
- * “***Anger*** is an **acid** that can do more **harm** to the **vessel** in which it is **stored** than
to anything on which it is **poured**.”— Mark Twain
- * “Where there is ***anger*** there is always **pain underneath**.”
— Eckhart Tolle, The Power of Now
- * ***Anger*** and **intolerance** are the **enemies** of **correct understanding** - Mahatma Gandhi
- * ***Fire*** in the **heart** sends **smoke** into the **head**. German Proverb