

Open with prayer

Review Bible memorization verses:

Struggles from this past week, and/or areas of expected upcoming struggle.

Review: What are some things you've learned in your Bible reading this week?

Anger

What makes you angry? How do you deal with another person being angry?

1. Anger is expressed primarily in three different ways: 1) explosive and blowing up; 2) stewing, brewing, or silent indignation; and 3) irritability, exasperation, or embitterment. Sinful silent anger is just as offensive to God as sinful explosive anger.

2. The Bible has a lot to say about anger. From the beginning in the garden all the way to the end; man's anger is expressed by rejecting God and pursuing his own way

Romans 3:10–18. *10 as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; 11 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; 12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME WORTHLESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE." 13 "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN TOMB, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING," "THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS"; 14 "WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS"; 15 "THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD, 16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS, 17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN." 18 "THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES."*

Yet man's anger does not accomplish God's righteous purposes

James 1:19–20 *Know this, my beloved brothers. 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.*

While God too can be angry, it is never sinful

Psalm 7:11 *God is a righteous judge, And a God who has indignation every day.*

John 3:36 *He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.*

Romans 1:18 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,*

Compared to the offenses He must suffer, He is very "slow to anger"

Exodus 34:6 *Then Yahweh passed by in front of him and called out, "Yahweh, Yahweh God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth;*

Psalm 103:8 *Yahweh is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness.*

3. The anger of man and God's wrath for all our sins culminated in Jesus when he went to the cross to pay the penalty for sin

Acts 2:22–24 *22 “Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—
23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of lawless men and put Him to death.*

24 “But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

He satisfied God's wrath and allowed man to express their anger towards him at the same time—man rejecting God and God loving man in the very same event in history.

4. Anger Can Be Righteous. Ephesians 4:26 says, “Be angry and do not sin.” You express righteous anger by becoming angry about what angers God. Jesus died not only to free you from sinful anger but to enable you to be angry with God not at God.

Eph 4:26 *BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,*

5. Anger needs to be surrendered to God. Do not control or manage it in your flesh. Let the Spirit move you to action or bring you to brokenness. God is the judge, not you or me

James 4:11–12 *11 Do not slander one another, brothers. He who slanders a brother or judges his brother, slanders the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge of it. 12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you who judge your neighbor?*

“Vengeance is mine,” says the Lord

Romans 12:18–21 *18 if possible, so far as it depends on you, being at peace with all men, 19 never taking your own revenge, beloved—instead leave room for the wrath of God. For it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord. 20 “BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

New Bible memory verse for the week:

James 1:19–20 *Know this, my beloved brothers. 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.*

Close with prayer