

Touchy! Touchy! Touchy!

ANGER – HOSTILITY

Anger is a universal problem. Anger is a God-given emotion which can either be exercised for evil or for good. We make the choice. Our LORD became angry at times, and rightfully so because of what HE encountered among sinful men. Emotions are neither good nor bad. It is their use or misuse on our part that makes them constructive or destructive. The Book of Proverbs with its detached sayings, points for the pointed head (pardon the pun) has much to say about anger-hostility. The following are but a few of those sayings:

PROVERBS

14:17 – “*He that is soon angry deals foolishly...*”

- Some people say things they haven't even thought of yet.

15:1 - “*A soft answer turns away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.*”

- Taste your words before allowing them to pass your teeth.

15:18 – “*A wrathful man stirs up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeases strife.*”

- Trained trouble-makers are on the loose everywhere.

16:32 – “*He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that rules his spirit than he that takes a city.*”

- Self control in a person's life in the eyes of the Lord is of more importance than a mighty conqueror.

22:24 – “*Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go.*”

- Steer clear of fellowshiping with hot-headed, quick-tempered individuals.

29:22 – “*An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression.*”

- Anyone living on hate is a sick person.

The following are some thoughtful quotes to challenge your thinking:

- *When angry count to ten before you speak. If very angry, count to one hundred.*
- *The fire you kindle for your enemy often burns yourself more than him. (Chinese Proverb)*
- *A man makes his inferiors his superiors by heat. (R. W. Emerson)*
- *The greatest remedy for anger is delay. (Seneca)*
- *The angry man is again angry with himself when he returns to reason.*

GOD'S ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM

Join the Philippians 4:13 club – *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*” Yes, the sinful anger can be conquered through submission on the part of the believer to his Savior, our LORD JESUS CHRIST.

–Rev. Charles Svoboda



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