

Slow to anger

Thank you brother Terry for sending your thoughts on this subject. Here are some more but with inevitable repetition as we have worked independently

Beloved Sisters and Brethren,

Proverbs 14v29 *He that is* slow to wrath *is* of great understanding: but *he that is* hasty of spirit exalteth folly.

Proverbs 15v18 A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but *he that is* slow to anger appeaseth strife

Proverbs 16v32 *He that is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Pro 14:17 *He that is* soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated.

The emphasis in these quotations is on the speed with which anger is shown or acted upon.

There are many references relating to the subject anger.

There was the situation when the Ark of God was recovered from the Philistines 2Sam6v11. It was a natural impulsive reaction on the part of Uzzah to steady the ark as the oxen shook it but he was struck dead by God. This was a salutary lesson regarding the holiness of the things of God and it displeased David and he felt unsure of how to react. It took three months and a sign before the breach was healed. God has no pleasure in the death of him who dies.

God does not act so openly in these days but we must be wary that we treat the matters of God with due reverence such as when we meet at the Table each week. A salutary lesson since the Truth was brought to light in these last days is that there have been many divisions even far beyond those days of Pau

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2Th 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by* our gathering together unto him,

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

2Th 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

2Th 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

2Th 2:5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

2Th 2:6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

2Th 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.

2Th 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2Th 2:9 *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, **2Th 2:10** And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

2Th 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

2Th 2:12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

This condemnation is the result of God's quiet manifestation of His anger/judgment, His anger upon unrighteousness and it is all because they serve with their lips and not the heart. But being under a delusion as was said of Sardis Rev3

Man's anger is different; it is the vent of passion and can be right but rarely so.

God's anger is always righteous whereas man must be very careful to control his emotions as they can easily lead to sin.

There is the example of David in 1Sam 25 who wanted to take vengeance on Nabal who disregarded the protection David had afforded to his land and animals. It was only the intervention of Abigail that saved him from sinful vengeance and that was so important at the time. David's response is an important example-**Pro 15:1** A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. *God made woman as an helpmeet and so it was in the case referred to. David did not take vengeance but God did. And all these things are for our admonition. As was the way of David she became one of his wives*

Pro 15:2 The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

Pro 15:3 The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Pro 15:4 A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life: but perverseness therein *is* a breach in the spirit, (the The word for wholesome is **marpê**'mar-pay' and Strong's concordance says From the root **H7495**; properly curative, that is, literally (concretely) a medicine, or (abstractly) a cure; figuratively (concretely) deliverance, or (abstractly) placidity: - ([in-]) cure (-able), healing (-lth), remedy, sound, wholesome, yielding.

Perverseness can be the effect of anger when it is not controlled or not for the right reason Jesus was angry when He overthrew the tables in the Temple-Mark11. So anger is not sin when controlled and for a proper reason. This took place in THE Temple of God's chosen people! Here was an example of righteous anger and it was driven by other emotions-**love** of His Father, **disappointment** in God's chosen people, **Hating** the desecration and lowering of God's standards; this was a very profound failure and of course it meant their casting away from Him and their privileged position as the people of God (A.D.70 the Romans invaded Israel for the second time and made the nation subservient to them and took Jerusalem).

It happened to them as foretold **Pro 15:5** A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent. .We should look at the father here as **The Father**. God had expressed" Israel is My son"

But many fleshly fathers fall short in their advice not being trained in God's Law. If there is a conflict it is up to the believer to explain his way. But

Mat 10:34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

Mat 10:35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. **Mat 10:36** And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household.

This may be a test for the believer especially those recently converted

Eph 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

Eph 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Where we find things upsetting, in any situation, we must not harbour grudges or anger, but deal with them or overlook and move on.

Here is given a time limit within which this must be achieved. To cool the passion we may feel at being upset we are afforded a limited time by God who looks into the hearts of all He has called. We must not bear grudges nor expect justice as James 5v9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Jas 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

Jas 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

We must suffer injustice and never retaliate. Thus the words of Jesus **Mat 5:9** **Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.** Being baptised is the beginning of a life service to God and

Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Rom 12:14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not

Rom 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Rom 12:19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Rom 12:20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Rom 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

When we concentrate on the lovingkindness of God and focus upon the wonderful promises all else falls into insignificance

Brotherly love to all in Christ

KJG

