

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ...



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“A BRIEF LOOK AT ANGER”

Ephesians 4:26-27 KJV

“Be ye angry and sin not: Let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil.”

Beloved, there is no secret that we have a problem with anger in our world, and especially among The People of God. Ephesians 4:26 says “Be angry and sin not”. The word “anger” in the text is derived from a word that means “to be enraged, angry, or furious”. Because The Apostle Paul says “sin not”, he suggests there is righteous anger that is not sinful, and unrighteous anger which is inherently sinful. Our present discussion focuses on the latter.

Unrighteous anger is:

Premeditated: Whether we want to admit it to ourselves or not, we have already determined in our minds, our hearts and our spirits, that “since they hurt me, hindered me and hated on me, I will have an attitude towards them. I will not speak to them at church; if they come up one aisle, I’ll go down the next to avoid them! I will not even acknowledge their presence because of the pain they have caused me!” We have predetermined our course of action because we have allowed someone to enrage or infuriate us.

Prolonged: Verse 26 also tells us “do not let the sun go down upon your wrath.” Unfortunately there are some saints who are proud of the length of time they can hold a grudge, proudly proclaiming: “Child, they don’t know me!!! I can hold a grudge for 25 years and it won’t bother me one bit!!!” Really Child of God??? Grudge-Holding is a sin because we have been commanded to forgive. Have we forgotten the warnings of the Lord Jesus Christ: “⁴For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” (Matthew 6:14-15)

Permissive: Verse 27 reminds us of the danger of unrighteous anger; it permits, allows and sanctions the devil’s intrusion into our lives. Don’t give so much as a crack of entry to the devil. The old saying about the devil: “Give him an inch, he’ll take a mile; Give him a ride, he’ll want to drive”.

Child of God, check which anger you are operating under: Unrighteous Anger Divides; Righteous Anger Unifies.