

Watch those reactions!!

James 1:19-20

¹⁹ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰ Human anger^[a] does not produce the righteousness^[b] God desires.

Observations:

- 1. James was speaking with compassion**
- 2. James was speaking about a common yet important concern
“Take note of this”/Understand this**
- 3. James was speaking contextually**

Watch those reactions!!

- 1. Just Hush!
“You must all be quick to listen,”**

--Listening is important to Jesus

--Listening is often a challenge

- 2. Watch your reaction (Speaking and angry)
“slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰ Human anger^[a] does not produce the righteousness^[b] God desires.”**

“The only difference between anger and danger is a “D”.” Brian Dodd

-- There is a “right” kind of anger

--The scripture talks about anger

1. "A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back." – Proverbs 29:11 (ESV)
2. "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." – Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)
3. "Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly." – Proverbs 14:29 (NIV)
4. "Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end." – Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)
5. "Fools show their annoyance at once, but the prudent overlook an insult." – Proverbs 12:16 (NIV)
6. "It is to one's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel." – Proverbs 20:3 (NIV)
7. "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression." – Proverbs 19:11 (KJV)
8. "An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression." – Proverbs 29:22 (KJV)
9. "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools." – Ecclesiastes 7:9 (KJV)
10. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." – Romans 12:21 (KJV)
11. "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice." – Ephesians 4:31 (KJV)
12. "A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife." – Proverbs 15:18 (KJV)
13. "Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go." – Proverbs 22:24 (KJV)

--Anger usually ends up making me the bad guy and the other person the victim

--Angry words/reactions negate are in direct opposition to our nature

Gal 5:21-22 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness

--We are never to respond until kindness can be exercised

1 Peter 3: ¹³ Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. ¹⁵ Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

“The loudest person in the room isn’t the most courageous, and the angriest tweeter isn’t the one who is actually changing hearts and minds for the gospel. Jesus doesn’t need more jerks online, but winsome, humble, open-handed, brave truth-tellers. “Daniel Darling

--Choose to “kill” anger (Advice from John Piper)

Eph 4:31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior.

****“Ponder the rights that Christ had to be angry, but how he instead endured the cross as an example of long-suffering. Piper***

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:21)

Ponder how much you have been forgiven and how much mercy you have been shown. Piper

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32)

Ponder your own sinfulness, and take the beam out of your own eye. Piper

“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.” (Matthew 7:3–5)

Ponder about how you do not want to give place to the devil Piper

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. (Ephesians 4:26–27)

Ponder the folly of your own self-immolation, that is, numerous detrimental effects of anger to the one who is angry —Piper

Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. (Proverbs 3:7–8)

Remember that God is going to work it all for your good as you trust in his future grace. Piper

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28) Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. (James 1:2-4)

Remember that God will vindicate your just cause and settle all accounts better than you could. Piper

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." (Romans 12:19)

Close:

"You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry."