Philadelphia Church

Overcoming Anger

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Genesis 4:1-12

Ada made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." ² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD.⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."

Genesis 4:1-12 (cont.)

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"¹⁰ The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. 11 Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

Genesis 4:4-5

⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

Two reactions to anger:

♦Those who externalize or "explode"

♦Those who internalize or "implode"

Quote

Speak when you are angry and you'll make the best speech you'll ever regret. - LP

Genesis 4:6

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?

James 1:19-20

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Proverbs 25:28

Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control.

Quote

Our desire should be to overcome anger not let it overcome us. -PD

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Ephesians 4:26-27

²⁶ "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold.

Types of anger:

- Sudden anger (needs to be controlled)
- Sinful anger (needs to be condemned)
- Stubborn anger (needs to be conquered)
- Sanctified anger (needs to be channeled)

Proverbs 14:7

Stay away from a fool, for you will not find knowledge on their lips.

Proverbs 29:11

Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end.

Proverbs 19:11

A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 15:18

A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.

Proverbs 22:24

Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered,

Proverbs 14:29

Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly.

Proverbs 19:19

A hot-tempered person must pay the penalty; rescue them, and you will have to do it again.

Anger can be sudden:

♦How do we respond?

♦Do we let it overcome us?

When anger is not okay:

- Towards another person
- There's a motive of Revenge
- We are holding on to it
- Don't want to forgive

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

³ For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Ephesians 4:31

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

Ephesians 4:32

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

How do we deal with our anger?

♦Admit our anger

Analyze our anger

♦Understand our anger

Quote

Whenever you fly into a rage you seldom make a safe landing. - Will Rogers

Ephesians 4:26-27

²⁶ "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold.

Proverbs 15:1

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Quote

Hot heads and cold Hearts never solved anything.- BG