

AN IDOL IS LURKING BEHIND YOUR ANGER

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Anger is the fruit of idolatry. Are you aware of the fact there is an idol or idols lurking behind your anger? There is only one-way to overcome it; and that is, to lay down the idol behind each specific area of your anger. We get angry because we expect others to bow down and worship our false gods and to love our idols as much as we do.

DAN 3:13-14 "Then Nebuchadnezzar in rage and anger gave orders to bring Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego; then these men were brought before the king. Nebuchadnezzar responded and said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up?"

Deuteronomy 32:15-21 says, "They made Him jealous with strange gods; WITH ABOMINATIONS THEY PROVOKED HIM TO ANGER. THEY SACRIFICED TO DEMONS WHO WERE NOT GOD, TO GODS WHOM THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN, New gods who came lately, Whom your fathers did not dread. You neglected the Rock who begot you, and forgot the God who gave you birth. And the Lord saw this, and spurned them Because of the provocation of His sons and daughters. Then He said, 'I will hide my face from them; I will see what their end shall be; for they are a perverse generation, Sons in whom there is no faithfulness. They have made Me jealous with what is not God; THEY HAVE PROVOKED ME TO ANGER WITH THEIR IDOLS. SO I WILL MAKE THEM JEALOUS WITH THOSE WHO ARE NOT A PEOPLE; I WILL PROVOKE THEM TO ANGER WITH A FOOLISH NATION."

We are commanded in EPH 4:26 (KJ), "Let not the sun go down upon your anger: neither give place to the devil." Anger comes out of our unresolved childhood issues. When we as children, not being trained up in the way we should go; and not knowing we can go to God with our problems, go to bed hurt, upset, frustrated, bothered, enraged, wounded, worried, etc. (all these negative emotions are anger or subtle forms of anger), we give a foothold to the devil. Instead of turning to God in our pain, we turn to a false god/s which is the promise we make ourselves that "when we grow up life is going to be different." These promises (vows) we make to protect our heart become the lifelong false gods we trust in until we find a place for repentance. We dishonor our parents by not forgiving them and by going to bed with unresolved anger and bitterness in our hearts. To honor does not mean I have to like them or approve of what they do; or if I am grown even to fellowship with them if they are evil, but it means "to forgive them and to no longer judge them for their poor stewardship of us."

It is an unchangeable and irrefutable law of God that life WILL go well for us in every area we could honor our mother and father and life will NOT go well for us in any area we could not honor our mother and father. The judgments we make on our parents set in motion forces that cause us to reap in kind what we have sown. DEU 5:16 "Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with you on the land which the Lord your God gives you."

God gives us until sundown to get over our anger and to deal with it through forgiving our parents and those who have hurt us; otherwise, the enemy will sow tares in our hearts while we are sleeping. MAT 13:24-25 says, "He presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man that sowed good seed in his field. But while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares also among the wheat, and went away." **These tares from our past become the things that tear us up in the present. These tares are the "cockle burrs" so to speak that grow in our spiritual gardens. To get deliverance from anger, we must trace the fruit back to the root and through repentance; replace the ungodly seed of unrighteousness for a seed that will produce righteousness.** JAM 3:17-18 "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

The Bible says in JAM 1:19-20, "This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God." The righteousness of God is fulfilled when we walk in love. For the whole law is fulfilled in this one statement, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (GAL 5:14)

Anger causes us to violate God's righteous law of love. It is a flood that comes over us when others violate our self made law. Every time we let the sun go down on our anger by refusing to forgive those who have hurt us, we go into a spiritual prison and we stay there until we find it in our heart to forgive.

MAT 5:22 "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca,' shall be guilty before the Supreme Court; and whoever shall say, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. If therefore you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, in order that your opponent may not deliver you to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you will be

thrown into prison. Truly I say to you, you shall not come out of there, until you have paid up the last cent.

The Judge is God (Jas. 4:12); the officer is demon powers; and the prison is a spiritual prison. In the physical realm, we do not go to jail every time we get angry unless we violate the laws of the land. But in God's economy, when we break His spiritual law of love, we go into a spiritual prison. Unforgiveness causes us to be turned over to the torturers (tormentors) who are demons that inflict pain. The word torturers means the pain of disease and inquisitor, which is a jailer who extracts the truth by the use of the rack. Matthew 18:33-35 "Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, even as I had mercy on you? And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. So shall My heavenly Father also do to you, Peter, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

In Ephesians 4 it says, "Be angry and sin not." This does not mean we are to deny our anger exists but it means to acknowledge it, take accountability for it, forgive the offending person and refuse to let it turn into sin by letting the sun go down on it.

Since anger breaks God's law of love, it brings with it many undesirable consequences. PRO 19:19 "A man of great anger shall bear the penalty." The penalty is demonization. You can clearly see the progression of demonization and destruction in the life of Saul when he became jealous of David and allowed the sun to go down on his anger. 1SA 18:8-10 "Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, 'They have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?' And Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on. Now it came about on the next day that an EVIL SPIRIT FROM GOD came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house, while David was playing the harp with his hand, as usual; and a spear was in Saul's hand." 1SA 31:3-6 "And the battle went heavily against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was badly wounded by the archers. Then Saul said to his armor bearer "Draw your sword and pierce me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and pierce me through and make sport of me." But his armor bearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. So Saul took his sword and fell on it. And when his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him. Thus Saul died with his three sons, his armor bearer, and all his men on that day together."

Anger as well as many other negative emotions can change the chemistry of the blood and is at the root of many physical problems. Proverbs says, "A tranquil (a healing, cure, health) heart is life to the

body, but passion (anger, envy and jealousy) is rottenness (decay) to the bones (substance, self, strength). "(PRO 14:30)

Some additional facts about anger:

- **Being slow to anger is better than being mighty**

PRO 16:32 "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city."

- **A person who is slow to anger is prudent and has insight.**

PRO 19:11 "A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression."

- **A wise man turns away anger.**

PRO 29:8 "Scorners set a city aflame, but wise men turn away anger."

- **Toiling after the wind causes you to eat in darkness with great vexation, sickness and anger but when you fit into God's plan to fulfill your destiny, you will not often consider the years of your life because God will keep you occupied with gladness of heart.**

ECC 5:16-20 "And this also is a grievous evil-- exactly as a man is born, thus will he die. So, what is the advantage to him who toils for the wind? Throughout his life he also eats in darkness with great vexation, sickness and anger. Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one's labor in which he toils under the sun during the few years of his life which God has given him; for this is his reward.

Furthermore, as for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to receive his reward and rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God. For he will not often consider the years of his life, because God keeps him occupied with the gladness of his heart."

- **Anger resides in the bosom of fools (a major root to heart and lung problems).**

ECC 7:9 "Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, for anger resides in the bosom of fools."

- **If it is your habit or custom to practice the deeds of the flesh it is evidence you do not know God and are headed for destruction.**

GAL 5:19-21 "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

GAL 5:24-25 "Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit."

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