

THE ANGER OF JESUS

I. John 12:20-21 - The more accurately we see Him the more thoroughly we are changed

- **Romans 8:29** - For whom He foreknew, He also predestined {to become} conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18 - "But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."

A. This morning I want us to behold the glory of the "Anger of Jesus" - Mark 3:1-6

1. There are certain moods and feelings which we are reluctant to ascribe to Jesus = so human.
2. **Anger is associated in our mind with infirmity. Much of our own anger has been worldly.**
3. Our anger is frequently a manifestation of our selfishness. We become mad over trivial things.

What makes you mad?

- Driving in the middle of the road
- Campers, yielders and mergers.
- **People don't return phone calls.**
- **People ignore us. (Misspelled your name)**
- People misunderstand us.
- We are overlooked in some function.
- **A person drives too slow.**
- **Somebody keeps us waiting. (Restaurants)**

How do we respond when:

- **Our comfort has been blasted**
- **Our rights had been entrenched upon**
- Our dignity is been affronted
- And we are downright mad.

B. **But in the presence of gigantic outrages perpetrated on the helpless and the weak, some of us are as calm as a summer morning.**

1. Evil men do not make us angry unless they'd interfere with our own personal affairs.
2. **If we failed to burn in the presence of cruelty and injustice, it is because the higher faculties of the soul have become dulled by sin.**
 - a. If wood does not burn, it is because it is green or rotten.
 - b. **If hearts do not burn with holy fire against wicked men in their wicked deeds, It is because the heart is too undeveloped to feel what hearts were meant to feel.**
 - c. Or because the core of the heart has been eaten out by the base practices of a Godless life.

II. Our indignation, then, is quite different from that of Jesus. His anger never had its roots in selfishness.

- **When men abused him, he was unruffled. (Matthew 13 & 14)**
- When they lied about him, his pulse was not quickened.
- **When they nailed his hands to the cross, no trace of anger darkened his face.**
- When the Samaritans didn't receive Him
- **Disciples arguing over who is the greatest**
- Judas betraying with a kiss
- **Beaten and made fun of.**

A. But the new Testament writers did not hesitate to inform us that Jesus sometimes blazed with anger.

1. The blast of his scorn was so hot that it frightened and scorched those on whom it fell. Matthew 23 & the fig tree.

2. Romans 11:22 - "*Behold then the kindness (gentleness) and severity (roughness) of God.*"

3. Here, then, we have in Jesus what seems to some a contradiction.

a. He is a lamb, and at the same time he is the lion of the tribe of Judah.

b. He caresses like the mother, and he also strikes like a thunder bolt.

c. He is tender, but he is also terrible.

d. He is loving, but he also smites with a blow that crushes.

e. Jesus wears a sovereign crown but bears a father's heart.

B. What made Jesus Mad? - Inhumanity, Insincerity, and Un-forgiveness.

1. When he saw men, ordained religious leaders of the people, more interested in their petty regulations than in the welfare of their fellow man.

- **More concerned about the standard than people.**

- More concerned about preserving their lives than in sowing their lives

- **Using their religion to insulate themselves from the world instead of impacting it.**

- Not allowing the Spirit of God to bring the heart of God to bear on the word of God. 2Sam 18:5

a. It was when he saw his creation abused that his great soul rose in wrath.

1) Against rich people who imposed upon the poor.

2) Against clever people who took advantage of the ignorant.

3) Against strong people who mistreated the weak.

4) Against crafty people who laid traps for the innocent.

b. God wants us to get the message he has a peculiar passion for the forgotten.

1) What society puts out, God puts in.

2) What the world writes off, God picks up.

c. Story: Paul loetz took a bad fall that left him with the punctured lung, broken ribs.

1) Two doctors were arguing over procedure while someone was dying.

2) Hard to believe isn't? Needs ignored while opinions are disputed.

d. Yet it happens, even in the church. It Happens

1) When it spends more time discussing the style of the sanctuary then it does the needs of the hungry.

2) When the brightest minds of the church occupy themselves with dull controversies rather than majestic truths.

3) It happens when a church is known more for its stance on an issue that its reliance upon God

e. God is more concerned with the right heart than he is with the right ritual. In fact, the right heart with a wrong ritual is better than the wrong heart with the right ritual

2. Insincerity - He was angered by the desecration of the Temple.

a. The people who cared nothing for prayers and everything for money.

b. It is disappointing when you think someone is interested in you, only to find they are interested in your money.

1) When salespeople do it, it's irritating.

2) But when people of faith do it, it can be devastating.

3) It's a sad but true fact of the faith: religion is used for profit and prestige.

4) When it is, there are two results: people are exploited and God is infuriated.

3. Un-forgiveness in the face of forgiveness made Jesus angry. Matthew 18

C. In Jesus, then, we see what he normal man is and feels.

1. He will not admit that in the garden of the heart there are any plants which the heavenly father has planted which ought to be rooted up.

a. All the impulses, desires and passions with which the all mighty has endowed us have a mission to perform.

b. And life's task is not to strangle them, but to train them for their work.

- 1) A mother gets angry about her 14 year old son being able to buy pornography
- 2) **A father gets angry about his children not being able to understand the KJV.**
- 3) Most worthwhile causes are championed by someone who is driven by anger

2. Jesus was angry, but he did not sin. Ephesians 4:26-27, Satan can use your anger or God can.

- a. Anger, because of its heat, readily passes beyond its appointed limits.
- b. Like all kinds of fire, it is dangerous and difficult to control.**
- c. But Jesus control it. *"thus far, and no further."* His wrath was the hottest ever known upon our earth, but the heart in which it burned was compassionate.
- d. By his spirit He will also help us to control it, if we are angry at the right things.**

3. Indifference to wrongdoing is always a sign of moral deterioration.

- a. If we do not flame against villainy, it is because there so much of the villain in ourselves.**
- b. The healthy soul resents and resists every form of wrong.

4. Nothing is more needed in our day then enlarged capacity for moral indignation.

- a. Nothing so clears the atmosphere as the heat of hearts heated by holy anger.
- b. Evil will flourish as long as good men do nothing.**
- c. Society would be cleansed of much of its pollution if we had more men and women capable of becoming genuinely angry.

It's my prayer that from this message you have been able to see that from God's perspective:

**Anger Is Permitted
Anger is Promoted
Anger Is Powerful**

**Let us pray, then, everyday
that a new indignation may sweep through our lives as men.**

It is the Devils trick to keep Good men from becoming angry.

Not only are we permitted as Christians to be angry, but it is our duty.