



Lesson #4: Life Lessons About Anger (5:21-26)

Anger, animosity, hatred, and murder is spreading throughout our society and is impacting everything. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "We all boil at different degrees." Studies today have indicated that the youth in America could best be categorized as "_____." Our anger takes many forms. It may be expressed as indignation and resentment, or rage and fury. The Bible makes it very clear how God feels about an angry man.

- Proverbs 27:4 – "Wrath is cruel and anger is _____."
- James 1:22 – "The _____ of man worketh not the righteousness of God."
- Proverbs 22:25 – "Make no _____ with an angry man."

In this passage Jesus is dealing with the _____ of anger. Immediately He shocks His audience by declaring that anger towards people rather than things or circumstances is anger in the _____ – It is equivalent to murder!

Anger may be a growing problem in our society but it is not a new one!

THE _____ OF _____ SINFUL ANGER

Jesus begins to expound on the sixth commandment ("Thou shalt not kill")

A. Jesus annihilates your presumed _____

God's commandment to not kill was capable of expansion into the widest spiritual meaning prohibiting hatred against our fellow man. Jesus is referring to that ongoing anger that is typically fueled by malice in the _____. It is that anger that happens when you bitterly hold a _____ against someone.

B. Jesus attacks your assassination of others _____

My anger attitude is always tied to my _____. Often in our anger we resort to name calling. Jesus suggests here that verbal abuse comes from the same sinful motives (anger and hatred) that ultimately leads to murder.

Two words are specifically condemned:

- 1) *Raka* – You brainless idiot. This is an assault on a person's _____.
- 2) *Fool* – You godless degenerate. This is an assault on a person's _____.

THE _____ OF _____ IN SINFUL ANGER

A. Unresolved anger reveals your _____ destiny

Jesus warns in the last part of verse 22 that if you allow anger to keep rising in your heart you "shall be in danger of _____ fire."

B. Unresolved anger affects your _____ worship

Perhaps the reason you are having trouble in your walk with God right now is not a vertical problem but a horizontal one. You cannot be right with _____ until you are right with _____.

THE _____ OF _____ SINFUL ANGER

Jesus gives us three steps to have victory over anger.

A. Step #1: Recognize the _____

Accept that your _____ are out of whack. Stop pointing fingers and recognize that you are the problem.

B. Step #2: _____ with others

According to the Lord this matter of is so vital that you must interrupt your prayer, you must, as it were, even keep God _____. God and make it right!

C. Step #3: Realize the _____

We must not only think in terms of our brother whom we are offending, or with whom there is something wrong, we must always think of ourselves before God. Settle it at once, says Christ. You may not be here tomorrow morning and you are going to eternity like that.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Perhaps in this room today that are more than a few _____. Not in the physical sense but in the relational and spiritual sense. Murderers by means of hatred. Anger in the first degree.

Do not delay in making it right! Don't even go down to this morning's worship service without getting this taken care of. To do so would be sin. Whatever you may be convicted of at this moment, come, leave your fight, run away, and make it _____!

"Agree with thine adversary quickly, whilst thou are in the way with him."