



# Truth for Today

February 16, 2020

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## Fierce Anger

by Aaron Kemple

1 Samuel 20:34 | *And Jonathan rose from the table in fierce anger and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had disgraced him.*

"Be angry, and do not sin" (Ephesians 4:26). Being angry is not sinful. Being fiercely angry is not sinful. It is what we do with the anger. Jonathan had every right to be fiercely angry with his father, King Saul. His father, who was also his King and commanding officer, had just tried to kill him. All Jonathan was trying to do was to defend David. Think of the betrayal of trust and the deep wounds that Saul had inflicted upon Jonathan. Put yourself in Jonathan's shoes - Saul would not listen to reason. On top of that, he is trying to kill you and your best friend for being a threat to his power and questioning his authority.

Jesus was also very angry at times. This anger came from His deep sadness for the hardness of the Jewish leaders' hearts. Jesus was angry because of "hard hearts in the face of human hurts" - Adrian Rogers.

Mark 3:5 | *And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.*

Moses, the meekest man in all the earth, left the presence of Pharaoh in "hot anger." If you read how Pharaoh was behaving, you will understand Moses' hot anger. Pharaoh's arrogance, stubbornness and rebellion against God was growing while his land and people were being destroyed before his very eyes. He just would not listen. Can you understand why Moses had "hot anger"?

Exodus 11:8 | *And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, 'Get out, you and all the people who follow you.' And after that I will go out." And he went out from Pharaoh in hot anger.*

In these above passages, we see righteous men who were angry, and rightly so. But we are also reminded many times in the Scriptures about the danger of our anger.

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

James 1:19-20 | *Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.*

James says our anger does not produce God's righteousness. So, we can take passages about people being justifiably angry, and justify ourselves saying, "See, I have a right to be angry!" Wait a minute. What are we doing with that "justified" anger? We can say we have a right to be angry, and then use that as our justification for rudeness, avoiding people, gossip and offensive behavior. If that's the case, then we are producing our righteousness, not God's.

If we are "righteously angry":

Are we moving toward resolutions and solutions? Or are we just talking about it?

Are we seeking vengeance or reconciliation?

Are we really using God's word to deal with the anger and offenses or are we using our own human wisdom to resolve conflicts?

Here are a few thoughts about the men in the above passages who were angry. Jonathan was angry with his father Saul, but he directed his energy to protecting,

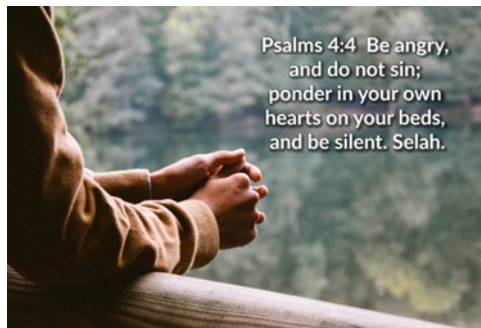
encouraging and defending David. He could not change his father, but Jonathan could keep his father's wickedness from affecting his own behavior. He could also refuse to allow his father's view of David to affect how he saw and treated David.

Jesus was angry with the Jewish leaders, and righteously so. Jesus prayed for them. He wept for them. At times He confronted and rebuked them for their hypocrisy. But again, just like Jonathan, Jesus went out and continued to do good for others, specifically those "others" that were hurt by the Jewish leadership.

Moses was very angry with Pharaoh, and he rebuked and confronted Pharaoh. But Moses clearly knew that Pharaoh's heart was full of rebellion against God. This wasn't against Moses; it was against God - Moses knew that. Moses could not take his own vengeance against Pharaoh; he knew that God would take care of Pharaoh. Moses kept doing what God called him to do, and God dealt with Pharaoh.

We may be angry, and we may feel very justified in that anger, but what are we doing about it?

Remember that the "wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God." (James 1:19-20).



Psalms 4:4 Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah.

# NEWS & NOTES

## UPDATED PRAYER LIST

- **Hailey Boniche's** surgery was a success last week. Doctor followups to come.
- **Kay Coss'** funeral was Monday, 2/10. Keep Kay Barkoh and her family close in your heart and prayers.
- **Tonya Clark** will have gall bladder surgery on Monday, 2/17, at St. Luke's Woodlands.
- **Harvey Goble** has 2/25 appointment with his surgeon.
- **Maria Osteen**
- **Dehbrenda Preuss** will have Crohn's related surgery at The Methodist in the Houston Medical Center on 2/27.
- **Willie and Rita Ray's** daughter, Kimberly, is waiting for insurance approval for a medication to help her dealing with her MS symptoms.
- **Jon Banks** is home from the hospital but still struggling.
- **Several people** are battling seasonal ailments. Prayers for wellness is appreciated.  
—See *Enews* for Ongoing Prayer List

## MEETINGS, EVENTS, SINGINGS & STUDIES

- **WINTER ADULT CLASSES**
  - **ROMANS** | SUNDAY in the Auditorium
  - **THE MESSIAH'S MISFITS** | SUNDAY in Classroom #5
  - **INTRODUCING THE PSALMS** | WEDNESDAY in the Auditorium
- **UPCOMING SPRING ADULT CLASSES**
  - **ROMANS** | SUNDAY in the Auditorium
  - **TURNING POINT** | SUNDAY in Classroom #5
  - **THEN SINGS MY SOUL - PSALMS TO SING**

## TODAY | WEDNESDAY

- **BARNABAS GROUP** | Postcards on the Barnabas table. See Leo Betancourt
- **BUILDING A GODLY HOME** Bible Study | 1st Sundays, 3/1, 4:00 p.m. auditorium
- **2:52 Kids Class** (MEMORIZING BIBLE FACTS & PRAISE) [2-12] | 3/1/20, 4:00 p.m. classroom #9
- **TEENS STUDY** (Video Study of Where Jesus Walked) [13-18] | 3/1, 4:00 p.m. class #5
- **SONG LEADER TRAINING CLASS** | (3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays) 2/23\*/2020, 4:00 p.m.
- **YOUNG ADULT STUDY** ["twenty-somethings"] Friday, 2/15, 6:00 p.m. at the Hootons.
- **TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** [Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.] | studying Luke in classroom 5.
- **TEEN BIBLE DEVO** [12-18, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays] 2/15, TBD, 6:00 p.m.
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY** [30/40 somethings, bi-monthly] | 3/28, 6:00 p.m., C/T Chapman's.
- **OUTREACH MEETUP STUDY** | Mondays at Panera Bread at 7:00 p.m.
- **SINGING** | | Sat., 3/7, 5:00 p.m.
- **VBS** | FOCUS ON FAITH | Mon-Thurs., 6/22-25, registration opens March 15.
- **YOUTH LECTURES** | NEW DATE | Sat-Sun, 8/8-9
- **MEETING** | with Ben Hall from Brooklyn, NY, 9/13-16/2020
- **LADIES DAY BIBLE STUDY** | with Sarah Lyon from Mason, OH, 10/10
- **MENS DAY BIBLE STUDY** | with David McClister from Brandon, FL, 11/7

## AREA EVENTS

- **MEETING** | Alston Road church of Christ | Sugar

Land | 2/21-23

- **MEETING** | New Caney church of Christ | New Caney | 2/23-28
- **MEETING** | Spring Woods church of Christ | Houston | 3/13-15

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

- **PHOTO DIRECTORIES** The most recent printed directory is in the foyer for members. Changes? See Brian Clark for any corrections or changes.
- **We would like all families** to update their information and ALL worship leaders to do the same. If you have any questions about the DIRECTORY application of our website, be sure to see Brian Clark.
- See *Enews* for new address for the **Barkohs**.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **VOLUNTEER SIGN UPS** for 2020, including Communion Prep, visitor greeting and bimonthly building lockup.
- **WOULD YOU TEACH?** John Beighle is the deacon now assigned Bible Class programs and is looking for teachers for the next quarter (March-May). Email or text him if you would like to teach.

Attendance	Last Month Avg	Last Week
Sunday Bible Class	112	116
Sunday Worship AM	180	148
Sunday Worship PM	97	96
Wednesday PM	84	85

Sunday AM Worship	2/16/2020	2/23/2020	Communion Preparation
Song Leader	Keith Arrants	Norman Davis	February — Preuss
1st prayer	Adam Bohanan	Brian Clark	Visitor Hospitality
Scripture Reading	Dwight Haas — Acts 9:20-31	Al Suarez — 1Sam. 2:1-10	February — Suarez
Lord Supper Lead	Gerald Hodges	Stuart Jones	Elders
Bread	Trent Williams	Cody Betton	Keith Arrants 936.582.1244
Fruit of Vine	Kaku Barkoh	Adam Bohanan	George Chapman 281.298.1303
Offering	Jeremy Crump	Chris Chapman	Norman Davis 832.326.2966
Helper	Chris Latson	Dwight Osteen	Don Hooton 936.443.6230
Helper	Bobby Cleek	John Chegin	Deacons
Preaching	Don Hooton	Don Hooton	John Beighle 806.367.3389
Usher	Jay Dunlin	Clint Ford	Adam Bohanan 281.798.1093
Closing Prayer	Granville Betton	Jacob Cowart	Brian Clark 281.513.0706
Announcements	George Chapman	Dwight Osteen	Gary LeBlanc 281.292.0262
Sunday PM Worship	2/16/2020	2/23/2020	Craig Preuss 832.477.0578
Song Leader	Dwight Osteen	Jonathan Chandler	Evangelists
1st prayer	Lester Cockrell	Gary LeBlanc	Don Hooton 936.443.6230
Scripture Reading	Joshua Suarez — John 17:1-10	Stuart Jones — Jer. 10:23-24	<p>You can also find us here...</p> <p>WOODLANDSCHURCHOFCHRIST.org</p> <p>facebook.com/woodlandschurchofchrist</p> <p>@woodlandscc</p> <p>woodlandschurchofchrist</p> <p>woodlandschurchofchrist</p>
Lord Supper	Barrett Blankenship	Adam Bohanan	
Preaching	Don Hooton	Don Hooton	
Closing Prayer	Michael Henss	Chris Latson	
Wednesday	2/19/2020	2/26/2020	
Song Leader	Dwight Haas	Alan Stilts	SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Invitation	Adam Bohanan	Hayden Clark	Worship Assemblies
Closing Prayer	Hayden Clark	Norman Davis	Sundays at 10:20 am & 5:00 pm
Announcements	Barrett Blankenship	Keith Arrants	Bible Classes for All Ages
			Sundays 9:30 am & Wednesdays 7:00 pm