

# PROVERBS

*The Way of Wisdom*

# The Human Heart



The Issue of Anger

*"The tragedy of the modern world is that man is the master of so many things, yet has not learned to master himself. In the broadest sense, self-control describes the mastery of appetites. Guided by godly wisdom and knowledge, the wise man disciplines his appetites and makes them his servant rather than his master."*

*~Thomas L. Seals, Proverbs*



# Opening Question

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How can a man's emotions be his master? His Servant? How can we make our emotions our servants?

(see 2 Corinthians 10:5, James 1:19-20)



Wisdom is not always having something to say; it involves listening carefully, considering prayerfully, and speaking quietly.

# A Proverb to Ponder

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*"We have two ears but only one mouth that we may hear more and speak less"*

# “Slow to Anger”

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- ❧ The greatest remedy for anger is delay.
- ❧ Why be slow to anger? One reason is anger closes our minds to God's truth (see example in 2 Kings 5:11)

# The Nature of Anger

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∞ Anger is not always bad. Anger can be a motivation to action. How should we respond to anger? (Proverbs 14:29, 16:32, 19:11, 29:11)

\*Jesus Anger (Matthew 21:12-13, Mark 3:1-6)





“It is wise to direct your anger towards a problem—not people; to focus your energies on answers—not excuses.” ~ William Arthur Ward

# The Quick-Tempered Man

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- Ventilates his anger (29:11, 12:16, 14:17)
- Speaks foolish words (29:20)
- Internalizes his anger (Ephesians 4:26-27, Ecclesiastes 7:9).
- Stirs up strife (30:33, 15:18, 29:22)

# German Proverb

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*Fire in the heart makes  
smoke in the head.*

☞ Anger that is allowed to smolder and burn over time eventually burst into flames and gives the devil a foothold.

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# Anger and Strife

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- ✧ James 3:14-16 and Galatians 5:19-21
- ✧ Anger can lead to self-inflicting wounds (18:14, 27:3) and can Hurt others (Ephesians 4:29)

# Keeping it under control



How to be slow to anger (16:32)?

1. Understanding (14:29)
2. Discretion (19:11)

# Summary of lessons

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Controlling anger involves a few important things:

1. Breaking the pattern (19:19).
2. Guard the mouth (17:27-28, 21:23)
3. Overlook transgressions (19:11; Ecclesiastes 7:20-22, Eph. 4:31-32)

# Final Thought



Anger is one letter short  
of Danger...Its a  
decision!