

Anger That Threatens the Body – Ephesians 4:26–27



Introduction

Words: anger, bad, commands, God, linked, new man

Last week we began looking at what life is like as the _____.

Verse 25 showed we are truthful people because _____ is truth and we are united in the truth.

Today we come to verses 26–27 and tackle _____.

Anger is a bit like Jekyll and Hyde: one minute it is good and the next it is _____.

Paul fires off four _____ in rapid succession; they are _____ and must not be separated.

1) Righteous Anger Has a Proper Place – vs 26a

Words: action, angry, boiling over, church, commanding, conviction, God, Jesus, love, ongoing, out of control, protect, righteous, self-serving, sin, sin, truth, twisted, unity

Paul quotes Psalm 4:4: God's people are allowed to become _____.

"Be angry" is a present-tense command: it is to be _____.

This is not outward _____ or inward seething resentment.

It is more the determined, deep-seated and settled _____ of anger.

Do you realise Paul is actually _____ us to be angry? There is such a thing as _____ anger.

God became angry, and _____ became angry. What then is righteous anger? Anger against _____.

When God is misrepresented or Scripture is _____, righteous anger responds.

It seeks to _____, bring repentance, pursue justice and restoration. It is never _____.

It seeks to protect the _____ and the _____ of the body.

Godly anger can move us into _____ and cause us to protect the unity of the church.

When we have this conviction against sin, we are driven to _____ each other.

We will do what is necessary and right to help mature and unite the _____.

Paul adds a second command: "Do not _____."

If anger becomes vindictive, uncontrolled, demeaning, _____, or cherished, it has crossed into sin.

Am I angry because _____ is dishonoured and people are harmed or because I feel threatened or opposed?

2) Righteous Anger Has God-Given Limits – vs 26b

Words: actions of love, angry, attitude, help, limits, quickly, stopped, sinful

We now come to our third command: Paul puts _____ on righteous anger.

Sinful anger must always be _____ immediately.

Righteous anger can very quickly become _____.

There is a good principle here: if possible, do not go to bed _____. Sort out differences _____.

There are situations where hurt takes longer, but we must dealing with it and we may need _____.

Righteous anger must always be turned into _____.

Our _____ and thoughts must move from anger to love quickly.

3) Righteous Anger Has a Spiritual Purpose – vs 27

Words: beneficial, biblically, destroy, division, foothold, resentment, unity

As I have already said, righteous anger protects the truth and _____ of the body.

Righteous anger is _____ for the church.

If we do not deal with it biblically and let it turn sinful, we give the devil a _____.

Remember Paul's main point: unity. The devil wants to _____.

He can make us ineffective by causing _____.

This is why conflict in the church must be resolved quickly and _____.

If we do not, people build _____ and hostility—the fuel Satan needs to sow disunity.