

CouplesInBloom.com – Properly Angry

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Besides general benefits of learning from the past events of the Bible ⇨ 1 Corinthians 10:1-12, there are 13 Psalms that are *literally* didactical: circumspect therefore intelligent; contain doctrine; intended to instruct. Your Bible may use the word *maschil* (pronounced *mas-keel*), lesson or instruction. David, Ethan, and Asaph penned these by inspiration of God to us. Psalm 78 ⇨ will teach us today about God's way for us to be **properly angry**.

Worldliness says anger is self-preservation; an expected humanistic definition. God in the Bible says anger is righteousness-preservation. Read ⇨ Psalm 78. It describes three vital steps comprising **proper anger**: **1) recurring sins of God's people**, **2) God's anger manifested through His hands**, and **3) God's anger manifested through His heart**. Notice this is not about a Christian's one-time sin, nor about the sins of non-Christians. *Selah*.

Now integrate anger's two responses (*hands* and *heart*) with these Scripture verses:

- Deuteronomy 30:14 ⇨ The Word is very near you, in your mouth and in your *heart*, so that you may **do it**.
- Psalm 19:14 ⇨ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my *heart* be pleasing in Your sight, O Jehovah, my Rock and my Redeemer.
- James 1:14-15 ⇨ Each one is tempted by his own lusts, being drawn out and being seduced by them. Then having conceived lust brings forth sin. And sin being fully formed brings forth death.

Psalm 78 ⇨ says God was furious with His people for not believing (*literally* supporting) Him or trusting (*literally* hie: run for safety to) Him after His being very kind to them ⇨ verses 22-29. He sent His people problems to help them see their error ⇨ verse 33, to which they responded some ⇨ verse 34. He therefore reduced their problems ⇨ verse 38, to which they lusted after His blessings and sinned worse ⇨ verses 41+. This transitioned God to release His anger on them ⇨ verses 59-64, including to their death ⇨ verse 62.

God is love ⇨ 1 John 4:8, 16; how does death from God's *hand* match His *heart*? Remember **proper anger** includes a right *heart*; what was in God's *heart* that His *hand* would send death to His own people? Answer: afflictions of even death on this earth are comparatively nothing to the weight of eternity with God, which sin prevents entrance to. It is better to suffer to death on earth if turning from sin than to suffer eternally in hell.

Proper anger regarding *recurring sins of God's people* rightfully includes severity to harm us on earth in order that we make it into Heaven; **God's heart** for us is **relationship!**

Personal application: Understand **proper anger** and do not call it sin! It is a holy spiritual gift from God based on an eternal perspective not humanly comprisable. If our *heart* is not right when our spirit bears witness to *sins of God's people*, then **our hands will sin**... the very opposite of God's will we thought we were promoting. This hypocrisy is worse than failure: it multiplies sin. James 5:19-20 ⇨ love covers sin by a **strong hand** moved by a **relational heart**... including if death is required to accomplish that covering.

This is serious: do not let anger linger ⇨ Ephesians 4:26, but first make sure you humbly have **God's heart** ⇨ Romans 2:4 so that you are **properly angry**... **even very!** ♥