



Be ye angry, and sin not:
let not the sun go down upon your wrath:
Ephesians 4:26

CEASE FROM ANGER

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not
thyself in any wise to do evil.
Psalm 37:8

Have you heard of "Angry Birds?" "Top in App purchases for iPhone," this is a very popular game that many people of all ages love to play, hate, and play again. Here is a short description:



The survival of the Angry Birds is at stake. Dish out revenge on the greedy pigs who stole their eggs. Use the unique powers of each bird to destroy the pigs' defenses.

While I do not play this game, I know plenty of people who do—some are related to me! Most enjoy this "physics-based gameplay and hours of replay," while others quit in frustration and then return to playing later. The main idea is that the birds are angry because the greedy pigs are destroying their babies and making life miserable. Rather than sit back and take it, the birds are exacting revenge on these greedy, wicked pigs. The birds use their anger to spur them to action which in turn leads to an adventure of sorts. I have to admit the birds have a "cuteness" about them that kind of grows on you.

Anger can make for a good video or arcade game as well as a great adventure movie or book.

Most of us enjoy on some level seeing the hero of the story rise to the occasion and use his anger to get back at the dastardly villain who has caused him and his loved ones pain or sorrow. Who doesn't love to see the "good guy" win in the end? But that is for the movies, a novel, "Angry Birds," or some other video game.

For the Christian, however, anger is a serious passion that God commands us to control, cease from, and forsake. As a vessel in God's house, there is no room for anger. We do not have the luxury of dishing out revenge whenever or however we wish. Fretting leads to frustration,

which if left unchecked, will give way to a "domino effect" of irritation, resentment, anger, hatred, and bitterness.

Here in PSALM 37:8 we are expressly commanded to "cease from anger, and forsake wrath." Again we are reminded not to fret over the prosperity of the wicked or the actions of the evildoers. We are responsible to obey PRECEPTS 1-5: Trust in the Lord, and Do Good; Delight in Him, Commit the whole burden of lives to Him, and Rest in Him with calmness and quietness. Obedience to these precepts will enable us to obey PRECEPT 6 of Psalm 37. We are never to allow ourselves to give into anger or wrath.

Anger anywhere is madness, and here it is aggravated insanity. We must readily forsake it.
By no reasonings and under no circumstances are we to be led in such a course.
Charles Spurgeon

Anger has been defined as "heated emotional passion," and "an inward emotion evoked by outward action, circumstance, or situation. Here in Psalm 37, David stays in context because if we are not obeying the first five precepts, our next reaction will be anger—with each other, with those who wrong us, and with God. We are not to fret ourselves into the course of action that causes us to direct our anger toward God and His working in our lives.

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Memory Verse Challenge

The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom,
and his tongue talketh of judgment.

The law of his God is in his heart;
none of his steps shall slide.

Wait on the LORD, and keep his way,
and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land:
when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Psalm 37:30, 31, 34

Come prepared to say your verses on February 20th at the Ladies Meeting. You may also quote your verses to Crystal or Jodi at any service.

Testimony Time

By Myra Unruh

I grew up in a Pastor's home (William Fortson) and at the early age of 6, accepted the Lord as my OWN personal Savior!! I shall never forget the day and how happy I felt! At the age of 9, we had our annual missions conference and missionaries to India, Edward & Elizabeth Jelley, were our special guests. She dressed me up in my first saree. My heart was deeply touched and moved, especially, for the Enchanted Land of India. It was in that conference that I went forward and told my own Dad, "I think God is calling me to be a missionary to India." He led me to surrender my life to the Lord to do whatever He wanted and go wherever He led. I told the Lord, "If you want me to go to India, I'll go." Twenty years later, after going to Bible College, marrying a preacher, and standing by him as he pastored a church in Texas for 7 years, we found ourselves standing on the shore of India. However, on that same trip, we visited another very close-by island, Sri Lanka. It was the night we were leaving, after a short 36 hour visit, that God spoke to both our hearts at the same time and said, "This is where I want you to come and serve Me." That was 22 years ago!

It's been an exciting journey and it seems the Lord is not finished with us here YET! Four churches have been established and a fifth one was begun in November, but still it's not enough to reach the 22 million souls here, mostly Buddhists, 15% Hindus, 9% Muslims, 8% Catholics and remaining other Christian groups. I, personally, enjoy my part in teaching the Bible to ladies, children, teens, and also giving piano lessons.

We've raised four children here. Three are grown and back in the states. Two are married, with two children each. One daughter, who served as a missionary in England reaching Muslims for four years, is now a Missions teacher at an Independent Baptist Bible school. The youngest, Jeremiah, 15, is still at home with us. Please pray for us - the hardest part in all of this is being separated from children AND grandchildren. There are also challenges of a teen living in a foreign country (his homeland is a foreign country to him!! This is otherwise known as being a "Third-Culture Kid"). Also, please pray for all of the churches here who rent - we need buildings of our own!

We deeply appreciate all of you back home who make it possible for us to win souls here because of your sacrificial giving and prayers. We are indeed PARTNERS in this world and in His harvest fields!

PS - I just wanted to briefly share with you that in a very recent evangelistic meeting we had, a lady doctor was saved!! The next night, she brought her husband along, also a doctor, and HE got saved, too! It was a miraculous story, as she was a Hindu!

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We are not to be angry at anything God does, but forsake that wrath—the worst kind of wrath there can be.

Matthew Henry

WHAT?!!! We are not allowed to be fretful, frustrated, envious, angry, malicious, jealous, or wrathful at the wicked—no matter what they do!!! WHY? WHY NOT?!!! Because the wicked and evildoers are in God's Hand—and He is angry with them already. But His Divine Anger seeks justice, intercession, discipline, and repentance. But one day His Longsuffering will come to an end. The Righteous Judge will call them to court and judge them according to their deeds. God will take care of the future. All things are under His Sovereign Control. We must not allow mere mortal man to frustrate us or cause us to do evil ourselves. Our human anger is connected with pride, cruelty, gossip, strife, and contention. It is a work of the flesh that leads us into further sin.

All is in God's hands. No oppressor can rage against us unless the Lord permits. He Who gives our foe permission to annoy us in measure, hold the other end of the chain and will keep him in bounds.

Charles Spurgeon

We must choose to be obedient servants—vessels that are ready to be filled with all we need for our tasks, duties, and assignments. We are not "Angry Birds" with a desire to exact revenge on the "greedy pigs" in our lives who make life miserable for us. We are earthen vessels filled with a most precious treasure Who teaches us that there is a place for righteous anger.

Please join us Monday, February 20, 2012, for LESSON 4 of WHAT'S IN YOUR VESSEL? We will be studying PRECEPT 6 and its accompanying PROMISE—we can cease from human anger and wrath; and we must in order to be vessels that are useful, ready, and clean for the Master's Service.

Mrs. Twila



ARGENTINA RICKEY & ANGELA FREEMAN

The Freemans are in the middle of their summer camp ministry. The first week of camp was attended by 143 people and four made profession of faith. The Freemans pray that the remaining camps will be as successful.

The Freemans have been trying for over a year to secure a new facility for their church. They had found a location that seemed right for their congregation and the owners seemed willing to sell at an agreed upon price. That was before the Freemans left for a three month furlough. During the time the Freemans were gone inflation increased nearly 35%. Now the owners say they cannot accept the agreed upon price and are insisting that they must have an additional \$30,000. This church does not have funds to match this increase. Please pray that neither the Freemans nor their people would become discouraged by this apparent set-back and that the Lord would lead them to a facility that would perfectly accommodate their growing congregation.

Updates from this missionary can be viewed by visiting the *South American Missions* page of our website.

RUSSIA VLADIMIR & DEBBIE LUKYONOV



The Lukyanovs and the ladies of their church are preparing to host their annual ladies conference. Their theme is "Home Sweet Home" taken from Joshua 24:15. Each year the Lukyanovs have seen one or two ladies saved at or after this conference and they are praying that this year will also bring forth fruit. The Lukyanovs are excited to see their ladies taking an active part in ministry and trying to reach other women.

To view this letter in its entirety please visit the *European Missions* page on our website.

OTHER MISSIONARY REQUESTS & NEWS



CYNTHIA CONNOR ROCK OF AGES

On November 28, Cynthia had a procedure done that was suppose to correct an arrhythmia. During the procedure the doctor could not find the problem. He then ordered additional tests and discovered she had been misdiagnosed. She has Atrial Fibrillation. The medication he has prescribed seems to be helping. Please keep Cynthia and her health in your prayers.

MARILYN TRASK BRAZIL



In November, Marilyn suffered a ruptured disc and her sciatica caused constant pain. She is under a doctor's care and treatment and although she is getting better, the pain is ever present. Would you pray that this back injury would not prevent her from helping her husband in the ministry to which they have been called?



DEBBIE WILLIAMS MEXICO

After battling cancer for a number of years, on January 23, Debbie went home to be with her Lord. She is survived by her husband, Mark, and three adult children. Her testimony was one of Godly faithfulness, even to the end. Please keep her family in your prayers.

ELIZABETH J ASIA



Elizabeth is expecting their fifth child in March. Pray for the safety of mother and baby!

People who fly into a rage
always make a bad landing.
Will Rogers

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves,
but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written,
Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.
Romans 12:19

UPCOMING EVENTS

HEARTLAND WEEKEND

Friday, February 3 | Youth Rally | 7 pm
Saturday, February 4 | Youth Activity | 9 am
Sunday, February 5 | Heartland Sunday
9:45 am - Combined SS for K and older
10:45 am - Morning Service
5:00 pm - Testimonies | Singing | Evening Service

FEBRUARY LADIES MEETING

Monday, February 20 | 7 pm
Challenge - Psalm 37:30, 31, 34

REVIVAL MEETING

With Dave McCracken
March 11 - 14

LORD'S SUPPER

Tuesday, April 3 | 7 pm

EMPORIA LADIES RETREAT

Friday - Saturday, April 20-21
More details as they become available.

Ladies Ministering to Ladies Reminders

The ladies on 'notice' to provide meals
for the month of February:

Gladys Samuels & Doris Swartz
Kathy O'Connell & Dara Smith
Brandi Brenner & Sharon Brenner

Opportunity to Encourage

Send a note to encourage these ladies:
Please consult your directory for addresses.

Tammy Bridges

Carolyn Ratcliff

An angry man stirreth up strife,
and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.
Proverbs 29:22

Wherefore, my beloved brethren,
let every man be swift to hear,
slow to speak, slow to wrath:
For the wrath of man worketh
not the righteousness of God.
James 1:19-20



A soft answer turneth away wrath:
but grievous words stir up anger.
Proverbs 15:1