

## LET GOD BE YOUR AVENGER!

James 1:13-25

### I. BIBLICAL WARNINGS ABOUT MAN'S ANGER!

Most of our anger is not good! It is not good for us and it is not good for those around us. James 1:19-25. Would you like a blessing tonight: Then listen to God's Word as He tells us what He thinks about our anger! James 1:26-27: We are to become slow to anger. Many think just because I don't outwardly show my anger all is well. Anger bottled up will sooner or later explode. Seeking our own revenge may seem the right path to take but it leads to heartache. Usually our anger is a lot of man and very little of God. Our Lord got angry but always was without sin: Mark 3:1-6: our Lord becomes angry with stubborn hearts: Psalm 4:4; Ephesians 4:26-27. Satan wants to control our thoughts: John 10:10. James 1:19-20; Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 4:31-32.

### II. OUR ANGER AND UNFORGIVENESS ARE SIGNS OF UNBELIEF!

It is very dangerous for the child of God to become and stay angry. Matthew 16:14-15. Staying angry when God says we are not to stay angry is a sin. Not forgiving others when God tells us to forgive others is a sin! God who is the Great Physician has given us a prescription: "Put off anger!" If you really believe that would be good for you: you would do it. So step one to gain control over your anger is to believe God! Step two is to learn to cherish the fact that our God has forgiven us. Ephesians 4:32-5:2. When we marvel at our God's forgiveness of our sins we cannot help but forgive those who sin against us. Matthew 18:21-35; Matthew 6:12. We need to trust our God of justice to make sure that true justice prevails. Romans 12:19-21. Our Lord gives us His promise that if we get our anger out of the way, He will exact a perfect payment. Galatians 6:7-10. Are you willing to let God be your avenger? Our Lord Jesus is our example here also: 1 Peter 2:21-24; Luke 23:32-34.

### III. GIVE GOD YOUR ANGER!

We need to trust our God to turn the cause of our anger to our good. Genesis 50:15-21; 1 Peter 1:6-7. Our God allows trouble to come into His children's lives to refine us and make us more like our Lord Jesus. As the heat of our trial goes up, our faith is tested. As the heat goes up the dross in our lives comes to the surface. You can stay angry and nothing happens to the dross. You can surrender your anger to the Lord and bless those who persecute you and God will take the dross out of your heart. 1 Corinthians 10:13. The way of forgiveness, faith, peace, joy and love is our escape. The only question is will we take God's way of escape?