

MAD AT GOD

Following last week's lesson on "Getting Rid of Anger" a member asked me this question, "What do you do when you stay mad at God and don't know why?"

This is an interesting comment because it reveals a history as well as suppression of some personal issue.

It is because of this very reason that Paul demanded that we "do not let the sun go down upon our anger." (Eph.4:26-27) It helps eliminates personal baggage, suppression, and avoidance.

This comment also reveals a conflict of conscience (right and wrong). Here is how this conflict of conscience would normally play out: "I know that it is wrong to be angry at God and yet I can't seem to stop felling this way." This is why it is important to deal with it right away.

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of how to resolve being Mad at God in CWL.

1. One reason you can't stop feeling this way is because in the beginning you felt justified (in the right) regarding this anger.

You felt justified in what you believed whether it was actually true or false. Cain is an example of this principle. Actually Cain's anger toward God was unjustified, even though he believed it was justified.

It was unjustified based on the absolute standard of the word of God (Gen.4:5-7).

- If you do well (yatab / hiphil impf) If you are motivated (Positive Volition) to keep on doing the right thing?)
- If you do **not** do well (lo yatab / hiphil impf)

Yatab (well) means **doing the right thing** based on the word of God. **Always doing the right thing** according to the perfect standard of the word of God. For Cain's offering, this meant bringing a blood offering of shadow Christology for atonement from AOS.

Then why did Cain Mad at God? And why did he feel justified in this anger?

2. Cain is mad at God because he is operating from Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) distorted thinking (Eph.4:22-27).

OMCD is in opposition to Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) regarding atonement from Adam's Original Sin (AOS). Cain's distortion was to believe that bringing his best to God would be good enough to gain the favor, or grace of God regarding atonement from AOS (Rom.3:20-24, 28; Gal.2:16-21).

This is the Devil's scheme of self-righteousness working through Cain's ascetic trend. The Devil did a similar thing with Eve and Adam. This doctrinal principle caused Paul to write: "In order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes." (2 Cor.2:11)

3. During the study of Job, we learned the following principle that can be applied to this lesson. (Job 11:13-19).

False assumptions => false interpretations, => false expectations, => false applications.

This is also a formula of OMCD thinking.

Let me apply this principle to Cain's OMCD thinking and review the results:

- False assumption A bloodless offering will be sufficient for atonement from AOS.
- False interpretation My best will be acceptable to God.
- False expectation My best will gain the favor or grace of God.
- False application Cain's bloodless offering was rejected.

Unfortunately, when Cain's OMCD thinking was challenged, he was unwilling to change his mind (repent) to a thought pattern compatible with CBD (Gen.4:7).

A warning was given to Cain of what would happen if he didn't repent: "**If you do well (wisdom)**, will not your countenance be lifted up? And **if you do not do well (warning)**, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it (winning)." (Gen.4:7)

4. **There may be several reasons believers may have a personal history with being Mad at God.**

One reason it may be is because it is a snapshot in your memory center of some traumatic past experience, a traumatic experience that you have suppressed (don't remember why) in order to survive or to keep going in your life, working hard to make the best out of a bad situation.

You may have concluded that God wasn't there for you: "Why didn't God protect me or if You, God can part the Red Sea why can't or why won't you protect me? Why does God intervene for others but not for me?"

This makes you feel unworthy and battling low self-esteem as a person - perhaps carried over into you adult life.

Another reason you may have a history of being Mad at God is because God won't allow it to stay suppressed. Joseph's brothers were in this category (Gen.37:5, 8, 18-20) dream and hate and traumatic experience; (Gen.42:21-22) guilt of trauma; (Gen.45:5-8) grief and anger with self verses God's perfect plan.

5. **Job's anger was different than Cain's in that it was justified because his suffering was justified.**

He struggled with why the righteous suffer and the wicked seemed to get a pass (Job 17:13-16; 21:7-14; 24; 27:2).

He struggled because of the lack of biblical knowledge regarding undeserved suffering. As a result of the lack of CBD in this specific area he went to the false assumption-thinking pattern of OMCD rather than to New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMDV) thinking.

NMDV would have taken James' advice: "But if any one of you **lacks wisdom**, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach and it will be given to him. But let him **ask in faith without any doubting**, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind." (James 1:5-6) In the end, Job did this very thing (Job 38).

Job did what Paul suggested about justified anger: "Be angry but do not sin." **Possible gate question:** What would have been Job's sin? It would have been to curse God to His face (Job 2:9-10). (Job 1:8-9; 2:3-5; 6:29; 9:14-15; 12:4)