

3/24/24, Ecclesiastes 7:9 “The Angry Testimony”

ESV, *Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools.*

KJV, *Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.*

JPS, *Don't let your spirit be quickly vexed, for vexation abides in the breast of fools.*

לְכַעֵס לְבָרִיחַךְ אֶל-תְּבַהֲלָהּ (al_t'-va-HĀL b'-ROO-ach-kha li-kh'-ŌS)

יִנּוּחַ כִּי כַעַס בְּחַיִּק כְּסִילִים יִנּוּחַ (khiy kha-AS b'-KHĀQ kh'-siy-LIYM ya-NOO-ach)

I. Particular Insights from this Verse

A. instances when Jesus was angry (indignant)

1. *anger*, Mark 3:5
2. *indignant*, Mark 10:14

B. instances when we assume Christ's anger

1. *making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple*, John 2:13-17

C. instruction from the New Testament

1. Eph 4:26-27, *Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and give no opportunity to the devil.*
2. Jas 1:19, *Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;*

D. anger - כַּעַס (kha-AS)

1. Ecc 5:17 “sorrow”
2. Prov 12:16 “vexation” (ESV); “wrath” (KJV)

E. fools - כְּסִילִים (kh'-siy-LIYM)

1. Ecc 2:14, 15, 16; 4:5, 13; 5:1, 3, 4; 6:8; 7:4, 6; 9:17; 10:2, 12, 15

F. conclusions

1. Anger is common to all human beings.
2. Anger is an intimate and abiding characteristic of fools.
3. Anger unchecked fails to submit to a sovereign God.
4. Abiding anger presents a poor testimony of Christian confession.
5. How is anger remedied?
 - a. “Is my anger Christlike?”
 - b. “Is Christ exalted when I'm angry?”
 - c. When I learn to become quick to hear (God's Word) & slow to speak (my opinions from the flesh, but meditate upon what God has spoken in His Word), I will become slow to anger.