

Be Angry and Do not Sin! Ephesians 4:26,27

- Note carefully how 4:26 is positioned in the text:
 - a) v.25 its *neighbor* is the tongue: easy to sin in speech when we are angry
 - b) v.27 other *neighbor* Satan: swift to take advantage of powerful motives
- Paul's concern is the formation and maturity of the new man in Christ.

I. Paul's Command: Be Angry (4:26a)

- Paul is quoting Psalm 4:4 directly from the Septuagint (LXX)
- “Be angry” lit. tremble and do not sin– swerve from sin
- David is referencing the evil men that love what is worthless (Ps 4:3)
- David's point – righteous anger is good – but there is also danger

II. Paul's Warning: Three Negatives about Anger (4:26b-27)

- Paul's use of present imperative commands a righteous anger in our life
- But in that “righteous anger” Paul warns us ‘**do not sin.**’
- Command brings us to our knees, no one in their own strength is able
- There is place for righteous anger, but it must not morph into sinful anger
- Paul qualifies his command for us to be angry with three clear negatives

1. Do not sin

- Anger must be free of, injured pride, spite, malice, animosity, revenge

2. Do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

- don't nurse it, let it smolder

3. Give no place to the Devil

- Taken to bed it is likely that the devil will use it for his purposes