

How to Deal With an Angry Man
A Study of King Saul and David
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Introduction: Life is often “unfair.”

- A. You will be tested by “spear throwers” in your life!
 - 1. We should not be surprised when this happens. **(1 Pt 3:13-17)**
 - 2. I had to learn the hard way that angry men rarely yield to reason.
- B. These occasions will show you what kind of faith you really have.
 - 1. We have a great example of this situation in King Saul and David.
 - 2. In the end David had developed a stronger faith in God.

I. An angry man does not act upon reason and principle

- A. Many have not learned to fight the sin of uncontrolled anger.
 - 1. There is a proper place for anger but we often go beyond it. **(Eph 4:26-27)**
 - 2. The world is taught this anger as a way of life. They are willingly accepting a cancer of the soul.
 - 3. Many Christian’s have neglected this as well.
 - a. Some treat it as a fleabite. **(1 Jn 3:15)**
 - b. Others laugh at it. Do you want to go to heaven? **(Gal 5:19-21)**
 - 4. Many come from angry homes and have learned this as a way of life.
 - a. An alcoholic home commonly has anger at its root.
 - b. Some of the angriest people that I have known would deny it.
- B. It is not uncommon to have an enemy without a cause! **(Ps 35:19; 69:4)**
 - 1. How can this be? This is a common tool of Satan!
 - 2. A Christian’s effectiveness can be blocked to one who has listened to gossip! **(Prov 18:19)**
 - 3. A person can do you wrong and then hate you! **(Prov 26:28)**
- C. Saul became David’s enemy because of envy. **(1 Sam 18:7-9)**
 - 1. David would do anything for Saul! Even though David tried to help, this was something completely beyond David’s ability to change.
 - 2. Jealousy and Anger made Saul a crazy man!
 - 3. This is why the Jewish leaders killed Jesus. **(Mk 15:10)**

II. An angry man will use any weapon at his disposal

- A. This is what you would expect when Satan is in control! **(Prov 14:29, 17)**
 - 1. Saul became a spear thrower! **(1 Sam 18:10-11)**
 - 2. There is no thought as to consequences or to really look at David’s innocence. What can David do?
- B. Saul pretended to care for David but actually wanted to harm him.
 - 1. He pushed for David to marry one of his daughters as an “honor” to him.
 - 2. His real motive was for David’s harm. **(1 Sam 18:17, 20-21, 25)**
 - 3. It takes time for David to learn the difference between what Saul said and what he thought!
 - 4. An angry man will blindly sacrifice his family for his anger. **(Eph 6:4)**

III. An angry man is often successfully in lining up others to his cause

- A. Saul tried to manipulate and then kill his own son Jonathan!
 - 1. Saul openly asks others to kill David. **(1 Sam 19:1)**
 - 2. For the moment Saul listens to reason and proclaims what is right! **(1 Sam 19:4-6)**
 - 3. Because Saul's life was based on the flesh and not on principle, he returns to his bitterness and tries to kill David again. **(1 Sam 19:9-10)**
 - 4. Listen to his appeal to Jonathan: "If you want to be king – Kill David!" **(1 Sam 20:30-31)**
 - 5. As a man of faith, Jonathan rejects this temptation and plainly tells the truth. Saul, in turn, tries to kill Jonathan. **(1 Sam 20:32-33)**
 - 6. An angry man hates the one who places reason in the way of his anger!
- B. Saul was very successful in lining up those in Israel that lived by the flesh.
 - 1. David spared the city of Keilah from the Philistines and thus should have been safe there. God revealed to him the real "loyalty" of these people. **(1 Sam 23:11-12)**
 - 2. Many out of fear or favor to an angry man will sell you out! Sadly some churches are filled with cowardly men who will not stand up.
 - 3. David found himself surrounded by new enemies because others wanted to please King Saul. Consider the Ziphites. **(1 Sam 23:19-20)**
 - 4. Please remember that God will stand with you when men run away. The greatest hurt will come from your brethren! **(Psa 55:4-5, 12-14)**

IV. How can one "defeat" an angry man?

- A. Nothing will test your faith in God as much as dealing with an unreasonable, deceitful, hate-filled person.
 - 1. A hard lesson to learn is that you cannot change another against their will!
 - 2. The Psalms are filled with pleas to God for deliverance from enemies. Let this draw you closer to God. **(Ps 13:2; 25:2, 19; 42:9-11)**
- B. Satan will strongly tempt you to become like your enemy.
 - 1. What does the world say? Some Christians think that once someone "fires the first shot" then all "rules" are off!
 - 2. What did Jesus do with His enemies? **(1 Pt 2:21-24)**
 - a. Jesus responded this way because He trusted God.
 - b. We are greatly challenged to respond in the same way. **(Rom 12:17-21)**
- C. This adversity should cause you to draw closer to God. **(Psa 27:11-14)**
 - 1. The world will scream at you: "Hit him back!"
 - 2. There is a calmness and a strength that come from knowing the battle is God's and that He will deliver. **(Psa 60:12; 61:2-4; 31:8)**
 - 3. While your enemy frets and plots in his self-defeating bitterness, you can move on and rejoice in the manifold blessings of God. **(Psa 23:4-6)**
 - 4. You also will draw closer to Christians! What a blessing!

Conclusion: Are you a child of God or an enemy of God?

- A. God will defeat every enemy in time. How will it be for you? **(Heb 1:13; 10:12-13)**
- B. God's love can defeat your bitterness if you would seek it.