

## MOSES – LIFE OF DESTINY #14 “Wisdom in Anger”

Exodus 11:8-9

*Moses faces repeated frustration by Pharaoh: He gets angry. Responding correctly to anger is a key to being a man of God.*

**Exodus 11:8-9** <sup>8</sup>And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, ‘Get out, and all the people who follow you!’ After that I will go out.” Then he went out from Pharaoh in great anger. <sup>9</sup>But the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not heed you, so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”

### I. THE REALITY OF ANGER

#### A. Life and ministry are emotional

1. Things happen that affect your emotions: **V8** *Then he went out from Pharaoh in great anger.*
  - a. Life has many things that go wrong/fail to go right
  - b. Ministry is filled with irritations/disappointments/violations
2. A common emotion in life is anger: *To burn/become hot/to breathe through the nostrils*
  - a. Anger is an expression of dislike: I’m not happy with what is currently happening
    1. **Ephesians 4:26** *When you are angry, do not sin...*

#### B. There is actually a place in life and ministry for healthy anger

1. We call this Righteous indignation: *We get upset at the right people/for the right reasons/in the right way*
  - a. Moses is upset on behalf of suffering people – and for the will of God
2. Righteous indignation is emotional – but it produces healthy actions

### II. INCORRECT ANGER

#### A. The problem is that we make mistakes in anger

1. **We can get angry at the wrong people:** *Pastors upset at people not there – so they blast those who are!*
2. **We can allow anger to spill over onto the wrong people:**
  - a. People who lash out at others are often upset at someone else - or angry at themselves
    1. *Man having a nightmare - started choking his wife: All I saw is Vietcong!*
  - b. Very common those in ministry allow life/ministry frustrations to spill over in marriage/family
3. **We can allow anger to damage our credibility with God’s people:**
  - a. Moses lost future destiny b/c he was upset with people: **Numbers 20:10–11** <sup>10</sup>And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?” <sup>11</sup>Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.
    1. *There once was a Pastor who had to be removed after he started shouting/cussed people out*
    - b. It’s really hard for people to respect you/listen to you if you can’t control anger
4. **We can allow anger to cause damage with unbelievers:**
  - a. Notice: Moses was angry at Pharaoh – but he didn’t tell Pharaoh what he thought of him!
    1. This could cause problems to be worse!
    2. He needed Pharaoh to let them go
  - b. This is our testimony: We represent God to unbelievers: *Witnessing; Well hell’s not, pal!*

### III. WINNING OVER ANGER

#### A. Moses got perspective in advance: God told him Pharaoh would not respond

1. **It’s important to be realistic:** *Life won’t always go well/people will disappoint/frustrate you*
  - a. Factor that in so you’re not spun out: *How can this be happening?*
  - b. Part of this is surrendering our pride: *You’re not so special that problems can’t happen to you!*
2. **Moses spoke to God:** **V9** *But the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not heed you, so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”*
  - a. Moses had to learn to leave troubling people and situations with God
    1. *God – only You can work this out! So no point in me getting all worked up and having a stroke!*
3. **Anger is an indicator:** Like a dash gauge – the engine is getting hot; Stop! Get checked/get coolant
  - a. For me: When I am getting irritated/snappy at my wife – I am spiritually depleted
    1. *I take time to spend extra time reading my Bible/feeding my soul*
  - b. What’s going on inside will affect what happens outside!