

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!