

# Make a Difference: Do You Do Well to Be Angry

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Jonah 4:1-4, 6, 8-11; James 1:7-8

<sup>1</sup> This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry.

<sup>2a</sup> So he complained to the LORD about it: “Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? Jonah 4:1–2a

<sup>4b</sup> That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. Jonah 4:2b

<sup>3</sup> Just kill me now, LORD! I’d rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen.” <sup>4</sup> The LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry about this?”  
Jonah 4:3-4

<sup>1</sup> This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. Jonah 4:1

Jonah has an enemy named Nineveh.

You can have lots of reasons to be angry. Comes from perceiving something evil/destructive/wrong is happening.

What does it mean when God’s goodness seems wrong? It means you have a competing god. How do you know what your idol is?

Jonah’s response to God: I hate the life you gave me. There is no purpose or hope.

If God is not your security and meaning in life, then you don’t have any.

<sup>2</sup> So he complained to the LORD about it: “Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. Jonah 4:2

<sup>3</sup> Just kill me now, LORD! I’d rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen.” Jonah 4:3

<sup>7</sup> That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does. James 1:7–8

Doubt = split/divided No divided loyalty Pure in heart

<sup>4</sup> The LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry about this?” Jonah 4:4

<sup>4</sup> And the LORD said, “Do you do well to be angry?” Jonah 4:4

Is your anger accomplishing any of this? To be good, be pleasing, be well, be glad, be joyful, to be well-placed, to make a thing good or right or beautiful.

Is your anger making life better? What God does your anger serve?

<sup>6</sup> This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant. Jonah 4:6

<sup>8</sup> The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. Jonah 4:8

<sup>9</sup> Then God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry because the plant died?” “Yes,” Jonah retorted, “even angry enough to die!” Jonah 4:9

<sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said, “You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. Jonah 4:10

The shade and the plant were an illustration from God to show Jonah’s divided heart.

<sup>11</sup> But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn’t I feel sorry for such a great city?” Jonah 4:11

The cure for a divided heart comes when you realize the radical grace of God. How God loves you is how God loves them.

Make God the God of your life every day.