

Proverbs: Lessons from the Wisdom of Solomon
Seven Deadly Sins: Wrath
Proverbs 15:18

We live in a society that has anger issues. Violence and anger have been in the hearts of men since history began to be recorded. Each generation of humanity has expressed anger in its own way. Our generation will be marked in history by things like incivility, mass shootings, and terrorism. We, like generations before ours, like stories of revenge and retribution.

Anger _____ and anger _____ are the same.

What _____ in the heart seldom _____ in the heart.

1. Anger destroys _____.
2. Anger deters _____.
3. Anger delays _____.
4. Anger desires _____.

The bottom line is that if we are wrathful people it is because we do not believe the gospel. If we have problems with people, it is because we have problems with Jesus. We have been told time again through the teachings of Jesus that forgiveness, not anger, is essential to the Christian life. We need to let go of our grudges, let go of our bitterness, understand that lost people are lost, and Christian people are fallible and broken. We gather to worship and study every week in order to remember and rehearse the gospel so that when the time comes and someone wrongs us, we can respond to them with the heart of Jesus.

Reflection

Why do we love revenge stories? What is right about our desire for revenge and what is wrong about it? What are some ways that we are wrathful that are not necessarily violent? We didn't cover this topic, but according to Proverbs 24:17-18, how does God feel when we rejoice over our enemies' failures? How is that a form of sinful wrath? How did Jesus endure the injustice of the cross? What does that mean for those who claim to follow Him? How does the cross help you forgive others? What are some practical things that you need to do as a result of this Seven Deadly Sins series?