"SLOW TO WRATH"

(James 1:19-20)

INTRODUCTION - "So then, my beloved, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not ("works not") produce the righteousness of God."

#### 1. **DEFINITIONS**

"Slow" - not so fast; ease up; reduce-speed; count to 10.

### "Wrath" / "Anger"

- W.E. Vine "Wrath" "hot anger, passion, for which see Anger" (Revelation 16:19) "the fierceness of His wrath" and (Rev. 19:15)" "Anger" "came to signify the strongest of all passions; an agitated of feelings, outburst from inward indignation, ... In verb form, denotes to fight with great animosity, to be very angry, to be exasperated; soon angry; signifies to be provoked to anger."
- **J.B. Coffman commentary** "If we treat men according to the first prompts of anger, we shall almost always do them wrong."
  - (2 Corinthians 12:20) "outbursts of wrath" and note (Galatians 5:19-20; Colossians 3:8); Ephesians 4:31)
- Cruden's Concordance "Wrath" heading reads, "Generally the Revised Versions use the more modern terms anger, vexation, indignation, fury" then gives listing of verses where "wrath" is used.
- Merriam-Webster Thesaurus "Wrath" "see anger."

  "Anger" "showing strong displeasure or temper; heated; irate; really upset; out-rage; steamed; mad; provoked; ire and irk"

(Ephesians 4:26) "Be angry, and do not sin ... "

## 2. BIBLE STORIES FOR ILLUSTRATION

- Samson these verses summarize the story: (Judges 14:1-2, v10-17, (v19) "his anger was so aroused," v20 15:2, v3-5) "in his anger," v6, v7-8 and v15-16, 16:4-21, v22-31)
- 2) Naaman -

(2 Kings 5:10-12) "... But Naaman became furious ... So he turned and went away in a rage ... "

### 3) King Ahasuerus

- (Esther 1:12) "But Queen Vashti refused to come at the kink's command ... therefore the king was furious, and his anger burned within him."

  (2:1) "... when the wrath of King Ahasuerus subsided ... "
- 4) Haman (Esther 3:5-6) "Haman was filled with wrath ...

  Haman sought to destroy all the Jews ..." ends in (7:9-10)
- 5) King Asa (2 Chronicles 16:7-13) "angry ... enraged ... "
- 6) King Herod (Matthew 2:16-17) "was exceedingly angry"
- 7) When Jesus read in the synagogue (Luke 4:16-21) (v28-30) "So all those ... were filled with wrath ... "

### 3. FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

(Proverbs 15:1, 19:11, 27:3-4, 12:16, 14:29, 19:19-20, 30:33) (Ecclesiastes 7:9)

# 4. EXHORTATIONS FOR US

- (Psalm 37:1-11) "Do not fret ... trust in the Lord ... do good ... feed on His faithfulness ... delight yourself also in the Lord ... commit your way to the Lord ... rest in the Lord, and wait patiently ... cease from anger, and forsake wrath ... wait on the Lord ... "
- (1 Peter 2:20-24) "... He did not revile in return ... He did not threaten ... that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness ... "
- (Romans 12:19-20) "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath ... overcome evil with good."
- (Ephesians 4:26) "Be angry, but do not sin ... "
- (James 1:19-20) "... slow to wrath, for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."