

Anger, an Attribute of God and Man

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Masterful Discourses and Writings of Orson Pratt, comp. N. B.

Lundwall (SLC: Bookcraft, Inc., 1962), pp. 377–378.

... For wise purposes, God has given you appetites and passions, and has given you laws to control the same. **Do not pray for these attributes of your nature to be taken away**; but pray for strength and grace to submit them to the will of him who has given them to you.

Anger is a passion wisely given to intelligent beings, intended for a good purpose; but it is one easily perverted by fallen beings into an instrument of much evil. It is a passion pertaining to the Almighty, who is angry with the wicked every day. **Righteous anger is** a feeling of indignation against sin, a feeling of justice, **a feeling that the evil doer merits punishment**. This kind of anger is justifiable, whether it exists in the bosom of God, angels, or men; but anger founded upon any other principle is sinful, and when cultivated and indulged in out of its proper channel, it brings misery and wretchedness upon all its unhappy votaries. Because we are so liable to sin through an improper indulgence of anger, is it right to pray for a destruction of the attribute? It certainly is not; for if man were dispossessed of this attribute, he would be unfit for a kingdom, throne, he would be unfit for the society of the heavenly hosts, unfit for celestial, terrestrial, or telestial glory. **Anger**, founded on justice and properly governed, **is essential to the happiness of every kingdom**; without it there could be no exaltation, no glory, and man would cease to be man, and dwindle into a nondescript something, beneath the animal creation. (*Millennial Star*, 28:473-475; July 28, 1866.)