



Hill Cliffe Study Guide
Sunday 21 Jan 2024
#3 Slow to Anger

1. What impacted you most from the Sermon on Sunday?

Please read again Exodus 34.5

2. What image of God comes to your mind when you see God and anger in the same sentence?
3. Imagine 3 different people who view God in the following 3 ways...
 - a. Person 1 views God as volatile, unpredictable, and quick-tempered.
 - b. Person 2 views God as judgy - always waiting to pounce on every failure and sin. His gun always loaded and ready to fire on any who step out of line.
 - c. Person 3 views God as passive and non-judgmental - tolerant of everyone and everything (especially of me) – like a permissive parent in a home where the child is the king or queen. How would each of these people be likely to relate to their God?
4. Why does it matter so much that we strive to grasp an authentic understanding of who God is from scripture?

Please read Psalm 78.38-41; Psalm 11.4-7; Psalm 130.1-4; Jonah 4.2; Nahum 1.3,14; Galatians 5.22-23

5. How do these passages help us start to understand what it means that God is 'slow to anger'?

Human anger is often accompanied by a loss of self-control – and is often followed by impulsive actions – seldom properly considered - always carrying consequences – often causing unnecessary pain and regret. In our anger we often lash out in ways that are disproportionate and unjust. God's anger is different. God's anger is a slow burn – it's never impulsive - his angry emotions never get the better of him, so he never acts with reckless haste and violent thoughtlessness – His anger is proportionate and just, and never filled with morning-after remorse and regret.

Please read Mark 3.1-6; John 2.13-15

6. How could Jesus also be described as someone who is slow to anger?
7. What does Jesus get angry about?

Please read Colossians 3.5-7; 2 Peter 3.4, 8-10

8. What response from us is wise considering the judgement of God to come?