

## Why Are We So Angry?

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by Wayne Goff

I was listening to a sports talk radio show while driving last week and the hosts were asking the question: "Why are we **so angry** these days?" They referenced the attitude in the sports world from the 90's when Bill Clinton was impeached versus today's sports world that "sits" during the national anthem to protest perceived injustices. The question is an interesting one, and they never did come up with an exact answer. But consider this question from a biblical standpoint.

*"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).*

Go back and read that paragraph again and I think this may help to answer the question of why our society is so angry today. When men remove God from their consciousness, and focus solely upon themselves they **become boasters, proud, blasphemers, unthankful, unholy, unloving, and unforgiving** — an angry crowd if you ask me. Now "the last days" are not necessarily the end of time, but during this last dispensation of time, or during the Christian age. Nonetheless, a violent society is doomed to self-destruct if it does not change its ways. The clarion call today for America is **"Return to God — for your own good and for the good of all mankind!"** Personally, I don't think Americans will heed the call until it is too late, or until something disastrous befalls us as a nation. I hope and pray that I am wrong.

But again, look at another Bible passage and compare it with the previous one:

*"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them" (Romans 1:26-32).*

Once again you see the source of the anger problem: *"Even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge"*! **A God-centered mind** is a wonderful thing because it seeks to please God first and man second. But it seeks to please. An God-absent mind is *"debased"* and gives itself over to all kinds of evils, not the least of which include **haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful!** *Does anything just jump off the page at you here?* It should!

So I think the biblical answer to our question of why our society is so angry is because we are so unhappy with others and ourselves! There is no higher purpose for being and living than ourselves. There is nobody who is going to sacrifice everything for "me"! Since the "me" crowd cannot get what they want, they become extremely angry and agitated. The next step is to express that anger, bitterness, and resentment with violence.

Ironically, this society will try *everything but God* to figure out their problem. They will fail because there is no higher purpose for doing so. All we as Christians can do is teach others when they are teachable. Until then, let's sit back and watch to see if God's Word is not accurate.

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