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## Draw Nigh Unto Me .... Part 86

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### Defaced - Week 78

God's Coming Spiritual Revolution - Part 25

So how do spiritual longings retard the growth of Spiritual Desire? (continued)

I closed last week sharing about brethren who have occasionally spoken with me about how they were so angry with God that they let Him know, in no uncertain terms, of what they were feeling.

I do admit that just like everyone else I can get angry over things of life however to direct personal anger toward God is something I myself cannot even imagine myself doing.

**I understand that we are free to bring anything to the Altar of our True Spiritual Father through Jesus Christ, In Whom Love & Forgiveness is ours, freely given.**

I am also aware that Jesus is the one who can already See&Know every situation & circumstance in my life for what could I possibly hide from Him?

Despite, or more likely because of this knowledge, I cannot perceive myself ever to be inclined to come to God in the manner that these brethren spoke of.

For it is one thing to speak out & share what your feeling even if He already can See&Know the situation, circumstance or emotional state you are in.

**However, it is entirely another thing to direct your anger at God as though He is responsible for your situation or because you perceive He has delayed or taken no action in your circumstance.**

Thank God that even in the midst of so many seemingly disastrous situations encountered throughout my walk in Christ I have never found myself directing anger at God.

As a man, I was brought up to honour & respect my elders & authorities & therefore if anything I usually find myself directing any anger away consciously toward either others or myself.

Probably, if I could face the truth, I would find it is too often subconsciously aimed at myself.

In this life, I believe it is crucial that we learn to **honour & respect**, to give worth to others & fear to lose their respect.

And in our Spiritual Life to **Respect & Honour**, to know the Fear of the Lord, declaring Him Worthy so that True Wisdom might begin its journey in us.

In looking up the word respect my dictionary entry finishes with [emphasis added]:

[From Middle english, regard, from Old French, from Latin respectus, from past participle of respicere, to look back at, regard : re-, re-specere, to look at; see spek - in Indo-European roots.]

During my childhood, I was provided with a foundation for my moral behaviours as somehow I learnt to **look back at** my parents, my grandparents, my uncles & aunts.

The **regard** I gave to them in my heart, along with what I found in them, thus enabled me to **look at** them with all the honour that dignity duly accords to position & so I found Family in my heart.

Similarly, as Jesus Christ came into my life revealing my True Father in Heaven I was drawn to **look back at** Him through The Word He gave to us.

Then, through an ever-increasing revelatory knowledge of Who God Is, I learnt to **regard** this now Living God as absolutely pivotal to my being & my life.

This then served to cause me to **look at** God in all things, giving rise to the Respect [Fear of the Lord] & Honour rightfully accorded to the Divine Position He Alone Occupies.

I am not alone, for this, in essence, is what happens to all True Believers.

Our journeys of reaching some undergirding foundational Understanding are many & varied but the end result is the same for all.

For in the Revealing of Jesus The Way, The Truth & The Life opens to us.

The Way is to **look back at** God whom Jesus Reveals to us.

"9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father;** and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" John 14:9

KJV [emphasis added]

Then in giving **regard** to God & finding Him as the Divine pivotal focal point of your life is The Truth.

"3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,  
4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."  
1 Timothy 2:3-4. [emphasis added]

Then it is not just the truth but the knowledge of the truth that brings us to **look at** God through Seeking His Face which now has become The Life.

"13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13

Any reading of Chapter 4 of the Book of Jonah leaves us with one predominating emotion on display, being, of course, Jonah's anger.

Though Jonah was obviously a Man of God, there is no hiding the fact of what his immediate reaction to God's handling of Nineveh's fate at the time was.

**Jonah 4:1-4 KJV**

**1** But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.  
**2** And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.  
**3** Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.  
**4** Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

Before we continue our journey further into Jonah's anger I want to share the following article with you all that I found in my early preparation for this issue.

### Anger is a form of love

Published March 3, 2018, 10:00 PM

By Fr. Rolando V. Dela Rosa, O.P. [emphasis added]

Reference: <https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/03/03/anger-is-a-form-of-love/>

Many of us feel guilty for being angry.

But as an emotion, anger in itself is neither bad nor good.

It is our instinctive reaction to whatever threatens something or someone we love.

As Tim Keller writes, **anger is a form of love; it is "love in motion."**

In today's gospel reading, for instance, Jesus is furious at the merchants and money changers who have turned the Temple of Jerusalem into a marketplace.

**"He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the moneychangers and overturned their tables" (Jn. 2:15).**

**But, it was His love for the temple, a place consecrated for God's worship and adoration, that drove Him to such moral outrage.**

These days, however, many of us flare up at the slightest provocation.

In fact, we are gradually habituated to anger.

We are angry at almost everything and everyone.

Our blood boils over the traffic mess, uncollected garbage, air and noise pollution, high prices, unbridled graft and corruption in government, unsolved crimes, the plummeting economy, and the growing restlessness and violence in our society.'

We are angry at our powerlessness to stop the drift into uncertainty and moral decay.

Like the lead actor in the movie "Network," we want to scream: "I'm mad as hell and I can't take it anymore!"

**Anger consumes energy very rapidly, and if long sustained, may completely drain our strength.**

Perhaps this is why there is very little creative work going on within and around us.

**We waste our energy working up all sorts of angst and anxiety over situations that are beyond our control, while neglecting or aggravating those that are within our power to address.**

Anger can turn even the most reasonable man into a fanatic.

It is hard to deal with fanatics because they are hopelessly one-sided.

They are filled with an almost infallible certainty of their rectitude and of the iniquity of those who disagree with them.

This often results in a morbid factionalism that divides our society.

The proliferation of trolls and paid hacks in social media is a proof of this.

Unrequited anger festers into a vicious hatred that makes us want to destroy our enemy.

But Gandhi once asked:

**"What is victory if it is measured by the gauge of destruction? Strength does not come from physical power, but from an indomitable will to control our desire to retaliate."**

Next time you are tempted to lose your temper over something or someone, take a deep breath and ask:

**"What is it that I love deeply which is threatened by this person or this situation?" Most of the time, the answer is "Myself."**

As the good pastor Jonathan Parnell writes:

**"If we find ourselves angry about getting snubbed in social media, or being cut off in traffic, or going unrecognized for work, or having an idea shut down, or feeling underappreciated by our spouse — the problem might be that we love ourselves too much."** End of Article

**Next week we will journey into looking more closely at the anger Jonah displayed in the hope of God's imparting of further wisdom & revelation to us.**

Love,  
Mwesigwa

[Defaced - Week 79 follows next week]

**Your prayers of unity with us for God's Provision are most welcome.**



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