

**THE WEEK OF
November 16th, 2009**



**Jesus Vs. The Consuming Wrath
Part 4
Romans 12:1-2**

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Romans 12:1-2

We're wrapping up our first chapter in the series "Jesus Vs.", but the battle doesn't stop here. We face situations everyday in which we're tempted act in wrath. As we've learned, the problem is two-fold. It is both dealing with the source of our feelings of anger, and also dealing with those feelings without sinning. This is why we must have a plan.

I was recently watching a professional football game on television. Unfortunately the team I was rooting for was not playing well. I watched as they kept making mistake after mistake. Then, in my frustration, I muttered something about the team not having a good game-plan for that day's opponent. Then it hit me - how disappointing is it for God to see me fail in the battle against anger and bitterness over and over again. He's given us a game plan for combatting all sin, but it's our choice to follow or ignore it.

We must take some basic steps to preemptively deal with consuming wrath. First, we need to admit that we struggle with it, and recognize what triggers it in us. Second, we need to repent of it. We won't be freed of it unless we're willing to say we're sorry for sinning against God. Third, we MUST devise a plan. Most of us have heard the phrase, "if you fail to plan, you plan to fail", and that applies perfectly here. Our best defense is going to be a good offense.

Although Jesus was righteously angry at times, and even overturned merchant tables in the Temple, it is important to realize that we're not Jesus. This week, let's allow Him to clean house in our hearts and put together plans to combat what triggers our anger.

**Read the Proverb and the section of Psalm 119 that corresponds with the calendar day *example:*
*If it's the 1st day of the month, read Proverbs 1 and Psalm 119:1-8 (Aleph)***

Anger in the Bible

Mon: Realize our weakness: "The heart is deceitful above all" Jeremiah 17:9

Tue: Die to self: "if any man will come after me, let him deny himself..." Matthew 16:24-25, Galatians 5:24

Wed: Have an plan: "be transformed by the renewing of your mind" Romans 12:1-2

Thu: Put on the new man: "according to the image of Him who created him" Colossians 3:10

Fri: Put on the armor of God: "that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" Ephesians 6:11

Discussion Questions for Bible Café:

1. What is in your heart that produces anger? Why do you hang onto it?

2. Have you had victory over anger in the past? What affect has it had on others close to you?

Prayer Requests of your Bible Café brothers (on back):