

## SERMON NOTES

### Slow Like Jesus (James 1:19-20)

**James 1:19-20** – <sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers and sisters. Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for a man's anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.

**Main Point:** *Following Jesus as Lord in all of life includes becoming slow like He is to anger, and quick like He is to forgiveness.*

#### 1. The Anger of Man

Anger is a fire -

Beloved brothers and sisters -

A man's anger does not bring about -

The righteousness of God -

**Is 46:9-10** – <sup>9</sup> For I am God, there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done; saying, 'My plans shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose.'

#### 2. Quick to Hear GOD

Pray for God's wisdom -

Learn His Word -

Seek godly counsel -

**James 1:5** – <sup>5</sup> If anyone lacks wisdom, let Him ask God, who gives to all generously and without reproach.

**John 14:26** – <sup>26</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

**Prov 20:5 / 11:14** – <sup>5</sup> Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.

**Prov 11:14** – <sup>14</sup> In many counselors there is safety.

#### 3. Slow to Speak JUDGEMENT

Slow means with humility -

Slow means with forbearance -

**Matt 7:3** – <sup>3</sup> Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

**Titus 3:3-5** – <sup>3</sup> For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. <sup>4</sup> But when the kindness of God our Saviour and His love for mankind appeared, <sup>5</sup> He saved us.

#### 4. **Slow to Anger LIKE JESUS**

Slow to anger means quick to forgive -

**1Pet 2:22-24** – <sup>22</sup> He who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; <sup>23</sup> and while being abusively insulted, He did not insult in return; while suffering, He did not threaten, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; <sup>24</sup> and He Himself brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by His wounds you were healed.

**Eph 1:7** – <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace

**Ps 103:8** - <sup>8</sup> The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

#### 5. **Becoming Like Jesus**

Defeating self-defeat -

God's commandments are skills to get better at -

**Rom 8:1** – <sup>1</sup> There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

**Rom 8:31-32** – <sup>31</sup> In What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

**For Further Thought and Discussion:**

**Getting Started:**

1. What was helpful to you in this sermon? What didn't you understand?

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, are you easily offended? On a scale of 1 to 10 how hard is it for you to forgive? Why did you pick those numbers?

**Going Deeper:**

3. How do you have to act around someone who is easily offended, enraged, or angry in any other way? Why would being quick to anger disqualify that person from accomplishing what God is accomplishing in the fallen world? How do you act around someone who is forgiving? Why would being slow to anger and quick to forgiveness qualify that person to accomplish what God is accomplishing in the fallen world?
4. Why do we have to be like Jesus to accomplish anything of lasting worth in this life? How important is it to you to be on God's team, taking part in what God is accomplishing in the fallen world?
5. Why is being hard to offend, hard to provoke, "slow to anger" not only better than being quick to anger but also better than never getting angry?
6. Why would being "quick to hear GOD," "slow to speak JUDGEMENTS," and "slow to anger LIKE JESUS," require having a forgiving heart like Jesus toward others and ourselves?
7. What does "no condemnation" mean? Why must cancellation of God's condemnation involve God's pardon (forgiveness)? How is forgiveness the opposite of condemnation? Why do people have a hard time believing God has forgiven them?
8. Do you see God as angry for forgiving? How about yourself? Why is our forgiveness dependent on receiving God's forgiveness?

**Application:**

9. Which skill would you like the Lord to further develop in you this week: being quick to hear GOD, slow to speak JUDGEMENT, or slow to anger LIKE JESUS who was quick to forgive?
10. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?