

THE THEOLOGY OF LOVE Part IX

"Love is not provoked"

Reference: **I Corinthians 13:1-13**

Pastor Larry Webb

Characteristic One... love is **patient**

Characteristic Two... love is **kind**

Characteristic Three... love is not **jealous**

Characteristic Four... love is not **boastful**

Characteristic Five... love is not **conceited**

Characteristic Six... love is not **rude**

Characteristic Seven...love is not **selfish**

Characteristic Eight...love is not _____

verse five continued, "(love)...*is not provoked*"

The word "*provoked*" means to be incensed, stirred up, infuriated, enraged and _____.

It is interesting that of the fifteen characteristics mentioned in this section two of these statements actually address the same subject (i.e. anger) and that means God has essentially repeated Himself.

Question: Why would God repeat himself?

- to emphasize something's _____
- to make something more _____
Reference: **Deuteronomy 19:15**
- to assist us in _____ something

Definition: Righteous indignation (anger) is "when someone is angered because God (not us) is defamed in a _____ sense through **His person** or He (God and not us) is defamed in an _____ sense through disregarding what **He has said.**"

References: **Psalms 37:8; Proverbs 14:29, 15:18 and 16:32** (see screen)

This message is about releasing anger because that's the etymology (origin) of the word provoked as in the statement "*love is not provoked...*"

It is important to understand that there are two basic means of releasing anger:

One is _____ and one is _____.

In **verse five** the word "*provoked*" is used to describe how energies from anger can be released on an external basis.

The Greek word translated as “provoked” is “paroxino” from which we get the word “paroxysm” and means “a sudden _____ of anger.”

BLOWING UP means someone releases the energies from his anger _____ toward something or someone else.

See diagram

References: **Proverbs 29:11** and **Exodus 32:15-19** (see screen)

CLAMMING UP means that someone holds his anger in and releases the energies from that anger _____ toward his own self. That misdirected anger can cause serious physiological problems.

See diagram

- internalized anger can cause a basic change in the amount of _____ to a given organ
- internalized anger can cause a change in the _____ of certain glands
- internalized anger can cause a change in the _____ of certain muscles

Reference: **Proverbs 22:24, 25** (see screen)

The solution and biblical alternative to misdirected anger is to aim all the energies produced from anger at _____ the _____.

See diagram

The New Testament mentions at least five instances where Jesus seemed to manifest righteous anger:

- Jesus _____ the money changers from the temple (twice)
Reference: **Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-18; Luke 19:45-46; John 2:13-22**
- Jesus _____ the Pharisees about being hypocritical
Reference: **Matthew 23:1-30**
- Jesus _____ Simon Peter
Reference: **Matthew 16:21-22**
- Jesus _____ the fig tree
Reference: **Matthew 21:17-19; Mark 11:13**

- Jesus _____ the man’s withered hand
Reference: **Mark 3:1-6** (see screen)

