



## Unpacking Hope

When Hope Hurts ... "Hope's Children"

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*Intro: "Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are anger and courage; anger at the way things are, and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are."*

*—Saint Augustine, was an Early Church Father, born in North Africa, became a Catholic Bishop in a town called Hippo. Hippo is now called Annaba and is located in Algeria. Algeria is a country in Northern Africa.*

**Anger** - the Greek word is ogre

*Definition:* a strong feeling of being upset or annoyed because of something wrong or bad: the feeling that makes someone want to hurt other people, to shout, etc.: the feeling of being angry.

**Courage** - one Hebrew word is amats

*Definition:* mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty. Anger and courage are siblings. Where ever there is hope. These siblings are nearby.

### Analyzing Anger

#### **I. Purposes of Anger**

1. There are times when anger is necessary.
2. Anger makes you realize something has to change.
  - A. Either something around us needs to change.
  - B. Either we need to change.

**Ecclesiastes 3:8**

### **Thermometer vs. Thermostat**

Anger alerts you to what you are called to and what your ministry is.

#### **II. Perspectives of Anger**

1. Being angry is not a sin.
2. Be slow to get angry.
3. Jesus was angry at religious leaders.
  - A. The people were more concerned about tradition than transformation.
  - B. The people had hard hearts.
4. Jesus was angry at how the temple was being run.
  - A. His anger had the proper motivation.
  - B. His anger had the proper duration.
  - C. His anger had the proper limitations.
  - D. His anger led to the proper liberation.

**Ephesians 4:26**

**James 1:19-20**

**Mark 3:1-5**

**Matthew 21:12-13**

#### **III. Concentrating on Courage**

"Courage is the most important of all the virtues, because without courage you can't practice any other virtue consistently. You can practice any virtue erratically, but nothing consistently without courage." *Maya Angelou*

It takes courage to do right and be right.

**THE HOUSE OF HOPE MACON**

Very few changes in your life will be made until you have **courage**. **Strength** is our ability to carry certain things. **Courage** is our ability to endure certain things. Strength is external. Courage is internal.

1. Courage empowers you to **wait**.
2. Courage helps you complete your **work**.
  - A. You have **land**.
  - B. You have God's **law**.
  - C. You have the **Lord**.
3. Courage makes the impossible possible.
4. Courage:
  - A. Overlooks **fear**
  - B. Obeys in spite of **fear**
  - C. Operative even when you **fall**
  - D. Opens door for increased **faith**

**Psalm 27:13-14**  
**Joshua 1: 6,7,9**

**Matthew 14: 25-29**

If you don't like the way things are in your life, your community, or your world. Get angry at what is and pray for the courage to create what can be.

*Lord, I'm angry at how things are, please instill in me the courage to make things better. My hope is in you. In Jesus name, Amen.*

#### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STRENGTH AND COURAGE

It takes strength to be firm.

It takes courage to be gentle.

It takes strength to stand guard.

It takes courage to let down your guard.

It takes strength to conquer.

It takes courage to surrender.

It takes strength to be certain.

It takes courage to have doubt.

It takes strength to fit in.

It takes courage to stand out.

It takes strength to feel a friend's pain.

It takes courage to feel your own pain.

It takes strength to hide feelings.

It takes courage to show them.

It takes strength to endure abuse.

It takes courage to stop it.

It takes strength to stand alone.

It takes courage to lean on another.

It takes strength to love.

It takes courage to be loved.

It takes strength to survive.

It takes courage to live.

*-Anonymous*