RUSSELL SANDERS 12-14-2023 JESUS' RIGHTEOUS ANGER

I have seen where some people have said that because "God is love" that He does not get mad (angry) with people. Many Old Testament passages prove otherwise, but they also misapply that to say Jesus never got angry. That also is untrue. Remember, He was angry with merchants selling their goods inside the temple. He turned over the money tables and drove them out with a whip.

There is a less recognized example of Jesus' anger in Mark 3:1-5. As Jesus entered the synagogue, He saw a man with a withered hand. It was on the sabbath. The religious Pharisees watched to see if Jesus would heal the man. So, Jesus asked these Pharisees in verse 4, "Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? To save a life, or to kill?"

They refused to give him an answer. Verse 5a says, "and when he had looked round about on them with anger..." He looked at them with anger because of the hardness of their hearts Then he proceeded to heal the man.

The Pharisees' response in verse 6 was to consult with the Herodians (those in charge of the government) on how to destroy Jesus.

Jesus' purpose was to do good in healing this infirmed man. The religious leaders purpose was evil. Jesus' anger was righteous anger. Yes, there is a righteous anger and an unrighteous anger. Righteous anger glorifies God. Unrighteous anger is sin as said in 1 John 5:17a that says, "All unrighteousness is sin." Sin provokes us to righteous anger which rises from our spirit, not from our flesh.