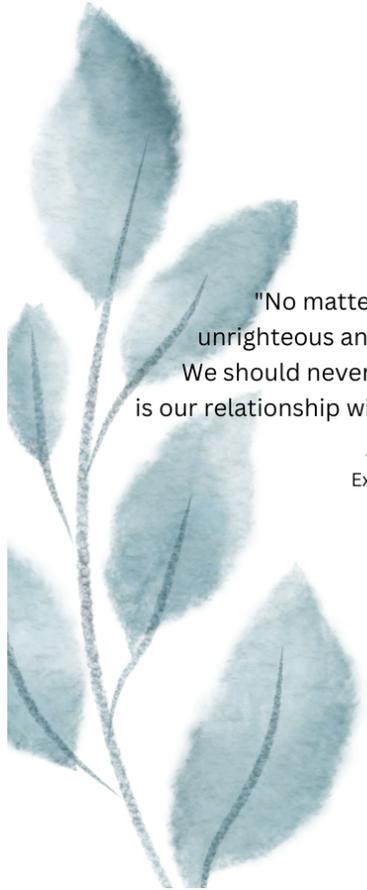


Forsake Wrath

Pastor's Desk – March 19, 2023



"No matter how well it is hidden away,
unrighteous anger will always ruin relationships.
We should never forget that the core of eternal life
is our relationship with the Father and the Son (John 17:3)."

Excerpt from Pastor's Desk
Forsake Wrath
by Pr. Teddy Santos
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Baltimore Christian Faith Center
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Psalm 37:7-9 *"(7) Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. (8) Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. (9) For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth."*

These forewarnings can be grouped mainly into two categories. First, we are instructed to let go of anger; secondly, we are advised to wait on God. Both factors are vital for effectiveness, and they must be exercised together.

Here, David counsels us not to stress about people who inflame us, saying, "**Cease from anger, and forsake wrath,**" If a command such as this is given, it's a sign that it can be achieved - especially if we have the Holy Spirit in us. However, for it to be carried out, it must be paired with the rest of the psalmist's direction, which centers on God's sovereignty and surrendering to His control over us. If we think we should be in control, we will likely be bitter about what everybody else is doing and whether fairness is being done as we suppose it should be.

Nonetheless, David's urge is simple: put your mind at ease. The Lord is on His throne. The wrongdoers will be taken care of, and the just will be rewarded - though it might take considerable patience. Yet, the fact that God is supervising His physical and spiritual creation allows us to let go of the anger, irritation, impatience, and opposition that springs into bitterness, malice, wrath, and hate.

Verse 9 declares that those who wait upon the Lord shall inherit the earth, revealing that they are also meek (**Matthew 5:5** "**Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.**") No matter how well it is hidden away, unrighteous anger will always ruin relationships. We should never forget that the core of eternal life is our relationship with the Father and the Son (**John 17:3**).

At His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos