



**Studies in the Book of Proverbs** by [John T Polk II](#)  
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

**(#183) The Proverbs of Solomon 27:4- Don't Cross Flooding Water**

**Proverbs 27:4:**

Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent, but who is able to stand before jealousy?

These are emotions that can get out of control, and therefore are dangerous for humans. "Anger, wrath, malice" are forbidden to Christians.

- "Anger" is irritation boiling up;
- "Wrath" is anger carried over the next day(s);
- "Malice" is the intent to harm the one who has provoked the anger ([Colossians 3:8](#)).

We can get "angry" but must not lose control and "sin" ([Ephesians 4:26](#)); "the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God" ([James 1:20](#)).

"Jealousy" is wounded trust that may never be recovered, and is understandable in a husband whose wife commits adultery ([Proverbs 6:32-35](#)). God is a "jealous God" ([Exodus 20:4-6](#); [Deuteronomy 6:14-19](#)), because He expects those who agree to His covenant to be faithful in keeping their part of it. God is never out of control, but His "wrath" is against all who "do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" ([1 Thessalonians 5:9-10](#); [2 Thessalonians 1:7-9](#)).

These are emotions in humans we should strive never to provoke, and "A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger" ([Proverbs 15:1](#)). Followers of Jesus Christ know He said:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." ([Matthew 5:9](#))

These are "emotions" of God that are avoided by our obedience to Him. And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.'  
([Mark 16:15-16](#))

Why cross a flooding water of emotions, now or forever?

