

Beware of These Birds

Proverbs 22:24-25

24 Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:

25 Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

When I looked up the word “angry” in the Hebrew, I was surprised at what it said: properly the nose or nostril; hence the face, and occasionally a person; also (from the rapid breathing in passion) ire: - anger.

Here is what “furious” means: heat; figuratively anger, poison (from its fever).

How many times in our lives have we been around someone so full of anger that when they talk, their breathing gets heavy and their nostrils start to flare out?

There is an old expression, “Birds of a feather flock together.” That is why Solomon says, don’t make friends with an angry man, and with a furious man thou shall not go. Lest you learn his ways.

I’ve been in this a long time, and I’ve seen the poison of a furious man get into the veins of someone who loves and fears God. It is to their spiritual ruin.

Proverbs 29:22

22 An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

The angry bird is the one bird you don’t want to flock with. He is angry with God, angry with the church, angry with holiness, angry with what

he can't do, and yet he sees the world doing. You can't help an angry bird, but you can sure learn of their ways.

1Peter 1:15-16

15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

1 John 5:19-21

19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

You want to have a successful walk with God!? You can if you KNOW these two things:

1. KNOW that WE are of God; Acts 2:38 is RIGHT; holiness (holiness within, holiness without, separation from the world) is RIGHT.

2. KNOW that the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Lieth in the Greek means: to lie outstretched (literally or figuratively).

Genesis 4:6-7

6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

Look at how Brown-Driver-Briggs defines *lieth*: BDB Definition:

1) to stretch oneself out, lie down, lie stretched out.

The “worldly bird” is not a bird you want to flock with. The world is not your friend.

I am tired of people answering with, “I guess . . .” There are far too many Apostolics answering their pastor in this day that we are living in with the words, “I guess . . .”

This isn't something that we can hazard to guessing. You aren't going to be able to “guess” your way into heaven. I don't “GUESS” I want to go to heaven, I “KNOW” I want to go to heaven.

I KNOW we are of God, I KNOW the whole earth lieth in wickedness.

I read this in a commentary: in wickedness. Note: or, in the wicked one, εν τω πονηρω: is embraced in his arms, where it lies fast asleep, and carnally secure, deriving its heat and power from its infernal fosterer. "In this short expression," says Mr. Wesley, "the horrible state of the world is painted in the most lively colours, a comment on which we have in the actions, conversations, contracts, quarrels, and friendships of worldly men."

James 4:4-6

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

But He giveth MORE grace . . . He will give you the help you need to break away from the “angry bird” flock; He will give you the help you need to break away from the “worldly bird” flock, but you have got to humble yourself and ask Him to help you.

RPS