

Matthew 5:22

But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Anger, what a horrible thing. It causes wars, murder, divorce and even can hinder our prayers. We know the world is full of anger and hatred, but what about us Christians? How often have you gotten angry with someone, even another Christian? How often have you gotten angry with your own husband or wife? How often have you gotten angry with your children or parent's or what about a close friend?

"But they were an idiot" you may be thinking.

The word "***Raca***" used in today's verse means: *a senseless, empty headed man* or in today's terms *an idiot*. So if you were to bring him or her before court (***shall be in danger of the council***) would they really find them to be an idiot or is it just your pride that was hurt. Maybe you just didn't get things your own way and in retaliation you lashed out at someone that you are supposed to love.

Let's move a little away from home and think about that guy who cut you off on the freeway today. Did you call him an idiot? Do you really know the reason why he cut you off? Maybe he didn't even see you, but you have labeled him as an idiot (***Raca***).

One last thing to think about today.

† **Prov 15:18 (NLT)** *A hothead starts fights; a cool-tempered person tries to stop them.*

Are you going to be a hothead who not only starts a fight but also flames the embers, or will you see a fight starting and try to prevent it from happening.

Remember that it may be you alone who can prevent a fight or argument from happening, and it could be as simple as not responding.

† **Prov 21:23 (NLT)** *If you keep your mouth shut, you will stay out of trouble.*