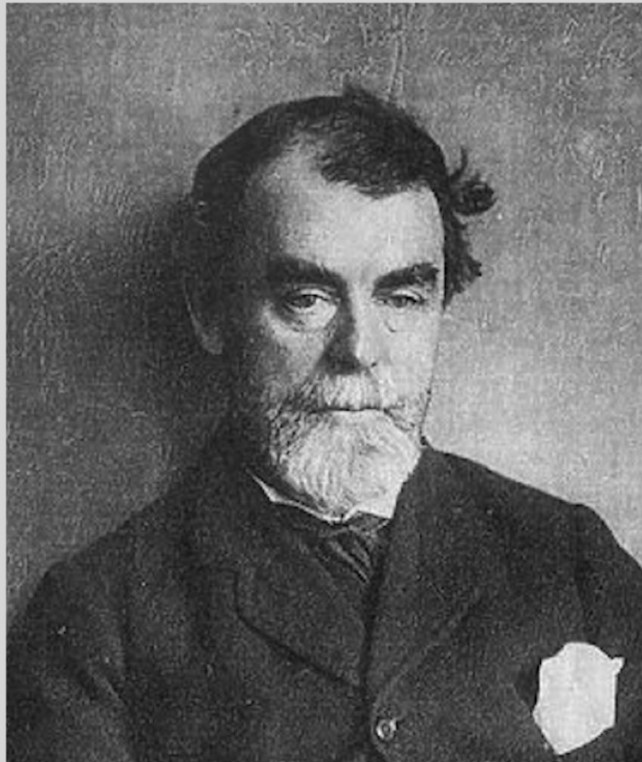




# BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW



Samuel Butler

The main characters are ...

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  - lived in Battersby
- Christina - compliant mother
  - from Crampsford

“This, however, was not the general verdict concerning him, and the general verdict is often the truest. Ernest was overwhelmed with expressions of condolence and respect for his father’s memory.”

Overton

“There is hate in every reference Butler makes to his childhood. His family, it seemed to him, were banded together in a conspiracy to make him unhappy, to hurt and deform him, to deprive him of those things for which his soul longed.

“Hatred accumulated all through his childhood, and for the rest of his life he had to carry it about with him. A great load of hate weighing him down.”

Malcolm Muggeridge

“[Butler] built a world around his father, hated the world he had built, then, horrified, realized that he lived in it, and must go on living in it to the end of his life.”

Malcolm Muggeridge



“The Way of All Flesh is perhaps the most devastating and relentless literary assault by a son upon a father ever written.”

Anthony Daniels

# Case Study #1

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Making room for **resentment** and speaking words of **contempt** are morally equivalent to **murder** and result in increasing personal, **social**, and spiritual consequence.

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’

“But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.”

Matthew 5:21-22

What is anger?

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- **righteous** anger

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“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.”

Romans 1:18



“Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.”

Ephesians 4:26-27

“... for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”

James 1:20

What is anger?

- righteous anger
- **unrighteous** anger

What is anger?

- righteous anger
- **unrighteous** anger
  - obvious

What is anger?

- righteous anger
- **unrighteous** anger
  - obvious - rage, volcanic outbursts, screaming, violence, intimidation

What is anger?

- righteous anger
- **unrighteous** anger
  - obvious
  - subtle

What is anger?

- righteous anger
- **unrighteous** anger
  - obvious
  - subtle - resentment, irritation, annoyance, exasperation, nursing a grudge, sulkiness, self pity

- ◆ The cumulative **destruction** of anger



1. Resentment → **judgment**

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judgment = local Sanhedrin

\***personal** (local) consequences

2. Insults → council

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\***social** (regional) consequences

“A man of wrath stirs up strife, and one given to anger causes much transgression.”

Proverbs 29:22

“This book is, or at least could be, a manifesto for virtually all the social pathology that I have seen in my medical practice in a British slum at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

“Every intellectual presupposition that has gone to the creation of misery in the midst of plenty is not only contained, but trumpeted, in *The Way of All Flesh*.”

Anthony Daniels

3. Disdain → hell

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Valley of Hinnom

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“and whoever says ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.” (22c)

fool = calling someone a morally hopeless person

moros (moron) = worthy of condemnation, unredeemable

\***eternal** (existential) consequences

Making room for **resentment**  
and speaking words of **contempt** are morally  
equivalent to **murder** and result in increasing  
personal, **social**, and spiritual consequence.

- ◆ The cumulative destruction of anger

- ◆ The cumulative destruction of anger
- ◆ The critical **resolution** of anger

1. See the connection between **anger** and worship.

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“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go.” Matthew 5:23-24a

Who makes the first move?



Who makes the first move?

- “your brother has something against you ... go” (5:23-24)

Who makes the first move?

- “your brother has something against you ... go” (5:23-24)
- your brother sins against you ... go (18:15)

“And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”

Mark 11:25

2. Seek **reconciliation** as soon as **possible**.

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“First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

2. Seek **reconciliation** as soon as **possible**.

“Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison.

2. Seek **reconciliation** as soon as **possible**.

“Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

Matthew 5:24b-26

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The urgency of reconciliation does **not** mean:

- that all harm can be immediately resolved.
- that all consequences are necessarily removed.
- that all trust is automatically renewed.
- that all **relationships** can be fully **restored**.

“Angry people don’t know they’re angry; they know they’re right.”

Ed Welch

“Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.”

Matthew 7:6

“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”

Romans 12:18



David Powlison



“I want to ask your forgiveness for something. I’ve been angry at you for eight months, and have just held it in trying to forgive you. But God has convicted me, and I want to get things solved between us.”

**DENOUNCE**  
(attack person not problem)

fight

**DEFEND**  
(excuse or blame)

**BE KIND  
TO ONE ANOTHER,  
TENDERHEARTED,  
FORGIVING ONE  
ANOTHER,  
AS GOD IN CHRIST  
FORGAVE YOU.**

**EPHESIANS 4:32**

**DEPART**  
(disengage or withdraw)

flight

**DEMEAN**  
(express disgust)