

ARE WE TOO EMOTIONAL?

Psalm 1:1-6; 2:11; 40:1-4; 150:1-6; John 11:35; Philippians 4:5-13;
Hebrews 13:15; 1 Peter 2:9

People live at the feeling level. The questions asked are not what do you think about so-and-so, but how do you feel about so-and-so?

It is true that God has given us the ability to think and to reason in a cognitive (knowledgeable) manner, but we are also creatures who feel. And sometimes our feelings are hard to deal with.

Our culture is very emotion oriented; at the same time, it is very suspicious of emotional expression, particularly in the field of religion. It is acceptable to scream and yell for your sports team, you're called a fan. But, if you express any emotional interest in the things of God, you're called a fanatic.

It seems that on some fronts we're allowed to express emotion, but on others there should be no emotions expressed. Is it true then, when it comes to the things of God we should hold back all our emotional feeling? Absolutely not!

It is true that the church to a large degree has went overboard with feeling. So much so that, it has caused a negative effect among many Christians.

We cannot remove the emotional effect from Christianity, because at the core of Christianity is the heart, not the intellect.

Let me explain. If we try to make Christianity purely intellectual, we distort it. But if we try to make Christianity purely emotional, we distort it in the other direction.

Let me put it another way. If your theology is correct and your understanding of Christianity is correct and your heart be far from God, you are outside the kingdom of God. But, if you have given your life (heart) to God and your theology is a little foggy, you are in the kingdom of God.

If you have trusted Christ to save you, and the more of Him you understand with the mind, the more your heart becomes inflamed with emotion. True love always shows itself in some emotional form.

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