

Deceived by Emotions

Everyone experience emotion, including Jesus - Matt 26:38 Then he said to them, "**My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.** Stay here and keep watch with me."

God provides us with what is needed not to be driven by emotions

The ability not to make bad decision based on feelings - 1 Cor 15:33 **Do not be misled:** "Bad company corrupts good character."

The ability to be at peace though we feel disturbed - John 14:1 - "**Do not let your hearts be troubled.** Trust in God; trust also in me."

Though emotions exist, relationships will be driven by God, not emotions - Eph 5:33 However, each one of you also **must love his wife** as he loves himself, and the **wife must respect her husband.**

The disastrous state of man today is not something that happened to man, it is a path man has chosen.

Man has totally given in to emotions -2 Tim 3:1-5 - **But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.** 2 **PEOPLE WILL BE lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,** 3 **without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,** 4 **treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**— 5 having a **form of godliness** but **denying its power.** Have nothing to do with them.

This state has man redirected from the Sacred Spiritual worship of God, into a Human desired version that places more on pleasing man - 2 Tim 4:3-4 - 3 For the time will come when **men will not put up with sound doctrine.** Instead, **TO SUIT THEIR OWN DESIRES, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.** 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

We have bought the lie, to embrace our deepest feelings, while Christ informed us of the dangers of this - Mark 7:20-23 - 20 He went on: "**What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.'**" 21 For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. 23 **All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'**"

Many are emotionally struggling, because they are living worldly (which triggers our emotions) instead of Spiritually which deals with all things correctly - 2 Cor 10:3-6 - 3 For though **we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.** 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have **divine power to demolish strongholds.** 5 **We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.** 6 **And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.**

We must realize that any emotional problem we have with others is our fault...no excuses - James 4:1-**What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from YOUR DESIRES that battle within you?**

We are to avoid conversations that have no Godly substance because the outcome is unacceptable and emotionally driven - 2 Tim 2:23-24 - 23 **Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.** 24 **And the Lord's servant must not quarrel;** instead, he **must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.**

We are commanded to be in control, not emotionally controlled - Eph 4:26-27 - 26 "**In your anger do not sin:** **Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,** 27 and **do not give the devil a foothold.**

The only time being driven by emotions is acceptable, is when your emotions are driven by God only

God driven emotion will be in line with God's Will so that you respond Godly - 2 Cor 11:2-4 - 2 **I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy.** I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. 3 **But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.** 4 For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, **you put up with it easily enough.**

When we obey God in order to deal with others, emotions at times will play a part to help others - 2 Thess 3:14-15 - 14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. **Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed.** 15 Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

When we are driven emotionally. We are living foolishly

Prov 29:11 **A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.**

Prov 12:16 **A fool shows his annoyance at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.**

Prov 10:23 **A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom.**

Emotionally driven people are a danger to many and there is a core reason this happens (example)- Matt 16:22-23 - 22 **Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.** "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! **You are a stumbling block to me; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN.**"

In order not to be emotionally deceived, we must stop playing games and start living Spiritually sound!!

Our focus is either emotion or God NOT BOTH - 2 Cor 5:7 **We live by faith, not by sight.**

All goals must be Spiritually driven NEVER self-driven - Gal 6:7-9 - 7 **Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.** A man reaps what he sows. 8 **The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.** 9 **Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

Confidently follow God, no matter how it may look to you - Prov 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and **lean not on your own understanding**;

Lean on Spiritual states of mind and NOT emotional feelings –

When you feel sad, you must **BE Joyful** - 1 Thess 5:16 Be joyful **always**;

When the situation looks bad, we must **KNOW the reason** – James1:2-3 - 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, **whenever you face trials of many kinds**, 3 **because you know** that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Learn contentment - Phil 4:11-13 - 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for **I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances**. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in **any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 **I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH HIM WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH***.

***This doesn't mean we just claim Christ as our strength, it means we LIVE with Christ as our strength**