



(SLIDE #1) “WORSHIP REQUIRES YOUR EMOTIONS!”

Introduction:

- A. Impetus For This Sermon:
 - 1. This sermon was requested by the eldership!
 - 2. The elders are encouraging more enthusiasm during worship services in general.
 - 3. They are also encouraging more emotion during singing.
- B. Today: “Worship Requires Your Emotions!”

I. (Slide #2) Many Equate “Emotion” In Worship With “Emotionalism.”

- A. (▶) **Emotion.**
 - 1. Emotions are REAL!!! They are a part of who we are!
 - 2. Jesus wants Christians to worship “in spirit.” Jn. 4:24 That demands that we bring our emotions into worship!
 - 3. Emotions are brought forth and are required in worship!
 - a. When we read about God’s LOVE, it motivates us to love Him and our brethren! I Jn. 4:9-11
 - b. When we learn of His promises, it arouses hope in our hearts! I Pet. 1:3,4,13
 - c. When we are reprovved by the Holy Spirit-inspired Word, we are brought to sorrow, shame, and repentance! II Cor. 7:8-10
 - d. When we learn how God hates sin, we come to hate those same things! Pr. 6:16-19; 8:13
 - e. When we read God’s warnings, we move cautiously with fear and trepidation! Heb. 10:26,27
 - 4. Our emotions are a wonderful part of our very being; they are a wonderful gift from God!
 - a. They help draw our hearts to God!
 - b. They cause us to respond to Him!

- c. They produce caution and fear when we need to protect ourselves or to flee sin!

B. (►) Emotionalism.

1. **(Slide #3)** By “emotionalism” we are talking about worship that is driven by emotion above everything else!
 - a. That is dangerous and wrong!
 - b. Yes, we must bring emotions; however, they must be regulated by God’s requirements for worship -- TRUTH! Jn. 4:24
2. Uncontrolled and unrestrained emotionalism (rolling in the aisled, unintelligible gibberish, or out of control emotions) disobey God’s commands for worship to be:
 - a. Intelligent
 - b. Understandable
 - c. Without people talking over each other.
 - d. “Done decently and in order.” I Cor. 14:40
3. People who are super emotional need to be sure they are not just seeking an emotional high instead of truly worshipping!
4. Some denominational preachers are like a commercial that has been sped up and you cannot possible “get it all.” They literally “suck air” as they teach with emotionalism!
5. **(Slide #4)** Many equate “worship” with music and the mood that they can produce with it and lighting! This does not make what they do acceptable worship.

C. (Slide #5) Formalism.

1. Liturgical services seem rote, repetitious, and without heart.
2. Thus ritual becomes the norm; the worship seems devoid of emotion.
3. Worship that is cold, unfeeling, and lacks heart is just as bad and just as unacceptable to God as emotionalism!
4. Worship devoid of feeling is dead! It is NOT pure and spiritual!
5. How can we possible read the Bible about God, talk about Him, sing about Him and have no intense feelings?
6. Jesus said that worship without heart is VAIN worship! Mt. 15:7,8; Mk. 7:7

D. (▶) Emotions And Personality Differences.

1. All of us have drastically DIFFERING personalities and ways of expressing emotions!
 - a. Some are very effusive [demonstrative, vociferous, show emotion]; others are very reserved (Sometimes people assume that reserved people do not have emotions -- that is untrue; it is judgmental!).
 - b. Jesus has called upon us to worship “in spirit.” Jn. 4:24. The command and the encouragement is to make sure you really have your heart in worship!
 - c. Emotionless worship is unacceptable to Him!
2. Many today believe they must have more external exhibits of emotion.
 - a. Raising hands!
 1. This has become very popular in denominationalism; some brethren have begun to do this as well.
 2. Some of them cite I Tim. 2:8: “I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;”
 3. The emphasis is NOT upon “lifting hands” necessarily; it is about lifting HOLY hands.
 - b. Different cultures have different levels of showing outward emotion.
 1. Different ethnicities may show more or less emotion.
 2. Some brethren will say “Amen” openly; others are reserved or feel that it is unacceptable or draws attention to you.
 3. Brethren should be cautious not to offend those who may be more reserved in their emotions; if someone enters a reserved worship and begins to raise his hands or say “Amen” after every few sentences, he may draw attention to himself and cause the worshipers to be focused upon him instead of upon the Lord!
3. So all worshipers are different in how they show or express emotion!
4. Those who lead in worship services have different personalities!
 - a. Some speakers are very unemotional; some are pretty emotional; some are very powerful!
 - b. Some who lead prayers do so with great emotion; others do so quite stoically.

E. (▶) Emotions And Life Circumstances!

1. Some may feel wonderfully blessed, in good health, and excited to be in a worship service! Example -- Miriam, Moses and Israel when they came out of the Red Sea! Exodus 15
2. Others may be tired and find it difficult to get “up.”

3. Others may come to a worship service with a pained heart -- agonizing over the loss of a loved one, feeling fear about a diagnosis. David after his son died. II Sa. 12:19-20

F. (▶) **Emotions And The Thoughts Of Our Hearts!**

1. Taking The Lord's Supper.
 - a. One person may focus upon the hope we have because of the Lord's Sacrifice and the shedding of His Blood!
 - b. Another person may focus upon the fact that MY SINS put Him there and be in agony!
2. Giving:
 - a. One person may feel abundantly blessed and be so excited to give.
 - b. Another has planned; he gives as he planned; however, unexpected bills cause him to feel insecure as he gives.

II. (Slide #6) **Who Or What Do You Worship?**

A. (▶) Some WORSHIP Created Things; Some Worship Idols They Have Invented!

1. Created things:
 - a. Dt. 4:19 "And *take heed*, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and *when* you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel driven to worship them and serve them, which the LORD your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage."
 - b. Rom. 1:22-25 "Professing to be wise, they became fools,²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."
2. Idols they have invented:
 - a. Ex. 20:4,5 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; ⁵you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me,"
 - b. Israel worshiped Jeroboam's calves at Dan and Bethel. I Ki. 12:29,30
 - c. Nebuchadnezzar demanded that Daniel worship his great idol. Anyone who refused would be immediately cast into the fiery furnace! Dan. 3:5,6

3. God will punish idolaters!
 - a. Ex. 20:3-6 “You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; ⁵you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, ⁶but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”
 - b. Don’t worship idols; only worship God! Ex. 34:14 “(for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name *is* Jealous, *is* a jealous God),”

- B. (▶) Some Try To Worship Other Beings!
 1. Satan tried to convince Jesus to worship him! Mt. 4:8,9 “Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to Him, ‘All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.’”

 2. It is sinful to worship:
 - a. Men. Ac. 10:26
 - b. Angels. Rev. 22:8,9

- C. (▶) True Worship Must Be Directed To Divine Beings!!!
 1. Ps. 111:1-10 “Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with *my* whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and *in* the congregation. ²The works of the LORD *are* great, Studied by all who have pleasure in them. ³His work *is* honorable and glorious, And His righteousness endures forever. ⁴He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion. ⁵He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant. ⁶He has declared to His people the power of His works, In giving them the heritage of the nations. ⁷The works of His hands *are* verity and justice; All His precepts *are* sure. ⁸They stand fast forever and ever, *And are* done in truth and uprightness. ⁹He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome *is* His name. ¹⁰The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*. His praise endures forever.”

 2. Worship Him because He is God! Ps. 45:11 “Because He *is* your Lord, worship Him.”

3. Prerequisites for true worshipers:
 - a. A relationship with Him! They know Him and adore Him!
 - b. A submissive heart.
 - c. Reliance upon Him.

4. Only the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit can be worshiped!
 - a. “Father, we adore You, Lay our lives before You, How we love You.”
(Jesus, Spirit)
 - b. “Glorify they name!” “Father we love You, we worship and adore you...” (Jesus, Spirit).

5. Emotional sentiments as we sing!
 - a. “How Great Thou Art!”
 - b. “Blessed Be The Name Of The Lord!”
 - c. “I Love You Lord!”
 - d. “A Wonderful Savior!”
 - e. “Worthy Art Thou!”

III. (Slide #7) Emotions That Must Be Involved In Worship Of God!

A. (►) Fearful Respect:

1. **(Slide #8)** Scriptures that show this emotion!
 - a. Ps. 5:7 “But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.”
 - b. Ps. 95:6 “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.
 - c. Ps. 96:9 “Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.”
 - d. Rev. 15:4 “Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* alone *are* holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested.”

2. **(Slide #9)** Be in AWE Of Him!
 - a. Ps. 111:9 KJV “holy and reverend *is* his name.”
 - b. Ps. 111:9 NKJV “Holy and awesome *is* His name!”
 - c. Hymn: “Our God Is An AWESOME God!”

3. Songs that show that respectful awe:
 - a. “We Bow Down And We Worship You Lord!”
 - b. “Holy, Holy, Holy!”
 - c. “How Great Thou Art!”

B. (Slide #10) Focus:

1. Worship demands that our minds be focused upon God.
 - a. This requires preparation:
 1. Why am I going there?
 2. What am I going to do?
 3. Where will my mind be focused?
 - b. Worship is GIVING; NOT RECEIVING!
 1. I Chr. 16:29 “Give to the LORD the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!”
 2. Ps. 29:2 “Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.”
2. There can be SO MANY distractions!
 - a. Some are precious -- a smiling child; a crying child.
 - b. Some are annoying -- constant up and down and in and out during worship services.
 - c. Thoughts that race through your mind!
3. We need to train our minds to focus upon and show glory, honor, and praise to God!
4. **(Slide #11)** We focus upon Him, His Will, His love, and His blessings for our lives!

C. (Slide #12) Faith:

1. Worship Provides An Opportunity To Show Our Trust In, Reliance Upon, And Faith In God!
 - a. Ps. 62:8 “Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God *is* a refuge for us.”
 - b. Ps. 59:17 “To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; For God *is* my defense, My God of mercy.”
2. We know that we can lean upon Him to help us through every burden, trouble, and fear that we face!
 - a. “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God!”
 - b. “Great Is Thy Faithfulness!”
 - c. “He Is Able To Deliver Thee!”
3. We sing of His Promises and our hope in them:
 - a. “Standing On The Promises!”
 - b. “Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All!”

D. (►) **Fervency:**

1. Scriptures:
 - a. Ps. 9:1 “I will praise *You*, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works.”
 - b. Ps. 111:1 “Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with *my* whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and *in* the congregation.”
 - c. Ps. 42:1,2 “As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?”
 - d. Ps. 84:1,2 “How lovely *is* Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! ²My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.”
2. Worship involves intense emotions in every aspect of our worship!
3. Joy, adoration, awe, thanksgiving, remorse for sin, reliance are all seen in our worship! Oh, what a mix of emotions worship can bring!
4. And when we need to repent:
 - a. Jer. 3:10 ““And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah has not turned to Me with her whole heart, but in pretense," says the LORD.”
 - b. Godly sorrow produces repentance! II Cor. 7:10

IV. (Slide #13) Emotion In All Aspects Of Worship!

A. (►) **Prayer:**

1. **(Slide #14)** Mt. 6:9 “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name!”
2. “Hear my cry, O God!”

B. **(Slide #15) Lord’s Supper:**

1. Sentiments as we partake of the Lord’s Supper:
 - a. **(Slide #16)** As you eat the unleavened bread and drink the fruit of the vine, you remember Jesus!
 1. I Cor. 11:24 “this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”
 2. I Cor. 11:25 “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me.”
 - b. You think of His suffering, His Blood, and His Crucifixion.

2. Sentiments as you partake:
 1. “Amazing Grace!”
 2. Isaac Watt’s words in the first verse of the hymn, “At The Cross”:

“Alas! and did my Savior bleed?
 And did my Sov’reign die?
 Would He devote that sacred head
 For such a worm as I?” [Some renditions have changed the last line to:
 “for such a one as I?” or “for sinners such as I?” or “For someone
 such as I?”]

C. (Slide #17) Contribution:

1. God has asked us to give:
 - a. Of our firstfruits! Pr. 3:9
 - b. **(Slide #18)** As we have been prospered. I Cor. 16:2
2. Sentiments as we give:
 - a. HOW UNDESERVING we are!
 - b. “Thank you Lord!”
 - c. “Count Your Many Blessings, See What God Has Done!”

D. (Slide #19) Sermon:

1. **(Slide #20)** Scriptures:
 - a. “Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears!” I Sa. 3:9
 - b. Ps. 119:97 “Oh, how I love Your law! It *is* my meditation all the day.”
 - c. I Thess. 2:13 “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.”
2. Sentiments:
 - a. “Give Me The Bible!”
 - b. “Break Thou The Bread Of Life To Me!”

E. (Slide #21) Singing:

1. Scriptures:
 - a. Col. 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
 - b. Eph. 5:19 “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,”

2. **(Slide #22)** Emotions in our singing:
 - a. "Praise The Lord."
 - b. "We Praise Thee O God."
 - c. Father, we love you, (Jesus, Spirit)
3. Song leaders -- sing with emotion; lead with emotion; leading requires amplification!
4. Christians -- sing with your whole heart; don't worry what people around you think -- express to God your fervency for Him!

(Slide #23) Conclusion:

- A. May We Be Driven To Please God In Our Worship -- Worship With Emotion!
- B. Be Determined To Let Him See How MUCH You Love, Adore, Appreciate, And Desire To Please Him!
- C. **(Slide #24)** Do You Need Forgiveness? "Bring Christ Your Broken Heart!"