

EMOTIONS & THE WILL OF GOD

Judges 13:1 And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years. **Judges 13:2** And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and bare not. **Judges 13:3** And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

Judges 13:4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing: **Judges 13:5** **For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.**

Judges 13:11 And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am. **Judges 13:12** And Manoah said, **Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?** **Judges 13:13** And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware. **Judges 13:14** She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe. **Judges 13:15** And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, I pray thee, let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee.

Judges 14:1 And Samson **went down** to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. **Judges 14:2** **And he came up**, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife. **Judges 14:3** Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

Judges 14:4 But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

Judges 16:1 Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her. **Judges 16:4** And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek (סֹרֶק), whose name was Delilah.

To begin this discussion, we need to get the lay of the land | big picture:

Emotions & the Will of God		
80-90%	5-10%	10-20%
Follow your emotions!	Maybe follow your emotions! (maybe consider your emotions!)	Don't follow your emotions!
Emotions are good Meaning real true the authentic you!	Emotions are emotions	Emotions are bad
Emotions are reality	Emotions are part of reality	Emotions are not reality
Emotions are a decisive factor	Emotions are A factor	Emotions are a non-factor And they become very emotional if you disagree!

Basic thoughts about the will of God & emotions:

1. WE all have emotions

Emotions =

Embodied

Expressed

Explained / evaluated → later

2. We all have many kinds | a variety of emotions.

Many researchers have been exploring emotions for a long time!

Paul Ekman – basic emotions that are expressed the same across cultures
Sadness, happiness (delight) , fear, anger, surprise, disgust

Robert Plutchik: wheel of emotions, 8 basic pairs, paired as opposites:

Joy – Sadness

Anger – Fear

Trust – Distrust

Surprise – Anticipation

John 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled **for fear of the Jews**, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, **Peace be unto you.** **John 20:20** And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. **Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.** **John 20:21** Then said Jesus to them **again, Peace** be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

John 20:26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, **Peace** be unto you.

Luke 24:36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, **Peace** be unto you. **Luke 24:37** **But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.** **Luke 24:38** And he said unto them, Why are ye **troubled?** and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? **Luke 24:39** Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. **Luke 24:40** And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. **Luke 24:41** **And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered,** he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

Basic emotions → complex emotions...

3. God repeatedly & frequently speaks to our emotions!

John 14:1 Let **not** your heart be **troubled**: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

John 14:27 **Peace** I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. **Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.** **John 14:28** Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

Psalms 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, **And delivered me from all my fears.**

Psalms 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in **trouble.** **Psalms 46:2** **Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed,** And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

Isaiah 41:10 **Fear thou not; for I am with thee: Be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; Yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.**

Proverbs 22:24 Make no friendship with an angry man; And with a furious man thou shalt not go: **Proverbs 22:25** Lest thou learn his ways, And get a snare to thy soul.

Ephesians 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: **Ephesians 4:27** Neither give place to the devil.

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, **that in me ye might have peace.** In the world ye shall have tribulation: **but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

John 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: **but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.**

John 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, **that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.** **1 Thessalonians 4:14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. **1 Thessalonians 4:15** For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. **1 Thessalonians 4:16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: **1 Thessalonians 4:17** Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. **1 Thessalonians 4:18** **Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**

4. It is less clear IF God speaks through our emotions!

Our entire culture has moved away from the mind & reason → to

Follow your heart	Go with your gut
Speaking my / your truth	Living my truth
Being my authentic self (which is always found within)	My lived experience

Modern man ideal: reason was the center of the universe (no emotions)	Post-modern man ideal: emotions are desired
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John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

2 caveats | exceptions:

- **If you feel uncomfortable around someone, pay attention & stay away / take precautions**

Even then: be open to facts | reality | other people's thoughts & be able to change your mind.

- **Pain → pain is God's megaphone to rouse a deaf world!**

Heb. 12:5-11

5. It is completely unclear which emotions God would speak through!

Fears?

Hates?

Loves?