



BOOK 02 – CHAPTER 01 – STUDY 08

Why Feelings Cannot Be Trusted for Salvation

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OUR FEELINGS

Our Feelings Cannot Be Trusted

The Bible is quick to tell us that our feelings cannot be trusted.

Proverbs 3:5 (KJV) Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and **lean not unto thine own understanding.**

Proverbs 28:26 (KJV) **He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool:** but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Jeremiah 17:9 (KJV) **The heart is deceitful above all things,** and desperately wicked: who can know it?

It even tells us why we are to be careful to follow our feelings or hearts!

Mat 15:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Mark 7:21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

Why are our feelings deemed so untrustworthy?

Two reasons; They are constantly changing, and they are affected by the changes of this world and by sin.

Luke 12:34 (KJV) For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Luke 6:45 (KJV) A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh. People often

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treat others in the same manner that their heart speaks. If there is hate, they will naturally speak to almost everyone in a hateful way. If there is jealousy in their hearts, they will naturally speak to almost everyone in a selfish and jealous way.

Mat 12:35 (KJV) A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Our feelings are about as certain as the sand on the beach. The sand is always being moved, pushed forward and backward by both wind and water. It is kicked and thrown by people running across it, children building with it, and dogs digging in it.

Our feelings are no different than that sand. They are easily changed by people and circumstances. One moment you could be happily reading a book in your favorite chair, and a few minutes later be angered by the trail of mud your dog just brought in.

Our feelings are influenced by ignorance and Satan through other people. A pastor could make you feel guilty. A friend could make you feel happy again. A salesperson could make you feel anxious.

Eph 4:18 (KJV) Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Mat 13:19 (KJV) When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the wayside.

Our feelings are so easily influenced and changed by words, actions, and tones. So, basically, you can find a great church, and it will be awesome until the sermon hurts your feelings, then you might start thinking that church is not so great after all, even if they are teaching biblical truth.

Luke 24:25 (KJV) Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

Luke 24:32 (KJV) And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?

John 16:6 (KJV) But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart.

Act 2:37 (KJV) Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

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That is why every day, we see more and more churches that are more like concerts and shows than a church of God. The sermons are intended to keep the ~~money~~, I mean the people coming back every weekend. And all the feeling good stuff like feeding the hungry and being part of a big ministry is so important to feeling great! I remember in one church; people were so proud and happy because they were part of the ministry; “a parking ministry”.
Really, a parking ministry?

People are just addicted to feeling good and when you throw in the fluoride and MSG, it gets worse! They will do anything to feel good, no matter if it is illegal or sinful, because by the time they get over it, they will have FORGOTTEN how rotten it is and start all over!

This is where we can see the bad of trusting our feelings. How can we rely on something that is always changing? Our feelings are not accurate, and thanks to Satan and his workers of iniquity, we have too many lies. These lies mixed with a feel-good church make a dangerous combination.

John 13:2 (KJV) And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;

Act 5:3 (KJV) But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

Rom 1:21 (KJV) Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Heb 3:10 (KJV) Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.

Affected by Sin

Because of the fall, our entire being is affected by sin. Our bodies decay, fail, and die, and our hearts are corrupted. Our hearts desire that which is sinful, and we must always be fighting against that. Paul himself writes about this battle we have with the flesh:

Romans 7:15-20 (KJV) For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. **16** If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. **17** Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in

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me. **18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. **19** For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. **20** Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

2 Pet 2:14 (KJV) Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

There is a battle that we must always be fighting against the flesh, and that battle also resides in **our feelings**. Our feelings will lead us to do what feels right or good—whether it is considered righteous by God or not. Our feelings will try to persuade us to do things that are disobedient to God. If we are to live a righteous life, **our feelings cannot be trusted**.

Act 5:4 (KJV) Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

Act 7:51 (KJV) Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

Just imagine; Biblical lies, a feel-good church, our worldly likes and wants, our deceiving heart, and throw in our carelessness and laziness to personally read, study, and verify whether what they are teaching us is biblical or not, will create a perfect and very dangerous environment for our spiritual health. This is a major win for Satan because this doctrine, lifestyle or whatever you want to call it, if left unchecked and uncorrected will lead anyone into hell.

Take the example of Noah.

Hebrews 11:7 (KJV) By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Noah was living in a world of pagans who hated God and loved sin. He was building an ark because God was going to send rain—something never seen before this time. Noah was already about 420 years old, and he spent many, many years preparing and building this ark.

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120 years passed between when God told Noah to build the ark and when the flood started. (**Gen 6:3**)

Noah had to build the entire ark. God did not make it just appear! (**Gen 6:14-16**)

Do you think he felt like building that huge ark, especially with so many specifications?

Or maybe Noah felt like giving up?

Do you think Noah was happy to know that he also had to clean up after all those animals?

Do you think Noah did not feel fearful of the sinful people around him—what they might think or do?

Do you think he was tempted to give up or to not trust God?

Whatever his feelings where, Noah chose to live by faith in God. His faith in God propelled his obedience moving him forward to complete his task, not his unpredictable feelings.

We are faced with the same decision today. We can live by our feelings or by our faith and obedience.

John 12:40 (KJV) He hath blinded their eyes and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

Mat 13:15 (KJV) For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Act 28:27 (KJV) For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

If our faith is in Christ, it should be solid and trustworthy. If our faith is in our feelings, then we will always be influenced by something or someone.

We can be influenced to cook something because our friend cooked it and it looks good.

We can be influenced to wear certain type of clothes or watch certain movies, because other people are doing it.

We can be influenced to drink and smoke, by our best friends or the people around us!

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We can be influenced to go against God and say, watch, or do things that are sinful, just because they are doing it and it feels good.

We can be influenced to assist a church, only because the people seem to be nice, and it is a big and beautiful church!

Do you not think that child molesters and rapists are not influenced by their feelings?

Informing Our Feelings

In the end, it is God and His Word that should inform our feelings, not the other way around. When you are tempted to listen to your feelings or your feelings are overwhelming you, stop and look to God's Word.

Compare what you are feeling to what God says.

Heb 4:12 (KJV) For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Heb 13:9 (KJV) Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

If your feelings line up with God's word? Great, then follow what God's Word says. But if your feelings contradict God's Word, you need to say "NO" to them. Those are the feelings we are to put off and ignore. Though they may feel strong, they are not trustworthy.

God's Word is your source and foundation. Live by it, and not by your feelings.

Our feelings play a big role in our obedience and disobedience towards God. Disobedience keeps us separated from God. While obedience brings us blessings and gets us closer to God.

1 Pet 3:4 (KJV) But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

1 John 3:20 (KJV) For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

1 John 3:21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

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Disobedience is our fall. It is where the world fails to itself! It is how we fail!
A disciple of Christ must be always obedient to God. No matter what the world says, or what our feelings are!

Mat 22:37 (KJV) Christ said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

Mark 12:30 (KJV) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Mark 12:33 (KJV) And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

Luke 10:27 (KJV) And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

We must carry our own cross and follow Him, no matter how or where it takes us!
Trust in the Lord first and be obedient to His word, and all will fall in place!

1 Peter 1:25 (KJV) But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

John 20:29 (KJV) Christ saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Living by the Certainty of Faith

We are called to not live by our feelings but by faith (**2 Cor. 5:7 (KJV)** For we walk by faith, not by sight:). Scripture tells us how to live and what to believe. This is what should govern and determine how we speak, think, and act—not our ever-changing, easily influenced feelings. Our faith is not blind but informed and guided by God's perfect Word.

Sometimes these two can be mixed up; we try to live by both faith and feeling. We try to have a so called “**Balanced**” life. The world and our feelings tell us that a “balanced life” is a healthy life. So, if we are to have a balanced life, where is the “balance” on pornography, or homosexuality, or abortion, or lying? Better yet, **where is the balance on being obedient to the word of God?**

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We often allow our feelings to dictate our stance with God rather than what His Word already declares about us. I do not feel joy, so I will not worship God. I do not feel God when I do my Bible study, so I must be doing something wrong.

In the same way, we worship or pray because we feel burdened or broken hearted, but then again DO NOTHING to get out of this situation or feeling. Some think that Faith means doing nothing but wait! Others just wait for God to do everything, even fix their lives, while they sit and wait for a change doing nothing but feeling sorry for themselves.

In other words, God calls us to live by faith. This means we must act but not act based on our feelings but on what God calls us to do. We do not believe in something because of how it makes us feel but what Scripture says about it.

We must be careful Not to fall with the following type of “believers”.

Mat 15:8 (KJV) This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

Mark 7:6 (KJV) He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

Jam 1:26 (KJV) If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

This is the answer from God to that type of believers.

Act 8:21 (KJV) Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Act 8:22 (KJV) Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

When it comes to the Gospel, it is not about liking what we hear.

It is not about feeling it. It is not even about what we think.

It is all about being obedient to God.

When God says, “do this”, or “do that”, you do it no matter how you feel about it or what you think the outcome may be.

When God says, do not do this or that, then you do not do it!

It does not matter if you think it is ok, or if it feels good and godly to you!

Rom 6:17 (KJV) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

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Eph 6:5 (KJV) Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

Eph 6:6 (KJV) Not with eyeservice, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

Col 3:22 (KJV) Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

1 Pet 1:22 (KJV) Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Even when it comes to giving, we must be careful how or where it comes from. So, is it giving because the church says we must give tithes? Or do we give because our Lord says we are to give, and not only give, but doing it with a cheerful heart, whether is 1% or 100%?

2 Cor 9:7 (KJV) Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

And once again, we fall into “Following the apostle’s doctrine” and not “manmade doctrines”.

Act 11:23 (KJV) Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

Act 2:46 (KJV) And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Act 4:32 (KJV) And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

1 Cor 14:25 (KJV) And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

So bottom line, our obedience to God is what dictates what is in our hearts and how much we love Him.

Rom 5:19 (KJV) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

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Eph 2:2 (KJV) Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Eph 5:6 (KJV) words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Col 3:6 (KJV) For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

Heb 2:2 (KJV) For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;

By being obedient to God and His commandments is the only way we show our love to Him!

**“He that hath an ear,
let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the
churches.”**

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