

THE TRIUNITY OF MAN

“The Analysis of the Soul--Emotions”

I. THE BELIEVER AND EMOTION.

- A. *While the soul possesses three primary functions most soulish or carnal Christians belong to the emotional category.*
1. Their whole life appears to revolve largely around the impulses of emotion.
 2. The mind is the organ of our thinking and reasoning and the will, of our choices and decisions. Aside from our thought and intent and their related works, all other operations issue from emotion.
- B. *Man's sensational life can be expressed in three groups.*
1. Affection.
 2. Desire.
 3. Feeling.
- C. *Man's emotional life vacillates and is undependable.*
1. Sometimes he appears to live in the third heaven transcending everything, while at other times he plunges to the low level of an ordinary man.
 2. His experience is replete with ups and downs.
 3. It does not require an enormous circumstance to change him, for he is unable to withstand even the tiniest mishap.
 4. This exists when man is controlled by feeling and not by the spirit.

II. INSPIRATION AND EMOTION.

- A. *When emotions are in control, the believer will interpret emotional impulses to be motions of inspiration.*
- B. *Emotion always enters from man's outside; inspiration originates with the Holy Spirit in man's spirit.*
1. Inspiration may be imparted in the coldest and most tranquil environment.
 2. Emotion withers the instant outside help is removed.
 - a. Therefore, an emotional person thrives wholly in accordance with the particular environment of the given moment.
 - b. With stimulation he can press on, without it he folds up.
 - c. If a person has not accepted the dealing of the cross upon his emotion, then he will be easily influenced, stimulated, disturbed, and even governed by the external world.
He will undergo constant change, for emotion shifts often.
the slightest threat from outside or the smallest increase in work shall upset him and render him helpless.
- C. *God leads us by His Spirit through peace.*
1. God does not lead anyone who is in turmoil.
 2. Never decide on anything or start to do anything while emotion is agitating.
 3. It is in times of great emotional upheaval that mistakes are readily made.
 4. Similarly, one should refrain from doing anything which might stir up his emotions unnecessarily.

III. THE PROPER USE OF EMOTION.

- A. ***A spiritual man is not merely a spirit, neither is he a person devoid of emotion.***
1. The cross has dealt with the natural life in the emotion, has renewed it, and has made it a channel for the spirit.
 2. (Gal 2:20 KJV) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
- B. ***In committing our soul to the cross we must remember that what is lost is the soul life, not its function.***
1. Were its function nailed to the cross we could no longer think, choose, or feel.
 2. To lose soul life means to:
Continuously deny the natural power and to walk exclusively by the power of God.
It means to live no longer after self and its desires but to submit unexceptionally to the will of God.
- C. ***Once purified, emotion can serve as the means of the spirit's expression.***
1. The inner man needs emotion to express its life.
 2. It needs emotion to declare its love and its sympathy towards man's suffering.
- D. ***On quality which characterizes a spiritual person is the great calm he maintains under every circumstance.***

IV. AFFECTION.

- A. ***God demands that we present our affections wholly to Him.***
1. He is unwilling to share our heart with anyone or anything else.
 2. He demands all of our love, which naturally strikes a fatal blow to one's soul life.
- B. ***The work of God has suffered because of our failure to let the Lord be Lord of our affections.***
1. Many parents cling to their children for themselves and permit the kingdom of God to incur loss.
 2. Misplaced affections result anytime that anyone or anything else takes our focus off of the Lord.
- C. ***Only God can satisfy a Christian's heart; man cannot.***
1. The failure of many is to seek from man what can be found only in god.
 2. All human affection is empty; only the love of God is able to fully satisfy one's desire.
 3. The moment a Christian seeks a love outside God his spiritual life immediately falls. We can only live by the love of God.
- D. ***When the believer has passed through a purifying process, no longer is self mixed in with his love.***
1. In his former affection, he loved others but love himself more.
 2. Now, no longer does he love what his own self loves, but he loves those

whom God loves.

3. He loves himself as well as others for God's sake; he can therefore love others as his very self.

V. DESIRE.

- A. ***All natural or soulish desires and ambitions are linked with self life.***
- B. ***Pride springs from desire.***
 1. Man aspires to obtain a place for himself that he may feel honored before men.
 2. He loves both to see and to be seen.
 3. He will try every means to push himself to the front.
- C. ***All ambitions to spread one's fame, become a man above others, and attract the world's admiration proceed from the emotional life.***
 1. Often in spiritual work the aspirations for success, fruit, power and usefulness are but pretenses for glorifying oneself.
 2. The quest for growth, depth, and nobler experience is frequently a search for self-pleasure and the admiration of others.

VI. FEELING.

- A. ***A soulish or carnal Christian is motivated by emotions.***
 1. An emotional Christian is at his spiritual peak when in possession of the wonderful feeling; he is at his lowest when deprived of it.
 2. He often characterizes his walk as full of ups and downs.
- B. ***Does exuberant feelings last forever?***
 1. Begin to wonder where the Lord has gone.
 2. Will naturally surmise that he must have sinned and that the Lord has forsaken him.
 3. When he doesn't sense the Lord's presence, he concludes that the Lord could not possibly be with him.

THE LIFE OF FAITH.

- A. ***The life of faith is diametrically opposite to a life of feeling.***
 1. He who lives by sensation can follow God's will or seek the things above purely at the time of excitement.
 2. Should his blissful feeling cease, every activity terminates.
- B. ***Faith is anchored in the One Whom he believes.***
 1. Faith looks not at what happens to him but at Him Whom he believes.
 2. Though he may completely change, yet the One in Whom he trusts never does.
- C. ***Faith vs. Feelings.***
 1. Faith regards not its feeling because it is concerned with God.
 2. Faith follows the One believed while feeling turns on how one feels.
 3. Faith beholds God; feeling beholds one's self.
 4. The life of feeling draws people away from abiding in God to finding satisfaction in joy, while the life of faith draws believers into being satisfied

with God by faith.

5. A life of emotion induces the saint to exist for himself but a life of faith enables him to exist for God.

The Christian experience, from start to finish, is a journey of faith.

We carry on whether we feel comfortable or whether we feel painful.

Our attitude towards God is never altered according to our sensations.