

LIFE CHANGING STORIES FROM THE BIBLE

“GOD HAS FEELINGS”

If we are going to grow in grace and knowledge it is important that we recognize that God has feelings just like we have feelings. It is also important we recognize that God is one God of three equal divine personalities, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It was the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who created the universe and the world and all that is in it. It was the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who created the human race.

As we read in Genesis 1:26-27. “Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.” “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them.” Notice it says, “Let us” that is, Father, Son and Holy spirit, do it. Made in the image and likeness of God what does that mean? It means made in the likeness of God’s personality. That is to have a mind, feelings and a will. God is the invisible God but he has an all powerful divine personality. His mind has all knowledge and creative ability. His feelings are deeper than anything we can experience and his will can perform or do anything and of course he only chooses to do what’s right.

He has given us mind, feelings and will in a human body. Our mind is limited in knowledge and gradually learning more. Our feelings are often complicated because of not always making the right choices and our will often struggles to do what we should do. But the wonderful thing is that we as a personality can have a relationship with God the divine personality.

Feelings play a big part in all our lives, sometimes we feel happy, sometimes we feel sad as well as all the other feelings we experience in life. We can learn a lot about the feelings of God by looking at the life of Jesus. One of the reasons Jesus came to earth was to show us what God is like. God is not some great force or power, he is a living personality with feelings. Maybe you have not thought about it before, but God has feelings.

What about a feeling of disappointment. Luke 17:12-19. “As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus feet and thanked him- and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go: your faith has made you well.”

I wonder how many times we disappoint the Lord by not thanking him for the blessings we have in life as the old hymn says, “When upon life’s billows you are tempest tossed,

When you are discouraged thinking all is lost, count your many blessings, name them one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done.” This was the beginning of the slippery slope for our early ancestors for we read in Romans 1:21. “For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him.”

How would you feel if at great personal sacrifice you did something for a family member or a friend and they didn’t bother to thank you or show any appreciation, they just took you for granted. Well multiply that feeling tens of billions of times and you get faint idea of how God feels when we don’t bother to thank him for the blessings we receive each day.

How does God feel when people turn away from him? John 6:66-69. “From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Do you sense the sadness in Jesus voice and heart as he asked the twelve disciples, “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Then the joy in his heart as Peter said, “Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

But what about those who turned away from him? They remind me of the parable Jesus told of the Prodigal son. In Luke 15:11-24. The youngest son leaves home and goes to a far country where he lives a life that brings shame on his father. You can imagine the grief in the father’s heart, a faint picture of the grief we cause God when we become unfaithful to him. Finally the boy hits rock bottom and decides to return home and humble himself before his father saying he had sinned and was not worthy to be called his son.

Now we have a picture of the joy in God’s heart when people come back to him. Verse 20 “So he got up and went to his father. But while he was a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him: he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.” “He ran to his son!” Not to punish him but to put his arms around him and kiss him and forgive him. God’s joy, when we feel so unworthy because of our failures, is pictured as running to meet us in welcoming joy.

We can be a grief to God or a joy to God. It is not a life of rules a regulations but a relationship with a divine person who loves us. Growing in grace is growing in that relationship.

JESUS HEALS TEN LEPERS



HOW DOES GOD FEEL WHEN WE FORGET TO THANK HIM?



THE FATHER OF THE PRODIGAL SON REJOICES AT HIS SON'S RETURN, JUST LIKE GOD REJOICES WHEN WE RETURN TO HIM.

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