### HEART & SOUL

## Preaching the Emotions of Jesus

How Revealing Jesus's Emotional Life in the Text Can Enliven Your Listeners' Faith

> Peter M. Wallace pwallace@day1.org Rooted in Jesus Conference Atlanta 2020



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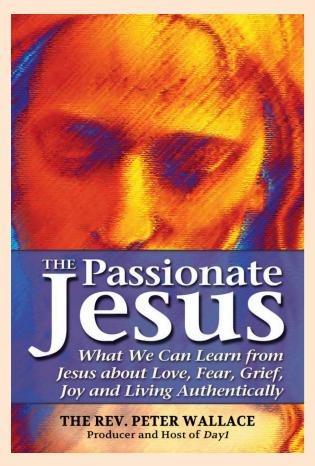


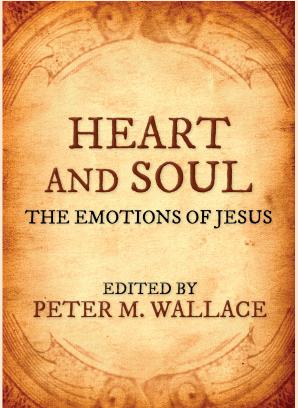
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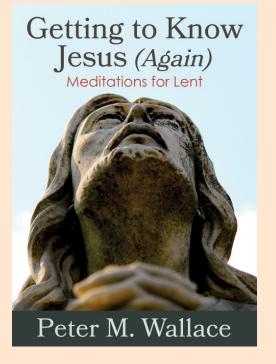




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THE EMOTIONS OF JESUS

EDITED BY
PETER M. WALLACE

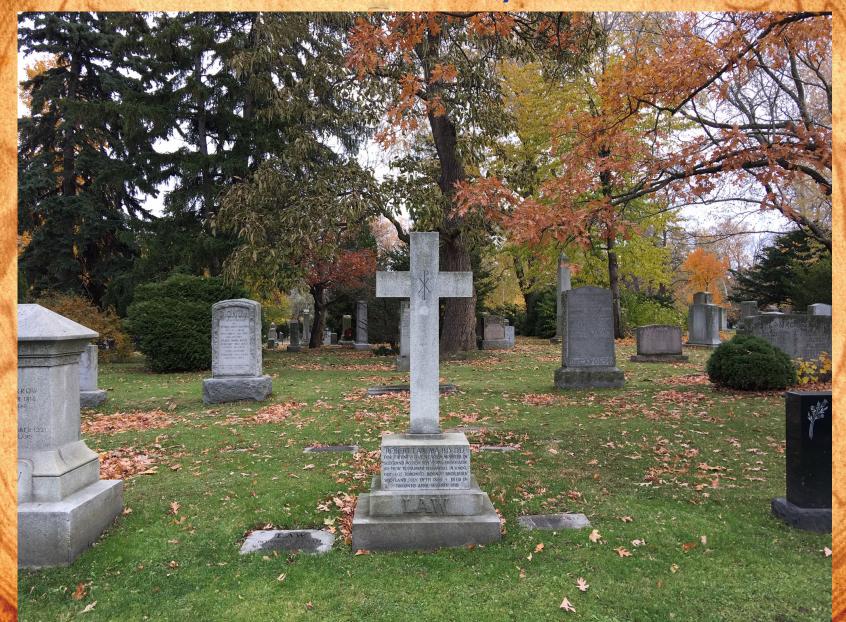


### Robert Law, D.D.

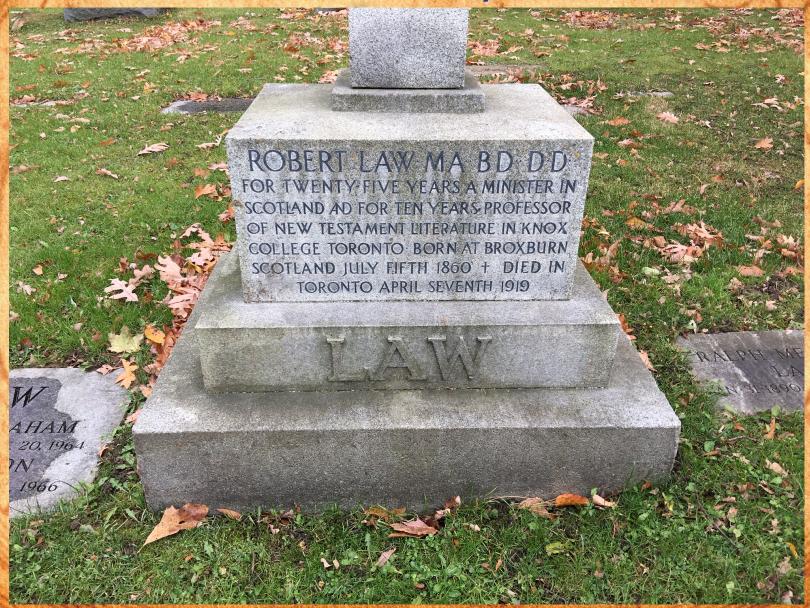


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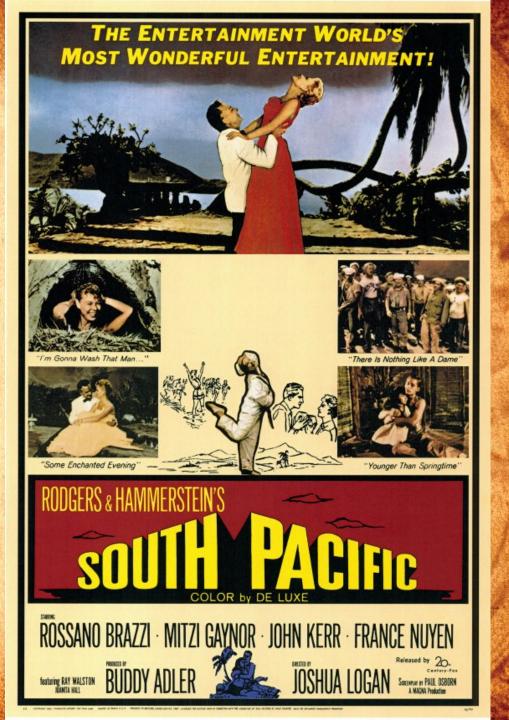
# HEART & SOUL Preaching the Emotions of Jesus

How Revealing Jesus's Emotional Life in the Text Can Enliven Your Listeners' Faith

### Eric Elnes on This Approach:

With this fresh perspective through Jesus's emotions, "You find Jesus becoming more three-dimensional, more real, and, frankly, more like someone you'd throw your heart and soul into following."





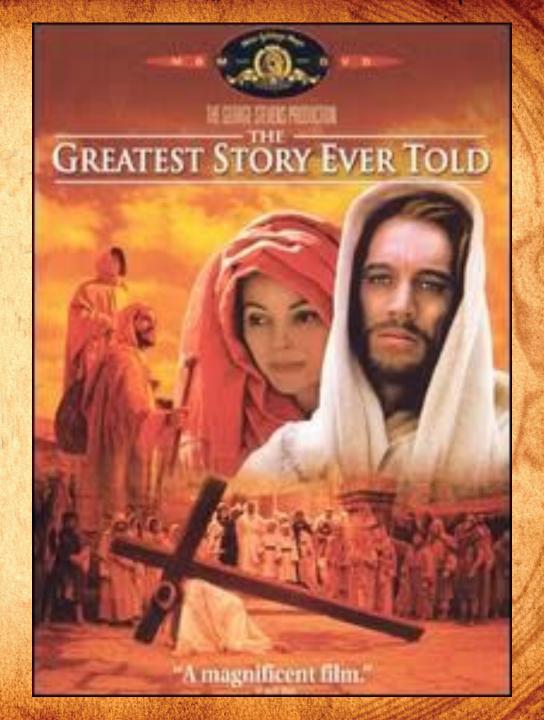
### The Ten Commandments!



"Oh Moses, Moses, you stubborn, splendid, adorable fool!" (Exodus....?)

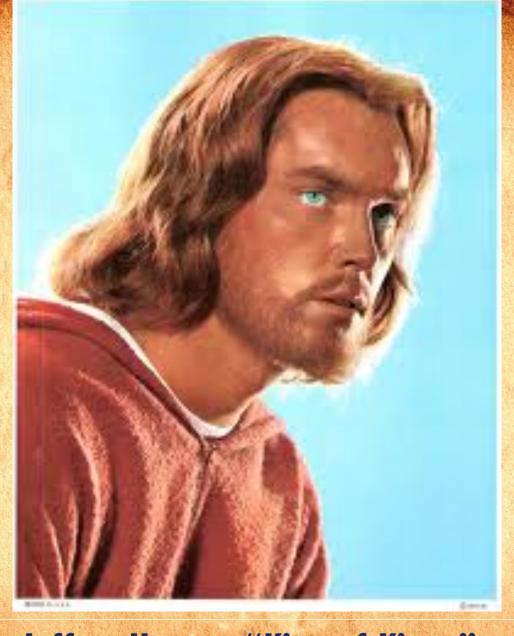


# The Greatest Story Ever Told!





Max Von Sydow, "The Greatest Story Ever Told"



Jeffrey Hunter, "King of Kings"







## Was Jesus a Big Drama King?



# What time should! be the?

# "...deeply moved..." John 11:33

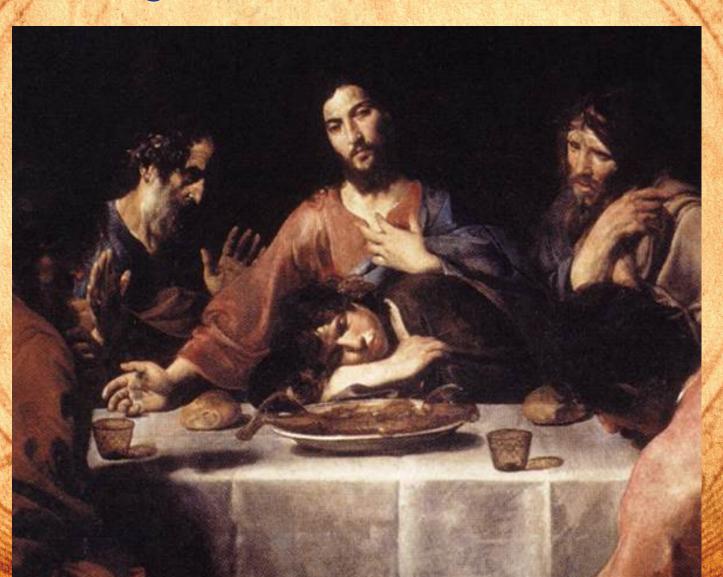
# Why preach Jesus's emotions?

### Barbara Brown Taylor:

"If, in the process of composing a sermon, a preacher discovers the visceral connection between the word 'God' and the heartpounding experience of authentic love, then the sermon will be more than correct. It will be true, not at the level of explanation but at the level of experience, where all our deepest truths —The Preaching Life are tested."

# 1. Jesus offers LOVE in freely shared, actively expressed ways.

## John 13:23-25: The beloved disciple "reclining in the bosom of Jesus..."



### For Example...

**LUKE 7:36-50:** 

The woman who anoints Jesus's feet with expensive ointment and tears.

See also:

MATTHEW 26:6-13 and JOHN 12:1-8

What do the emotions in this story tell us about the people involved?

<sup>36</sup>One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. 37 And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

<sup>36</sup>One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. 37 And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak." 41 "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."

44Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." 48Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."



### **Lectionary Alerts!**

3/8/20 Lent 2A: John 3:1-17
Jesus teaches Nicodemus
about God's love

TPJ p. 32-33

3/29/20 Lent 5A: John 11:1-45

Jesus's love for Lazarus

TPJ p. 23-25

4/9/20 Maundy Thursday: John 13

Jesus's teaching in upper room TPJ p. 35-37

What do the emotions in the text tell us about the people and the meaning?

### 2. Jesus expresses straightforward ANGER — in the service of God's justice.

### John 2:14-17

<sup>14</sup> In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup> Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

<sup>16</sup> He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."



3/1/20 Lent 1A: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus's temptation and anger with Satan in wilderness

TPJ p. 65

## 3. Jesus allows his FEAR to empower his resolve to surrender to God.

#### Mark 14:32-42

32 They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. 34 And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." 35 And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."...

2/23/20 Transfiguration: Matthew 17:1-9
Notice the disciples' reaction and
Jesus's response
TPJ p. 102-103

4/5/20 Passion Liturgy: Matthew 27:11-54 Jesus's fear of abandonment TPJ p. 97

4/12/20 Easter: Matthew 28:1-10
Fear at the Empty Tomb
TPJ p. 103-104

# 4. Jesus fully feels his GRIEF so he can offer true hope.

#### John 11:1-44

33 When Jesus saw [Mary] weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34 He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus began to weep. 36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" 38 Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone."...



#### N.T.Wright:

"When we look at Jesus, not least when we look at Jesus in tears, we are seeing not just a fleshand-blood human being but the Word made flesh (1.1-14). The Word, through whom the worlds were made, weeps like a baby at the grave of his friend.... Only when we put away our high-and-dry pictures of who God is and replace them with pictures in which the Word who is God can cry with the world's crying will we discover what the word 'God' really means." TPJ p. 122

2/2/20 Epiphany 4A: Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon on the Mount — "Mourn" TPJ p. 130-131

4/26/20 Easter 3A: Luke 24:13-49
Grief of the Emmaus Disciples TPJ p. 128-130

## 5. The truly joyful Jesus promises complete JOY to those who follow him.

#### For Example...

LUKE 10:1-11,16-20:

Jesus Appoints the 70 to Go Out and

Minister in His Name

What do the emotions in this story tell us about the people involved?

#### Luke 10:17-24

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" 18 He said to them...Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." 21 At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit ... 23 Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! 24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

2/2/20 Epiphany 4A: Matthew 5:1-12 Sermon on the Mount — "Rejoice"

TPJ p. 151

### Jesus possessed an integrated spirit as a fully realized human being...

Jesus possessed an integrated spirit as a fully realized human being... and we can follow his example.

#### John\_7:37-38

37... "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, 38 and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'"

2/2/20 Epiphany 4A:

Matthew 5:1-12 — Beatitudes - Authenticity

"Suffering is the necessary deep feeling of the human situation. If we don't feel pain, suffering, human failure, and weakness, we stand antiseptically apart from it, and remain numb and small....The irony is not that God should feel so fiercely; it's that his creatures feel so feebly."...

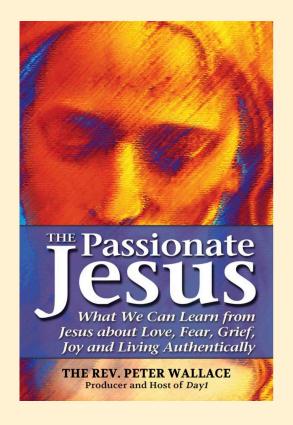
2/2/20 **Epiphany 4A**:

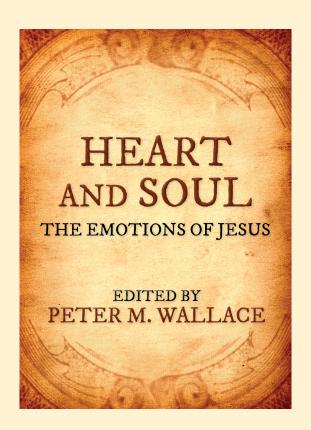
**Matthew 5:1-12 — Beatitudes - Authenticity** 

... "We must all feel and know the immense pain of this global humanity. Then we are no longer isolated, but a true member of the universal Body of Christ. Then we know God not only from the outside but from the inside."

-Richard Rohr







#### For more Information:

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