



# *Pastor's Comments*

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## *Northampton Assembly of God*

3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton • Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm

Daniel E. Lundmark • [pastor@NAOG.ws](mailto:pastor@NAOG.ws) • 610-262-5645

## **Too Emotional In Praising God?**

Someone asked Billy Bray of Cornwall, England, "Why do you praise the Lord so much?" He replied, "**I bless the Lord constantly** because my whole life is brightened by praising God." The other said, "But **why must you do it aloud?**" The Cornish coal miner who had turned to preaching smiled wistfully and answered, "**I can't help it.** As I walk down the street, I lift up one foot and it seems to say, '**Glory!**' Then I lift up the other, and it seems to say, '**Amen!**' And **they keep on like that** all the time I walk."

Some would criticize Billy Bray as being **too emotional in praising God**, but then at the baseball game they'll **hysterically scream to the top of their voice** when their team member makes a home run, or they'll **laugh hilariously** at some funny joke, or they'll **weep uncontrollably** while watching some sad, make-believe story on television. God never intended for his blood-washed, heaven-bound, Holy Ghost-filled believers to go to church and sit like bumps on a log in an atmosphere like that of a funeral home! Scriptures encourage the people of God to **enthusiastical-ly** and **actively** praise Him: "**Shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart**" (Psalm 32:11); "**O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph**" (Psalm 47:1); "**Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord**" (Psalm 134:2). If you cannot honestly identify emotionally with these scriptures, I urge you to seek God for a much deeper spiritual experience! After all, when we consider **how great God is** and **all that He has done for us**, shouldn't the level of our fervor in praising him sincerely reflect it? "**For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised**" (Psalm 96:4).