

## God's Three Calls

- I. There are three calls of God that pertain to the salvation of sinners from sin and its penalty as God calls men unto Himself.
- II. There is a vital call from spiritual death in sins (**GEN 2:17**) to new life in and by Christ Jesus Who is a quickening spirit. **EPH 2:1-5 c/w 1CO 15:45.**
  - A. It is by the VOICE of the Son of God Himself according to His will by the Spirit. The sinner is passive in its action. **JOH 5:21, 25; 6:63.**
  - B. It is DISCRIMINATE. It is for the elect sheep for whom Christ died. **JOH 10:11, 26-28.**
  - C. It is not based upon human works or resolve. **ROM 9:16; 2TI 1:9.**
  - D. It is EFFECTUAL and IRRESISTIBLE. **JOH 5:25.**
  - E. It is not revocable. **JOH 10:27-29; ROM 11:28-29.**
  - F. It acts upon the inward man/spirit/soul only. **HEB 8:10; ROM 7:22 c/w 2CO 4:16.**
  - G. It fits a person for glory. **ROM 8:30.**
  - H. It establishes RELATIONSHIP with God. **1JO 3:1; HEB 3:1; GAL 4:6.**
  - I. It is the down-payment of complete transformation at Christ's return.  
**ROM 8:11, 23 c/w PHIL 3:20-21.**
  - J. It enables a person to understand, believe and obey the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
**JOH 8:42-43, 47 c/w 1CO 1:18, 23-24.**
  - K. It is the same means whereby the creation came into being and a dead body is resurrected to life. **2CO 4:6 c/w EPH 1:19-20; JOH 12:17.**
  - L. It is a spiritual generation and birth, denoting the sinner's passiveness.  
**TIT 3:5; JOH 3:5-8.**
  - M. It does not require a preacher or scripture, only the life-giving VOICE of Jesus Christ which can quicken infants, heathen, even the enemies of the gospel.
- III. There is a call of the gospel to repentance, faith and obedient submission to Christ.
  - A. It is by the written and/or preached WORDS of Scripture. **GAL 1:6; 2TH 2:13-14.**
  - B. It is INDISCRIMINATE, calling all men everywhere. **ACT 17:30.**
  - C. It is RESISTIBLE. **PRO 1:23-24; ACT 7:51; ROM 10:16.**
  - D. It is effectual only in those who believe it. **1TH 2:13.**
  - E. It is REVOCABLE in its appeal and benefits. **ACT 13:46; HEB 3:7-12; 1CO 5:11-13.**
  - F. It appeals to the new inward man to bring the outward man/body into practical conformity to Christ. **ROM 13:14; COL 3:10.**
  - G. It reveals the means of life and immortality: the purpose and grace of God in Christ.  
**2TI 1:9-10.**
  - H. It establishes FELLOWSHIP with God through believing obedience. **1JO 1:3-4.**
  - I. It helps to identify the elect who have received the first call. **1TH 1:4-6; 2PE 1:8-11.**
  - J. It is greatly governed by the will of man. The sinner is active in answering this call and benefitting by it or rejecting it and being turned over to judgment. **PRO 1:23-33.**
  - K. It requires preaching of Scripture so the regenerated elect can call upon God.  
**ROM 10:12-14 c/w 2TI 1:10.**
  - L. It is foolishness to natural man. **1CO 1:18; 2:14.**
- IV. There is a call to resurrection and a glorified body for the elect.
  - A. It is by the VOICE of the Son of God according to His will. The sinner is passive in answering it. **JOH 5:28-29; JOB 14:14-15.**
  - B. Its power is IRRESISTIBLE. **JOH 11:43-44; 1TH 4:16.**

- C. It is entirely **EFFECTUAL** in its desired purpose. **JOH 5:28-29.**
- D. Its power is favorable for the elect. **JOH 5:28-29 ct/w MAT 25:41.**
- E. It is durable, **IRREVOCABLE** for the elect. **1CO 15:52; 1PE 1:2-4.**
- F. It is the redemption and glorification of the body/outward man of one who has heard the first vital call to life. **ROM 8:11, 23, 30; PHIL 3:21.**
- G. It does not require any sinner's cooperation. It will infallibly, sovereignly happen.
- H. It is a great incentive to practical obedience to the gospel call. **1JO 3:3.**

V. In summary, then:

A. The call to regeneration/life.

- 1. It is a sovereign, discriminate call (not a general call).
- 2. It is by the **VOICE** of Christ.
- 3. It is based upon God's will and grace in election, not the creature's work or will.
- 4. It is internal, renewing the inward man.
- 5. It is effectual to all who whom it is given.
- 6. It is irresistible.
- 7. It establishes sonship/relationship to God.
- 8. It generates/births one spiritually and gives eternal life.
- 9. It enables the elect to hearken to the gospel call.
- 10. It is the downpayment and guarantee of the final call to resurrection glory.

B. The gospel call.

- 1. It is by the **PREACHED/WRITTEN WORDS** of Scripture.
- 2. It is a general or universal call to all men.
- 3. It is only heard by some men.
- 4. It is only receivable/hearable by such as have already received the first call by the voice of Christ.
- 5. It appeals to the new inward man but is folly to the unchanged natural man.
- 6. It is only effectual in those who have received the first call and believe it.
- 7. It is resistible.
- 8. It establishes fellowship with God through Christ.
- 9. It reveals spiritual life given by the first call in those who hearken to it.
- 10. It indicates a lack of spiritual life in its rejectors.
- 11. It gives hope and assurance of participation in the third call to those who obey it.
- 12. It is revocable in its appeal and benefits.

C. The resurrection call.

- 1. It is by the **VOICE** of the Son of God.
- 2. It acts upon the outward man.
- 3. It is universal.
- 4. It is entirely effectual.
- 5. It is irresistible.
- 6. It quickens passive dead bodies.
- 7. It purifies and immortalizes the entire person of all the elect (dead or living) only.
- 8. It is the last call of any kind that sinners shall hear from Christ.