

## The Gospel Call

### Review:

- I. "The Order of Salvation" WG
  1. Election (God's choice of people to be saved)
  2. The gospel call (proclaiming the message of the gospel)
  3. Regeneration (being born again)
  4. Conversion (faith and repentance)
  5. Justification (right legal standing)
  6. Adoption (membership in God's family)
  7. Sanctification (right conduct of life)
  8. Perseverance (remaining a Christian)
  9. Death (going to be with the Lord)
  10. Glorification (receiving a resurrection body)

### I. The gospel call

A. "The gospel call refers to the verbal proclamation of the gospel by which sinners are called to turn from their sin and trust Christ for salvation." John MacArthur

Matt 22:14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Rom 10:13-17 For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? <sup>15</sup> And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>16</sup> But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, "LORD, who has believed our message?"<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

I Cor 1:18-21 The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. <sup>19</sup> As the Scriptures say,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise  
and discard the intelligence of the intelligent.”<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>20</sup> So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world’s brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. <sup>21</sup> Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe.

James 1:18 He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

I Peter 1:23 For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.

I Peter 1:25 But the word of the Lord remains forever.”<sup>[a]</sup>

And that word is the Good News that was preached to you.

Rom 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>17</sup> This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.

## B. The effective call

“We may define effective calling as follows: Effective calling is an act of God the Father, speaking through the human proclamation of the gospel, in which he summons people to himself in such a way that they respond in saving faith.” Wayne Grudem

“Those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified” (Rom. 8:30).

1 Peter 2:9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests,<sup>[a]</sup> a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

## II. Three elements involved in a salvation call

Wayne Grudem

### A. Explanation of the Facts Concerning Salvation.

All people have sinned

Rom. 3:23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.

The penalty for our sin is death

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty for our sins

Rom. 5:8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners

#### B. Invitation to Respond to Christ Personally in Repentance and Faith.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matt. 11:28–30 NIV)

“He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God” (John 1:11–12).

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me” (Rev. 3:20).

What is involved in coming to Christ?

“Any genuine gospel proclamation must include an invitation to make a conscious decision to forsake one’s sins and come to Christ in faith, asking Christ for forgiveness of sins.” WG

Acts 20:21 I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike—the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus.

#### C. A Promise of Forgiveness and Eternal Life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

“Him who comes to me I will not cast out” (John 6:37).

Close:

Let this be to you the mark of true gospel preaching - where Christ is everything, and the creature is nothing; where it is salvation all of grace, through the work of the Holy Spirit applying to the soul the precious blood of Jesus.

**Charles Spurgeon**