

Truths of Assurance and Freedom

Lesson # 7 -- Truths Regarding the Believer and the Call of God.

Introduction

- A. Every person, at some time or other, will ask about the meaning and purpose of life. The Bible gives the answer. It is found in Col 1:18

... That in all things He (Jesus Christ) might have the preeminence.

- B. How the believer is related to this answer is found in the Biblical theme of "The Calling of God." While referring first of all to salvation, it goes beyond that to describe the plan God has for every believer. Each of us are "called" to live so Jesus Christ would be honored and glorified.

I. The Fact of God's Call

- A. All believers have been called to exalt Jesus Christ.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Rom 8:28,29

Comment: The firstborn boy in the Jewish family had a place of honor and respect. If the father would die he would get a double inheritance and was responsible to care for the family. The purpose of God's call is that the Lord Jesus might be given due honor and respect.

- B. All believers have been called to live so the Lord Jesus would be praised.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I Peter 2:9

Comment: God has chosen us, made us priests, holy, and a purchased people so we can live to glorify the Savior. All believers are called -- not only the clergy. All are called alike while how we fulfill that call may be in a great variety of ways.

- C. All believers must give an account of how we have fulfilled God's call.

For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Rom 14:11,12

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. II Cor 5:10

Comment: This future event, in which all of us will be involved, is as certain to happen, as the past events in our life have happened. There will be a time in which we must give an account of how we have obeyed or disobeyed. This does not refer to salvation -- but rewards.

II. The Characteristics of God's Call

A. The call of God is inescapable.

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. Rom 11:29

B. The call of God is transforming.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that ye may know what is the hope of his calling Eph 1:18

C. The call of God is rewarding.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended, but ... I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Phil 3:13,14

D. The call of God is holy, purposeful, gracious and eternal.

Who hath saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

III. The Instructions in God's Call

A. The believer has been called to fellowship with God.

God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. I Cor 1:9

B. The believer has been called to live a life of liberty.

For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty, only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love to serve one another. Gal 5:13

C. The believer has been called to live worthy of God.

I therefore the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation (calling) wherewith ye are called. Eph 4:1

D. The believer has been called to live a life of holiness.

For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. I Thess 4:7

IV. The Promise Related to God's Call

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. I Thess 5:24

Comment: If we follow His instructions -- He will protect us, direct us, bless us, provide our need and enable us to fulfill His call. What more could be ask?

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