

## Doctrine of the Call

1. It is important to realize there is an external call of the gospel but an internal call as well. The *Scriptural* evidence is compelling.
  - ❖ In the external call, the gospel is preached to all people indiscriminately. Anyone can hear it but not all will respond to the spiritual truths communicated. Jesus made this point in parabolic form. *Matthew 22:3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. 4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. 7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.*
  - ❖ In the external call of the gospel, the good news is sown. Gospel truth falls upon rocky soil and good soil alike.
  - ❖ In the external call, the gospel is easily dismissed.
2. The internal call of the gospel is different than the external call. The internal call of the gospel is the voice of the Holy Spirit effectively applying the gospel message to the hearts of individuals with sovereign power to repentance, faith, salvation, and service.
  - *Mark 2:17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*
  - *Luke 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*
  - *Mark 1:20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.*
  - *Acts 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*
  - ❖ The external call gives spiritual power for the dead soul to live in order to believe the gospel.

- ❖ The internal call cannot be denied nor does the renewed heart want to reject the gospel.

There is the effective evocation of faith by the Holy Spirit

- *Romans 8:30 Moreover, whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*
  - *1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*
  - *Galatians 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,*
  - *2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*
  - *2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an 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,*
  - *Hebrews 9:15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.*
  - *1 Peter 2:9 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:*
  - *2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: The reason why so many can turn away from the Lord and reject Christianity is because they have yet to hear the internal call of the gospel.*
- ❖ Once the internal call is heard, there are ethical implications. A worthy walk is demanded to be characterized by holiness, patience, and peace.
  - *Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,*
  - *1 Thessalonians 4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.*

- *1 Peter 1:15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*
  - *1 Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:*
  - *1 Corinthians 7:15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.*
  - *Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.*
3. It would not be wrong to talk honestly to people and ask them if they have heard the internal call of Christ which converts the soul and causes the heart to love Jesus leading to a different life.
  4. The curse of the modern Church is that people sit in pews accepting the outward signs of salvation while secretly being unsure whether or not Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior of the world who was crucified, buried, and rose again the third day.
  5. Have you ever asked the Lord to grant you that gospel grace of being able to hear the internal call to salvation?