

THE GOSPEL CALL

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Paul encouraged the young preacher Timothy to share with him “in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has 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 to us in Christ Jesus before time began” (2 Timothy 1:8-9). This “holy calling” is heard in the gospel of Jesus Christ. This great and wonderful calling is worthy of our close attention.

A HOLY CALLING

A “holy” calling is one that is set apart from any other calling we may receive. This is a divine calling for a divine purpose. It is holy because He who does the calling is holy, and it is for the purpose of making holy those who partake in this “heavenly calling” (Hebrews 3:1). This call should not be ignored or refused. It is the most important call that man will receive, and we should be careful to walk worthy of this holy calling (Ephesians 4:1).

CALLED BY THE GOSPEL

This holy calling is delivered by the revelation of the gospel (‘good news’) of Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Paul: “But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14).

The gospel is the means by which God draws us to Himself. Jesus said, “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws Him...It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me” (John 6:44-45). By no other means will God call men to salvation today: “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

CALLED UNTO SALVATION

We are called by God unto salvation from sin (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14). Eternal salvation in heaven is the ultimate “one hope” of this calling (Ephesians 4:4). Many feel they have been called to certain occupations, charitable works, or specific roles in life, but if they never answer the call of the gospel of Christ unto salvation from sin, they have missed their true “calling.” Have you answered the gospel call? Do you not realize that God is drawing you through His word? Zion’s call sweetly rings over land and sea – hear and obey it today!
