

CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD

Rom.10:13

- WHAT IT IS NOT
- WHAT IT IS
- SUMMARY
- IF CALLING SCRIPTURALLY

Good morning!

A grand promise, forms the basis of our hope, which is found in [Rom.10:13](#)

- “For whosoever shall **CALL**, upon the **NAME** of the Lord, shall be **SAVED**.”

Which is what the title of the lesson is based on, “**Calling On The Name of The Lord**”.

But this is a misunderstood Scripture expression -- People have the notion, that calling on the name of the Lord involves only the use of His Name in prayer. They suppose, that’s all that is necessary to salvation, is for a person to pray to the Lord.

LET US FIRST SEE:

I. **WHAT CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD IS NOT**

A. It is not **BELEIVING**; Believing has to be first

- “How then shall they **CALL** on Him, in Whom they have **not believed?** and how shall they **BELIEVE** in Him, of Whom they have not heard? and how shall they **HEAR**, without a preacher?” ([Rom.10:14](#))

B. **CALLING** is **NOT** the same, as **SAYING** His Name

- “**NOT** every one that **SAITH** unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall **ENTER INTO** the kingdom of heaven; **BUT** he that **DOETH** the will of My Father which is **IN** Heaven.” ([Matt.7:21](#))
- “And why **CALL** ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do **NOT** the things which I say?” ([Lk.6:46](#))

C. And **CALLING**, is Not **PRAYING**

As the Bible tells of Saul, who became Paul, that

- “he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.” ([Acts 9:9](#))
- “And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, **he prayeth**,” ([Acts 9:11](#))
- “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, **CALLING** on the name of the Lord.” ([Acts 22:16](#))

Those who insist that Calling IS praying, should tell us – What would one ask for?

...For God’s love?

Surely not, as we have already received His love.

- “God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” ([Rom.5:8](#))

If Calling is For His grace, There is no reason

- “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men,” ([Titus 2:11](#))
- “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the **WORD of His Grace**, which is able to **BUILD** you up, and to **GIVE** you an inheritance, among all them which are sanctified.” ([Acts 20:32](#))

If Calling is For An Opportunity to the know the Truth, that too is already given

- “how that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, ⁴ whereby, **WHEN** ye **READ**, ye may **UNDERSTAND** My knowledge in the mystery of Christ)” ([Eph.3:3-4](#))

All has been provided. The decision now, is for the sinner

- “**HOW** shall we **ESCAPE**, **IF** we **NEGLECT** so great **SALVATION**,” ([Heb.2:3](#))

We have noticed what **CALLING** is **NOT**.

Now, we need to,

II. LET THE BIBLE TELL US WHAT CALLING IS

- “For what saith the scripture?” ([Rom.4:3a](#))
- “let God be true, but every man a liar;” ([Rom.3:4a](#))

CALLING is explained three times in the NT . . . Consider GOD’S explanation, as follows:

We’ll Be,

A. Examining The Expression In Context (from Acts Chapter 2).

- We’ll begin in [Acts 2:21](#) “and it shall **COME** to **PASS** (which references a prophecy), *that* **whosoever shall CALL on the name** (which references Authority & power) **of the Lord, shall be **SAVED**.**” ([Acts 2:21](#))

The prophecy quoted, is a sacred pledge of God, from [Joel 2:32](#).

- Which reads, “And it shall **COME** to **PASS**, that **whosoever shall CALL on the NAME** of the Lord, shall be **DELIVERED**: for **IN** mount Zion and **IN** Jerusalem, shall be deliverance, **AS** the Lord hath **SAID**, and **IN** the **REMNANT**, whom the Lord shall **CALL**.” ([Joel 2:32](#)).

By inspiration, Peter was told what to do, to **GAIN** deliverance from the bondage of sin.

He said,

- “Ye men of Israel, **HEAR** these **WORDS**; Jesus of Nazareth, a man **APROVED** of God **AMONG** you, **BY** miracles and wonders and signs, which God did **BY** Him, in the **MIDST** of you, **AS** ye yourselves also **KNOW**:²³ Him, being delivered **BY** the **DETERMINATE** counsel and **FOREKNOWLEDGE** of God, ye have **TAKEN**, and by **WICKED** hands, have **CRUCIFIED** and slain:²⁴ whom God hath **RAISED** up, having **LOOSED** the pains of **DEATH**: because it was **NOT** possible, that He should be holden of it.” ([Acts 2:22-24](#))
- “Therefore let all the house of Israel know **ASSUREDLY**, that God hath made that **SAME** Jesus, **WHOM** ye have **CRUCIFIED**, both Lord and Christ.³⁷ Now **WHEN** they **HEARD** this, they were **PRICKED** in their HEART, and **SAID** unto Peter, and **TO** the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, **WHAT shall we DO?**³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, **REPENT, and be BAPTIZED** every one of you, in the NAME of Jesus Christ (that is, by His authority and power), **FOR** the remission of sins, and ye shall **RECEIVE** the gift of the Holy Spirit.” ([Acts 2:36-38](#))

Then those who Received the Truth, Obeyed the Truth.

We are told in [Acts 2:41](#),

- “Then they, that gladly **RECEIVED** His Word, were **BAPTIZED**: and the same day, there were **ADDED** unto them about three thousand **SOULS**.” ([Acts 2:41](#)).

This inspired explanation of [Acts 2:21](#) makes it clear that **CALLING**,

- IS **depend-ence** upon GOD;
- It involves **subjection** to His will;
- It is **our response**, to His authority & power;
- It is simply to **meet God’s conditions**;
- And in this way, to **ASK HIM** to honor His promise, to free us from the guilt of sin.

CALLING is also explained in,

B. The Conversion of Saul,

which is recorded in **THREE ACCOUNTS, FOUND IN [ACTS 9](#), [ACTS 22](#), & [Acts 26](#)**

1. The Savior **APPEARED** to Saul miraculously -- **NOT** to **SAVE** him, but to **QUALIFY** him to be an **APOSTLE**.

- “(Paul) said, Who art thou, Lord? And He said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.
¹⁶ But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have **APPEARED** unto thee for this **PURPOSE**, to **MAKE** thee a minister and a witness, **BOTH** of these things which thou hast **SEEN**, **AND** of those things, in the which I will **APPEAR** unto thee;
¹⁷ **DELIVERING** thee, **FROM** the people, and **FROM** the Gentiles, unto whom now I **SEND** thee, ¹⁸ to **OPEN** their eyes, and to **TURN** them **FROM** darkness **TO** light, and **FROM** the power of Satan **UNTO** God, that they may **RECEIVE** forgiveness of sins, and **INHERITENCE** among them **which are sanctified BY faith**, that is **IN Me** (that is, **IN Christ**)” ([Acts 26:15-18](#)).

2. Some say he was saved on the road to Damascus -- But if so:

Strangely, he did not know it.

- For “he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.” ([Acts 9:9](#))
- “And he trembling, and astonished said, Lord, **what wilt thou have me to do?**
And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and **GO** into the city, and it shall be **TOLD** thee, what thou **MUST DO.**” ([Acts 9:6](#))

And **IF** Paul was saved on the road to Damascus
he was saved while he was still in his sins!

As Ananias told Paul,

- “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, **CALLING on the name of the Lord.**” ([Acts 22:16](#))

3. He understood the phrase **CALLING**, to mean **OBEY**;
He was **CALLED** by being baptized -- That is **HOW** he Called

Ananias said,

- “Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.
And immediately there fell from his eyes, as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was **BAPTIZED.**” ([Acts 9:17-18](#))

The man was to obey the Lord in baptism,

Then Christ would honor his promise to wash away sins -- **THAT IS CALLING ON HIS NAME.**

C. [ROM.10:13](#) WOULD NOT HAVE A DIFFERENT MEANING

- “For whosoever shall **CALL upon the name** (or authority) of the Lord, shall be saved.” ([Rom.10:13](#))

Calling upon the name, or authority of the Lord

- Is the equivalent of, insisting on having Bible Authority for every single thing that we practice and teach.
- “And whatsoever ye do in **WORD** (that is teaching) or **DEED** (that is practice), do all in the **NAME** of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.” ([Col.3:17](#))

Calling upon the name, or authority of the Lord

- Is equivalent to abiding in the teachings of Christ, lest we have not God.
- “Whosoever **TRANSGRESSETH**, and abideth **NOT** in the doctrine of Christ, hath **NOT** God.” ([2Jn.9](#))

Believing is necessary

- “How then shall they **CALL** on Him, **IN** Whom, they have **NOT** believed?” ([Rom.10:14](#))
- “With**OUT** Faith, it is **IMPOSSIBLE** to please Him: for he that **COMETH** to God, **MUST** believe that **HE IS**, and that He is a **REWARDER** of them, that diligently **SEEK** Him.” ([Heb.11:6](#))

One has to Hear

- “how shall they believe in Him, of whom they have not **HEARD**?” ([Rom.10:14b](#))
- “So then faith cometh by **HEARING**, and hearing **BY** the word of God.” ([Rom.10:17](#))
- “This is my beloved Son: **HEAR** Him.” ([Mk.9:7](#))

That means there has to be a messenger

- “how shall they **HEAR** without a preacher?” ([Rom.10:14b](#))

But in the 1st century,

Messengers had to be officially commissioned, and inspired, to speak the Truth

- “**HOW** shall they preach, except they be **SENT**? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that **PREACH** the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” ([Rom.10:15](#))
- “he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **PREACH** the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He that believeth **AND** is baptized shall be **SAVED**; but he that believeth **NOT** shall be damned.” ([Mk.16:15-16](#))
- “Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; ² in hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; ³ but hath in due times manifested His word through **PREACHING**, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;” ([Titus 1:1-3](#))
- “Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all Truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall **HEAR**, that shall he **SPEAK**: and He will shew you things to come. ¹⁴ He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father hath are Mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.” ([Jn.16:13-15](#))

Then the taught could **CALL**, or can **CALL**

- “For whosoever shall **CALL** upon the name (or Authority) of the Lord, shall be **SAVED**.” ([Rom.10:13](#))
- Jesus said, “No man can **COME** to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me **DRAW** him: and I will raise him up at the **LAST** day (speaking of the resurrection at the judgment).
⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, And they shall **BE**, all **TAUGHT** of God. Every man therefore that hath **HEARD**, and hath **LEARNED** of the Father, **COMETH** unto Me.” ([Jn.6:44-45](#))
- “**IF** any man **THINK** himself to be a prophet, or **SPIRITUAL**, let him **ACKNOWLEDGE** that the things that I **WRITE** unto you **ARE** the commandments of the Lord.” ([1Cor.14:37](#))

The TEXT has to mean the same as [Matt.7:21](#) (...submit, do what He says).

- “**NOT** every one that **SAITH** unto me, Lord, Lord, shall **ENTER** into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that **DOETH** the will of my Father which is **IN** Heaven.”

Again, inspiration shows [Rom.10:13](#) EQUALS obeying the Gospel.

- “But they have not all **OBEYED** the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath **BELIEVED** our report (or preaching)?” ([Rom.10:16](#))

III. IN SUMMARY, CALLING IS RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL FOR US

A. He Calls on us through His Word.

- “whereunto He **CALLED** you **BY** our **GOSPEL**, to the **OBTAINING** of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” ([2Thess.2:14](#))
- “For whosoever shall **CALL** upon the **NAME** of the Lord shall be **SAVED**.
¹⁴ How then shall they **CALL** on **HIM** in whom they have **NOT** believed? and how shall they **BELIEVE** in **HIM**, of whom they have **NOT** heard? and how shall they **HEAR** without a preacher?¹⁵ and how shall they **PREACH**, except they be **SENT**? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!¹⁶ But they have **NOT** all **OBEYED** the **GOSPEL**. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath **BELIEVED** our report? (or preaching)
¹⁷ So then **FAITH** cometh by hearing, and **HEARING** by the **WORD** of God.” ([Rom.10:13-17](#))

B. Our answer or response: **CALLING** on Him is **OBEDIENCE**

- “The like figure whereunto *even* **BAPTISM** doth also now **SAVE** us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” ([1Pet. 3:21](#)).

C. We are Not saying that **CALLING** always means **BAPTISM**, but it means **DOING** what the Lord says is to be done, whatever that is.

D. When we obey, we are relying upon God to honor the promise of salvation, made through Joel, and in the other passages.

IV. IF CALLING SCRIPTURALLY

A. Disciples/Saints/Christians/Believers.

- “And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the **DISCIPLES** of the Lord, went unto the high priest, and desired of him letters to Damascus, to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.” ([Acts 9:1-2](#))

- “Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy **SAINTS** at Jerusalem: ¹⁴ and here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that **CALL on thy NAME.**” ([Acts 9:13-14](#)) ...that is, bind all that **OBEY** the authority of Christ!

- “and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and **taught** much people. And the **DISCIPLES** were **Called Christians**, first **IN** Antioch.” ([Acts 11:26](#))
- “And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that **BELIEVED ON** Thee:” ([Acts 22:19](#)) ...Bible Belief is a similar word as CALL or CALLING. True Bible Belief, implies Doing, or Obeying the teachings of Christ ([Matt.7:21-23](#); [Jas.1:22-25](#))

B. In Doing What he Did, Saul Persecuted the church.

- “As for Saul, he made havock of the **church**, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.” ([Acts 8:3](#))
- “For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews’ religion, how that beyond measure, I persecuted the **church** of God, and wasted it:” ([Gal.1:13](#))

C. Not a Denomination With a Human Name.

- As “...the **Lord Added** to the **church** daily, such as should be saved.” ([Acts 2:47](#))
- “Salute one another with a holy kiss (that is, make your greeting holy). The **churches OF Christ** salute you.” ([Rom.16:16](#))

D. The Corinthians illustrate the Truth to us.

- “And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, **Believed ON the Lord** with all his house; and many of the Corinthians **Hearing, Believed, and were Baptized.**” ([Acts 18:8](#)).

The Corinthians **BELIEF** resulted in **Obedience** to the Teachings of the gospel.

In [1Cor.1:2](#), the Corinthians are referred to as

- “them that are sanctified **IN** Christ Jesus”,
Meaning they had **OBEYED**; ...they are **IN Christ** ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-4](#)),
- They were “**CALLED to be saints**”. ...that is, CALLED by the teachings of the gospel ([2Thess.2:14](#))
- they had “**CALL(ED)** upon the Name of Jesus Christ” Or **OBEYED** Christ.

Notice the passage,

- “unto the **church of God** which is **AT** Corinth,
to them that are sanctified **IN** Christ Jesus, **CALLED to be saints**,
WITH all, that in every place, **CALL upon the NAME** of Jesus Christ our Lord,
both theirs and ours.” ([1Cor.1:2](#))

E. Let us Continue to CALL upon His NAME.

- “And whatsoever ye **DO** in **WORD** (that is, DO in teaching) or **DEED** (that is, Do in **Practice**), **DO ALL** in the **NAME** of the Lord Jesus (that is, DO ALL, by the **Authority** of the Lord Jesus), giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” ([Col.3:17](#))
- “**NOT** every one that **SAITH** unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **BUT** he that **DOETH** the will of my Father which is in heaven.
²² Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy **NAME**? and in Thy **NAME** have cast out devils? and in Thy **NAME** done many wonderful works?
²³ And then will I profess unto them (Jesus said), I **NEVER KNEW** you: **DEPART** from Me, ye that work iniquity.” ([Matt.7:21-23](#))
- “But be ye **DOERS** of the Word, and **NOT** hearers **ONLY**, deceiving your own selves.
²³ For **IF** any be a **HEARER** of the Word, and **NOT** a **DOER**, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:
²⁴ for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.
²⁵ But whoso **LOOKETH** into the perfect law of liberty, and **CONTINUETH** therein, he being **NOT** a forgetful **HEARER**, but a **DOER** of the work, this man shall be **BLESSED** in his deed.” ([Jas.1:22-25](#))

In Conclusion

1. WHOSOEVER

- “For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all, is rich unto all that **CALL upon HIM.**” ([Rom.10:12](#))
- “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels For the Suffering of Death, Crowned with Glory and Honour; that He by the grace of God should Taste Death for **EVERY man.**” ([Heb.2:9](#))
- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to **every one** that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” ([Rom.1:16](#))
- “And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to **EVERY creature.**” ([Mk.16:15](#))
- “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that **HEARETH** say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And **whosoever** will, let him **TAKE** the water of **LIFE** freely.” ([Rev.22:17](#))

2. The **OFFER** is universal: All accountable people may enjoy the **BENEFITS** of the grace of God; Therefore, all accountable people share a common **RESPONSIBILITY** to **KNOW, RESPECT,** and **OBEY** the **CONDITIONS** of Divine Grace, by their **OBEDIENCE** to the Gospel of Christ.

- Peter said, “what shall the **END BE** of them that **OBEY NOT** the Gospel of God?” ([1Pet.4:17](#))
- Pauls said, “and to you who are troubled **REST** with us, **WHEN** the Lord Jesus shall be **REVEALED** from heaven **WITH** His mighty angels, ⁸ **IN** flaming fire **TAKING vengeance** on them that **KNOW NOT** God, and that **OBEY NOT** the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹ who shall be **PUNISHED** with **EVERLASTING destruction** **FROM** the presence of the Lord, and **FROM** the glory of His power;” ([2Thess.1:7-9](#))

3. **The Promise is to US** (that’s YOU and Me).

- “**SEEK** ye the **LORD**, while He may be found, **CALL ye upon Him** while He is near:” ([Isa.55:6](#))
- “And now why tarriest thou? (that is, why wait) arise, and **be Baptized**, and **WASH AWAY** thy sins, **CALLING on the NAME of the Lord.**” ([Acts 22:16](#))
That is, Obeying the Authority of the Lord.

Please do not delay, COME now, as together we stand and sing.

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