

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

What did we learn so far?

1. Matthew 20.16 probably did not have the phrase in the original text
2. Matthew 22 parable
 - a. 2 wedding meals = 2 resurrections
 - b. invitations sent out early
 - c. bidding comes when meal is ready
3. Matthew 22.14 "**For many are called, but few chosen.**"
 - a. Called = 2822 = kletos (klay-tos) = invited or appointed
 - b. from 2821 klesis (klay-sis) = an invitation – a calling or vocation
 - c. a shorter form of 2564 = kaleo (kah-eh-o) = bid, call forth or name
4. 13 Other words translated “called”:
 - a. 1528 – eiskaleo (ice-kal-eh-o) = to invite in
 - b. 1941 – epikaleomai (ep-ee-kal-eh-om-ahee) = appeal to
 - c. 3870 – parakaleo (par-ak-al-eh-o) = to call for
 - d. 4341 – proskaleomai (pros-kal-eh-om-ahee) = call for; to bid to come to oneself
5. chosen
 - a. Chosen = 1588 = eklektos (ek-leh-tos) – elected, chosen – contrasted to those who have been invited but have not shown themselves to be qualified
 - b. Relate to 1577 = ekklesia (ek-klay-see-ah) – the church – or the assembly of people
 - c. Ek = origin
 - d. Ekklesia is a combination of 1577 (origin) and 2564 (those called)
6. The true teachings of God have been “veiled” due to Israel’s disobedience until the end times.
7. God is not willing that any should perish – He wants everyone in His kingdom.
8. Christ is the “firstfruit” – first to be resurrected – and will be followed by those who have been called and chosen in the first resurrection.

What questions are still unanswered?

1. Besides being “invited” to God’s elected group, ecclesia, the church, what else does it mean to be called?
2. What does it mean if you are not “called”?
3. How will those who are not “called” be treated?

Most people assume that God is trying to save the entire world **now**. That, according to the words of the Bible, is just not true.

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
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Ezekiel 37

- 1 The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.
- 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry.
- 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."
- 4 Again He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!
- 5 'Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.
- 6 "I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD."""
- 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.
- 8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.
- 9 Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'""
- 10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.
- 11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'
- 12 "Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.
- 13 "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves.
- 14 "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD."
 - This is a physical resurrection to human physical life.
 - This is the second resurrection!
 - Then, He will give His spirit to all who accept His word.
 - Some will reject it, though I'm not sure why they would.
- 15 Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- 16 "As for you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it: 'For Judah and for the children of Israel, his companions.' Then take another stick and write

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
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May 21, 2005

on it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel, his companions.'

- 17 "Then join them one to another for yourself into one stick, and they will become one in your hand.
- 18 "And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, 'Will you not show us what you mean by these?' -
- 19 "say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand."'
- 20 "And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes.
- 21 "Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land;
- 22 "and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again.
- 23 "They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God.
- 24 "David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them.
- 25 "Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever.
- 26 "Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.
- 27 "My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
- 28 "The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore."''

This way may not make sense to everyone.

- Ezekiel 18:25 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair?
- 18:29 "Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair?
- 33:17 "Yet the children of your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' But it is their way which is not fair!

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

- 33:20 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, I will judge every one of you according to his own ways."

1 Corinthians 1

- 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
- 18 **For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**
- 19 For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."
 - Job 5
 - 12 He frustrates the devices of the crafty, So that their hands cannot carry out their plans.
 - 13 He catches the wise in their own craftiness, And the counsel of the cunning comes quickly upon them.
 - Isaiah 29
 - 14 Therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work Among this people, A marvelous work and a wonder; For the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, And the understanding of their prudent men shall be hidden."
 - Jeremiah 8
 - 9 The wise men are ashamed, They are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; So what wisdom do they have?
- 20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?
 - Job 12
 - 12 Wisdom is with aged men, And with length of days, understanding.
 - 13 "With Him are wisdom and strength, He has counsel and understanding.
 - 14 If He breaks a thing down, it cannot be rebuilt; If He imprisons a man, there can be no release.
 - 15 If He withholds the waters, they dry up; If He sends them out, they overwhelm the earth.
 - 16 With Him are strength and prudence. The deceived and the deceiver are His.
 - 17 He leads counselors away plundered, And makes fools of the judges.
 - 18 He loosens the bonds of kings, And binds their waist with a belt.
 - 19 He leads princes away plundered, And overthrows the mighty.

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

- 20 He deprives the trusted ones of speech, And takes away the discernment of the elders.
- 21 He pours contempt on princes, And disarms the mighty.
- 22 He uncovers deep things out of darkness, And brings the shadow of death to light.
- 23 He makes nations great, and destroys them; He enlarges nations, and guides them.
- 24 He takes away the understanding of the chiefs of the people of the earth, And makes them wander in a pathless wilderness.
- 25 They grope in the dark without light, And He makes them stagger like a drunken man.
- 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.
 - Luke 10
 - 17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."
 - 18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.
 - 19 "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
 - 20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."
 - 21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.
 - 22 "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."
 - 23 Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see;
 - 24 "for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."
 - Romans 1
 - 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

- 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.
 - 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,
 - 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.
 - 24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,
 - 25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
 - 26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.
 - 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.
 - 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;
 - 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers,
 - 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
 - 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;
 - 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.
- 22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;
 - How many more signs did the Jews need?
 - 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,
 - Isaiah 8
 - 12 "Do not say, 'A conspiracy,' Concerning all that this people call a conspiracy, Nor be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.
 - 13 The LORD of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him be your fear, And let Him be your dread.

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

- 14 He will be as a sanctuary, But a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense To both the houses of Israel, As a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
- 15 And many among them shall stumble; They shall fall and be broken, Be snared and taken."
- 16 Bind up the testimony, Seal the law among my disciples.
- John 6
 - 60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?"
 - 61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?"
 - 62 "What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?"
 - 63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.
 - 64 "But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.
 - 65 And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."
 - 66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.
- 1 Peter 2
 - 6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."
 - 7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,"
 - 8 and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.
- 24 but **to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks**, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
 - Kletos - invited
- 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- 26 **For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.**
 - Klesis – an invitation
 - Last “are called” is not literally there, but is implied

What Does it Mean to be “Called”? III
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
May 21, 2005

- 27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;
 - Psalms 8 2 Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.
 - Matthew 11 25 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.
 - James 2 5 Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?
- 28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,
- 29 that no flesh should glory in His presence.
 - Ephesians 2
 - 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
 - 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.
- 30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God-- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption--
- 31 that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."