

The Called

Text: Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle... ...through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints... (Romans 1:1, 5-7)

Intro: Paul to the Romans with an eye on Spain

I. Called to be an Apostle

So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized; and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." (Acts 9:17-20)

II. The Obedience of Faith

And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ. (Acts 5:42)

"Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, (Acts 13:38)

But of Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people." (Romans 10:21)

III. Called of Jesus Christ

Called *by*? Or called *to*?

...and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified... (Romans 8:30)

...for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (Romans 11:29)

God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:9)

IV. Called to be Saints

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son...
(Colossians 1:13)

V. Conclusion

Paul's experience; Paul's theology

...as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"--in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. (Romans 4:17)

For consider your calling, brothers... (1 Corinthians 1:26)

...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 granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, (2 Timothy 1:9)

Eph 1:15f

Application 1: General & Effectual Call

Application 2: Hope

Can I be saved?