"GOD'S CALLS"

I.	TO THE SINNER	} >]	PERSONAL
II.	TO THE SAVED	} TWO TYPES OF CALLS:	&
III.	TO THE SPIRITUAL	}	UNIVERSAL

OPENALTAR

I. GOD'S CALLS TO THE SINNER

1. "LOOK UNTO ME"------ISA. 45:22 "LOOK UNTO ME, AND BE YE SAVED, ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: FOR I AM GOD AND THERE IS NONE ELSE."

-LOOK: TO BEHOLD, TO REGARD, TO FACE,
TO TURN—TO TURN: GIVES REFERENCE
TO REPENTANCE
-SAVED: FREE, TO BE SAFE, PRESERVED, RESCUED
-GOD: EL---OAK, PILASTER, TWIST, ROLLED TOGETHER, POWERFUL STRENGTH, THE ALMIGHTY

ACTS 4:12 "FOR THERE IS ONE NAME, UNDER HEAVEN, GIVEN AMONG MEN WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED."

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THREE CROSSES

A. CROSS OF EXODUS
-NUM. 21:6-9 (CF...JN. 3:14-15)

B. CROSS OF CHRIST

- -MT. 27:33-37
- -MK. 15:24-28
- -LK. 23:33,34,38
- -JN. 19:17-19

C. CROSS OF MANKIND

- **-1PET. 2:24** "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."
- **-2COR. 5:21** "For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."
- **-1PET. 3:18** "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:"
- **-EPH. 1:7** "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"
- **JUDE 24-25** "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen."
- 2. "CALL UNTO ME"------JER. 33:3
 "CALL UNTO ME, AND I WILL ANSWER THEE, AND SHOW THEE GREAT AND MIGHTY THINGS, WHICH THOU KNOWEST NOT"

-CALL: ACCOSTING---CRY UNTO, CALL UPON; ENCOUNTER

-ANSWER: PAY ATTENTION, TESTIFY, BEAR WITNESS

*** <u>GOD MAKES TW</u>	O TYPES OF CALLS***
1. PERSONAL	}
&	<pre>}>>> MAKE APPLICATION</pre>
2. UNIVERSAL	}

-ISA. 55:6-7 "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon

him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

-SEEK: DILIGENTLY INQUIRE, TO MAKE INQUISITION

-FOUND: ACQUIRED, ATTAINED, DELIVER, GET HOLD UPON

-NEAR: ALLIED, AT HAND, KINSMAN

2THES. 2:6-10 (CF...PROV. 27:1; 2COR. 6:2)

-WITHHOLDETH, LETTETH, LET:

---VOUCHSAFE, KEEP, POSSESS

-PSA. 145:18 "The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."

-NIGH: AT HAND, ALLIED

-ROM. 10:12-13 "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. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

-CALL: TO INVOKE, TO APPEAL

-JOEL 2:32 "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."

-DELIVERED: ESCAPE, RELEASED, RESCUED PRESERVED, LET GO

HAVE YOU LOOKED TO THE LORD?

*****HE IS CALLING YOU!****

ARE YOU READY TO CALL UPON HIM?*

******NOW HE SAYS "COME"******

- 3. "COME UNTO ME"------MAT. 11:28 (MAT. 11:28-30) "Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
 - **-JN. 7:37** "In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."
 - -ISA. 55:1,2,3,6
 - **-JER. 31:25** "For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul."
 - -HEB. 4:1-16
 - **-REV. 22:17** "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."

-TO THE SINNER: LOOK, CALL, AND COME UNTO ME

II. GOD'S CALLS TO THE SAVED

- 1. "AWAKE"-----EPH. 5:7-17
 - -ROM. 13:11-14
 - -1COR. 15:34 "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak [this] to your shame."
- 2. TURN YE UNTO ME------LUKE 15:11-24----TEXT -----ZECH. 1:3

"Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts."

*****NOT NECESSARILY TO THE STARTING POINT. TURN AWAY...DO WHAT HAD BEEN DONE I.E. PICK UP WHERE YOU LEFT OFF AT.****

-HOS. 14:1-2 "O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive [us] graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips" -JOEL 2:12-13 "¶ Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye [even] to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he [is] gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."

-HOS. 12:6 "Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually."

IS IT TIME TO RETURN?

*****HOWABOUT BEING A TRUE WAITER?*****

III. GOD'S CALLS TO THE SPIRITUAL

- 1. "FOLLOW ME"------MAT. 4:19
 - "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
 - -COME HITHER: WRITTEN IN THE IMPERATIVE MOOD
 - -MAT. 16:24 "¶ Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

-ACCOMPANY ME: TO BE IN THE SAME WAY WITH. (CF...1PET. 2:21)

-1COR. 11:1 "Be ye followers of me, even as I also [am] of Christ."

-FOLLOWERS: IMITATORS

-2TIM. 2:22 "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

-FOLLOW: PURSUE, PRESS TOWARD
-HEB. 12:14 "Follow peace with all [men], and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:"

-FOLLOW: PURSUE, PRESS TOWARD
-1TIM. 6:11 "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

-FOLLOW: PURSUE, PRESS TOWARD
-1THESS. 5:15 "See that none render evil for evil unto any [man]; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all [men]."

-FOLLOW: PURSUE, PRESS TOWARD

- EPH. 5:1-4 -----IMITATORS

IS GOD CALLING YOU TODAY?

"LOOK, CALL, COME, AWAKE, TURN, FOLLOW"

CONCL: HEB. 12:1b-2a "...LET US LAY ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT...
LOOKING UNTO JESUS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER..."