

February 3, 2019

**The New Testament!
Matthew 10:1-4
The "3" Calls of the
12 Apostles**

Matthew 10:1-4 (ESV) And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. 2 The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Introduction

So one last question before moving on to the "call"
How did Jesus end up with Judas as an apostle?

Matthew 7:15-16 (ESV) "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles?"

Matthew 7:21-23 (ESV) "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

Appointment or ordination does not confer saving grace

Ordained men are not necessarily converted men

Bishops, elders, pastors, evangelist, teachers are not to be considered infallible

Acts 14:15 (ESV) "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them."

We all sin and we daily require God's grace
Just like you and maybe more so we are attacked by the evil one

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Watch Tom and I, watch our teachers and worship leaders, are we living for God's Glory, being radically obedient to His commands, striving to love Him with all our hearts, souls and minds and working in the church to advance His Kingdom?

1 Corinthians 11:1 (ESV) Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Pray for us, we need and cherish your prayers

This morning we will begin to see the way of God making men apostles!

They are first made alive spiritually!

Acts 16:14 (ESV) One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord

opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

John 11:41-44 (ESV) So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." 43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." 44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Then they become followers of Jesus!

Mark 2:13-14 (ESV) He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. 14 And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

And then there are some called to a special work!

There is a higher calling for teachers...

They receive the equipment to do the work, "authority", "power", "appointment", "ordained", with power

That workers for the Lord would receive their call and commissioning and not to attempt the work on their own

Jeremiah 23:21-22 (TLB) I have not sent these prophets, yet they claim to speak for me; I gave them no message, yet they say their words are mine. 22 If they were mine, they would try to turn my people from their evil ways.

We need to learn to operate on His strength and His authority and not our own
The work of these apostles was miraculous
Why are we not seeing this kind of power in the work of ministers today?

Three calls

1. Called from death to life-the secret call
John 5:25-26 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

Genesis 2:17 (ESV) But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable

riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Jeremiah 31:31-33 (NIV) "The days are coming," declares the Lord,

"when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.

32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord.

33 "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel

after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Ezekiel 36:24-27 (ESV) I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my

Spirit within you,^{xs} and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.