

Section 10.2-3: 2ndLBC 1689

10.2 Effectual Calling

This effectual call flows from God's free and special grace alone, not from anything at all foreseen in those called. Neither does the call arise from any power or action on their part;⁷

they are totally passive in it. They are dead in sins and trespasses until they are made alive and renewed by the Holy Spirit.⁸

By this they are enabled to answer this call and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it. This response is enabled by a power that is no less than that which raised Christ from the dead.⁹

⁷2 Timothy 1:9; Ephesians 2:8.

⁸1 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:5; John 5:25.

⁹Ephesians 1:19, 20.

10.3 Effectual Calling

Elect infants dying in infancy are regenerated and saved by Christ through the Spirit,¹⁰

who works when and where and how he pleases.¹¹

The same is true of every elect person who is incapable of being outwardly called by the ministry of the Word.

¹⁰John 3:3, 5, 6.

¹¹John 3:8.

Scripture Proofs

⁷**2 Timothy 1:9** who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God

⁸**1 Corinthians 2:14** The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Ephesians 2:5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

John 5:25 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.

⁹**Ephesians 1:19-20** and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places

¹⁰**John 3:3, 5, 6** Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

¹¹**John 3:8** The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.