

CALLS ALL MEN FACE

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(Funeral Sermon)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. There are many different calls in this life, calls which face some that do not face others.
2. Some of these calls should be answered and some rejected.
3. Some of these calls are greater and more important than others.
4. On the other hand, there are certain calls all men face in this earthly life and even beyond this earthly life to which we refer – all important calls.
5. These calls that pertain to us while we are on this earth men all too often ignore. Those calls we face after this earthly life is over we cannot not ignore; we will answer them; but it will be too late to do anything about them then.
6. Consider with me the calls to which I refer.

II. DISCUSSION

A. THE CALL OF THE GOSPEL.

1. Issued in the Great Commission, Mt.28:18-20; Mk.16:1,16.
2. We are called by the gospel, 2Th.2:13,14.
3. The gospel of Christ is God's power to save the believer, Rom.1:16,17; 1Cor.15:1,2.
4. Those called by the gospel are called to be saints (separated unto God), 1Cor.1:2.
5. Jesus calls, Rev.3:20; 22:17.

B. THE CALL OF DEATH.

1. It is appointed of God, Heb.9:27,28.
2. All must die, 1Cor.15:21,22.
3. It's a call for which we can be prepared; but it must be in the here and now, Lk.12:20,21; 16:19-26; 1Th.4:13

C. THE CALL OF THE RESURRECTION.

1. All will come forth, Jno5:28,29.

D. THE CALL TO THE FINAL JUDGMENT.

1. All will be there, Eccl.12:13,14; 2Cor.5:10,11

Mt.20:1-16, The parable of the laborers in the vineyard

This is not talking about “death-bed repentance.” But that our eternal reward is not reckoned on the bases of time served or the duration of time served. The point of the discussion is the bases of entering the kingdom and the service of the Lord and faithfulness therein after entering the kingdom.

Thus both the “first” to enter (those who entered early and who agreed to the terms), and those “last” to enter (those who entered at the “eleventh hour” and who agreed to the terms), were rewarded alike – both were laborers in the kingdom – both were acceptable to the master – both were received and were rewarded of their master.

This is the maxim of the parable and the proper application of the expression: “So the last shall be first, and the first last...”