

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
Donald E. Martin, Sr.

“The Voice of my Beloved”

Song of Solomon 2:10

*“My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away”
(Song of Solomon 2:10).*

Oh! how delightful is the effectual call of our dear Saviour when He calls His beloved elect children to “arise” and follow Him. I recall the calling of his disciples, such as Matthew a mere Publican, a Tax Collector which sat at the gate of the city. Our Lord Jesus “saith unto him, FOLLOW ME. And he arose, and followed him” (Matt. 9:9).

Then there was the effectual call of the beloved Peter and Andrew as they were casting their net into the sea: for they were fishers. And Jesus said unto them, “FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU (not try to) FISHERS OF MEN. And they straightway left their nets, and FOLLOWED him” (Matt.4:18-20).

Do you dear ones remember when Christ called you to follow him? Was there a DECISION to be made when the call was heard? or was it an effectual spontaneous response that resulted from his divine call? How often we hear under the neo-evangelical “INVITATION” given by preaching efforts to “make a decision,” “It’s up to you,” “You need to ACCEPT Christ,” “God has given you a freewill to choose or reject the Lord,” laying the responsibility totally upon the poor depraved sinner to attempt to make a decision that they are unable to make by a will which is totally bound by sin’s dread curse.

The will of the natural born creature is unable to make any decision to follow the God of the scriptures, for their will is dominated by sin and shall ever continue to be until GRACE breaks the binding of the natural mans will and cause it to respond to Gods divine effectual irresistible call just as Peter, Andrew and Matthew and ALL of Gods elect children come when divinely called by our sovereign Master to “FOLLOW HIM.” If you had to make a choice as to whether you should follow Christ or not, I would most certainly exhort you to make your “calling and election sure.”

For those of whom the Lord Jesus Christ has been given of the Father to seek and to save SHALL FOLLOW HIM when he calls them otherwise, Christ is a limited failure in

his attempts to call his elect of whom the Father had given him to seek and to save!!

When Christ said, "ALL that the Father giveth me shall come to me, and ALL that come to me I will in no wise cast out". "For no man cometh unto me except he be drawn". Has Christ drawn some which have not responded? Oh, how sad to think that Christ is powerless to not only draw but CAUSE his children to come unto him as weak and lowly sinners hearing the VOICE OF THEIR BELOVED calling.

What did the God sent gospel minister do before the "invitation" system ushered in by Finney, D.L. Moody and Billy Sunday do at the conclusion of a gospel sermon? You will read in history that they merely would say, that is the message that God hath given this poor preacher man and may God be pleased to apply it to the hearts and minds of his people, or merely bow in humble prayer thanking God for his word was that all? What else is needed? When the gospel of Christ is preached the "invitation" of God shall be applied to whom he will in the assembly. When men like George Whitefield would preach Christ gospel, repentant sinners would fall to their knees with weeping eyes calling upon the only Saviour of sinners for help and hope in the time of need. They were not begged, pleaded with, called to an altar or any other man devised means and method trying to get people saved!

NO, dear ones, when Christ is preached, His cross, His sacrificial death, His burial, and glorious resurrection, men will be shaken as Gods SPIRIT awakens, quickens, and indwells the poor wayfaring sinner, and that NEW BIRTH is evidenced as the fruit of the SPIRIT is manifested as a living tree of which God alone hath planted. For you shall know a tree by it's fruit, and as God's TREES of righteousness (Isa.61:3), the heir of grace shall bear good fruit as Christ works in them to "both WILL and to DO of his good pleasure." Oh! for GRACE how great a debtor each and every born from above sinner is made to be a debt which could never be paid by any human effort nor means or method."For every tree which my heavenly Father hath NOT planted shall be rooted up" (Matt. 15:13).

Yes, dear ones blessed with divine hope, it is a grand and blessed experience to have initially heard the "VOICE OF MY BELOVED" when he called, yet his voice continues to be heard as we read that Holy book and are under the sound of the gospel of an unlimited and sovereign God "which is in the heavens and does whatsoever he pleases". Ah! do you hear his voice as he speaks through the gospel gifts of his called ministers? Do you rejoice to know that this GOD does the calling, the quickening, the birthing and PERFORMS all things in and through his lovely Bride church of which he is preparing for his promised return? "For HE which has begun a good work in you shall PERFORM IT until the day of Christ" (Phil. 1:6). I have needed a PERFORMER from the first moment I was caused to believe, how about you? I pray it be so.

Respectfully submitted,

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