**CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD (TV 4-18-05) (OR 4-28-13, Part 1)**

Many say that all one must do is to **“call on the name of the Lord.”** Some have said this calling means that one acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God; some say it is a warm feeling they get when one has received Jesus into their heart; some say it is when one simply says that they accept Jesus into their heart; or some say that it is a reference to what many call saying the sinner’s prayer. This morning let us see what the Bible says **“calling on the name of the Lord”** really involves.

**Acts 2:21, 2:37-47** – “That whoever ***calls on the name of the Lord*** shall be saved” and “as many as the Lord our God ***will call***.” In Acts chapter 2, calling on the name of the Lord included believing (**Acts 2:37, 44**), repenting (**Acts 2:38**), being baptized (**Acts 2:38, 41**), responding to the gospel (**Acts 2:40-41**), continuing in the doctrine (**Acts 2:42**), providing for one another’s needs (**Acts 2:44-45**), and worshipping God (**Acts 2:46-47**).

**Acts 4:12** – “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is ***no other name*** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” No one can save you but Jesus. No man, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Joseph Smith, or the Pope; no man-made denomination and no man-made organization can save.

**Acts 8:12** – Here Philip preaches in Samaria about “the things concerning the kingdom of God and ***the name of Jesus Christ***.” The response was that men and women were baptized. They were saved because they responded to the gospel.

**Acts 9:14, 21** – “all who ***call on Your name***” and “those ***who called on this name***”. This is referring to Christians, disciples of the Lord, who are following His commandments (**John 14:15**).

**Acts 19:11-20** – Proper honor for the name of the Lord is the lesson from this passage. Jewish exorcists tried to “***call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits***” (verse 13). It led to the conclusion that Jesus is not simply a name to use but rather one who should be believed and obeyed. We have many today who want to use the name of Jesus, but will not honor Him and obey Him.

**Acts 22:16** – Ananias asks Paul, “And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, ***calling on the name of the Lord***.” Here calling on the name of the Lord included being baptized to wash away sins.

**Romans 10:8-14** – In **verse 13** the scripture says, “whoever ***calls on the name of the Lord*** shall be saved”. **Verse 12** shows that the gospel is for everyone. **Verse 14** shows that calling on the name of the Lord included hearing and believing the preaching of the gospel.

Please notice **Romans 10:15-17**. Hearing, believing, confessing, and obedience are all working together when we truly call on the name of the Lord! ***Have you obeyed today?*** If you are not a Christian, you need to repent of your sins and be baptized to wash them all away. If you do not, you will miss out on Heaven!

If you are a Christian, please ask yourself, ***“Am I truly living my life for the Lord who called me out of this world?”***

If you are in need now, please come forward while we stand and sing.