



BOOK 03 – CHAPTER 03 – STUDY 002

Called and Chosen; Set Apart Through Obedience

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CALLED AND CHOSEN: SET APART THROUGH OBEDIENCE

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Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry

THE CALL AND THE CHOSEN

When the Lord calls, not everyone answers, and not everyone who answers is chosen. *"Many are called, but few are chosen"* (**Matthew 22:14**). The call is God's invitation, but being chosen is His confirmation that you have walked out that invitation through obedience and endurance.

Every person is called first to **salvation**. The gospel call reaches the ears of all who hear the Word, but only those who repent and believe truly respond. The call is universal, but the response determines the outcome.

Those who answer must then prove faithful. To be called is to be invited to grace; to be chosen is to be proven by obedience. The chosen are those who not only begin in faith but continue in truth until Christ is formed in them.

There is also a **second kind of calling** that comes only after salvation. Once a person has surrendered and been found faithful, God may appoint them for a greater work in His Kingdom. Some are called to teach, some to shepherd, some to evangelize, and others to serve in unique offices of ministry (**Ephesians 4:11–12**).

But no one receives that higher calling before they have answered the first one. You cannot be called to ministry if you have ignored the call to repentance. The call to salvation is the foundation; the call to service is the building. (See B3-C03-S01 "Counting the Cost of Discipleship.")

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The call of God is mercy, but the choosing is endurance. Many are stirred, few remain. *“No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him” (John 6:44)*. The drawing is grace; the choosing is faithfulness.

THE TRANSFORMED LIFE

Transformation is the visible proof that a person has truly answered the first call; the call to salvation. *“Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2)*. Salvation is not emotion; it is transformation.

When the Spirit comes, He does not reform the old nature, He crucifies it. *“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17)*. The old self dies, the new one is born.

Those who are called but never changed remain only hearers. Those who are chosen are changed from within. The first call saves the soul; the second call equips the vessel.

Emotional faith will never endure, because feelings change with pressure. The Spirit does not lead by emotion but by conviction. *“He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool” (Proverbs 28:26)*. Those who walk by emotion will follow God only when He agrees with their desires, but those who walk by faith will follow Him even when the path costs them everything. (See B2-C01-S08 “Why Feelings Cannot Be Trusted for Salvation.”)

Transformation proves the first call was answered. Obedience prepares the believer for the second. Only when the vessel is purified through obedience does God reveal higher purpose.

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LOVE AND OBEDIENCE, THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHOSEN

Love is the root, obedience is the fruit. Christ said, *“If ye love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15)*. Love without obedience is deception; obedience without love becomes lifeless religion.

True love for God is not emotion but loyalty. *“He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me” (John 14:21)*. The chosen prove their love by continuing when others stop.

Obedience is not how we earn salvation; it is how we stay in covenant. Love is the proof that obedience flows from the right heart. When obedience and love meet, they prepare a person for greater service. (See B3-C02-S01 “Love Proven Only Through Obedience.”)

REMEMBRANCE AND ENDURANCE

The chosen never forget who called them. Forgetfulness is the beginning of rebellion. Israel fell not because God failed, but because they forgot His Word. *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6)*.

Every fall begins with forgetfulness. When remembrance fades, obedience weakens. That is why Scripture says, *“Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent” (Revelation 2:5)*.

Endurance proves the sincerity of both callings; salvation and service. *“He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved” (Matthew 24:13)*. Paul testified, *“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7)*. (See B2-C03-S07 “Enduring to the End: Salvation Maintained by Faithfulness.”)

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The chosen are not without struggle, but they are unshakable in identity. They know who called them and what they are called for. The first calling is to become; the second is to be sent.

THE TEST OF THE CALL

Christ never hid the cost of discipleship. *“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me” (Luke 9:23)*. The cross is not jewelry, it is death to self.

The call to salvation requires death to sin; the call to service requires death to self-will. Both are costly, and both must be answered in obedience.

“Which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost?” (Luke 14:28). The one who counts the cost but still moves forward becomes a vessel God can trust. Those who fail to count it begin with zeal but end in retreat. Demas was called but turned back, loving this world more than Christ (**2 Timothy 4:10**). The chosen finish what they start. (See B3-C03-S01 “Counting the Cost of Discipleship.”)

The first call invites you to follow; the second tests whether you will continue.

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CALLED AND THE CHOSEN

When the Lord calls, not everyone answers, and not everyone who answers is chosen. The first call, which is the call to salvation, must be received through full obedience to the gospel, not by words alone. True salvation requires repentance, water baptism for the remission of sins, and the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. Without all three, the first call is void. **Acts 2:38** confirms it clearly: *“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”* The confession of the lips must be joined with the obedience of the body and the transformation of the Spirit.

A. Faith without obedience cannot survive. Faith that does not obey is dead. *Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone (James 2:17). For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also (James 2:26).* Salvation begins with belief, but it is perfected through obedience. Baptism and the receiving of the Holy Ghost complete the act of faith that leads to life.

B. Be doers of the Word, not hearers only. *But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves (James 1:22).* Many hear the truth, few act on it. The called hear the message, but the chosen obey it fully. Obedience to the Word includes baptism for remission, prayer, and receiving the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, just as the apostles taught.

C. Good works are the proof of living faith. Good works are not payment for salvation, they are the evidence that faith is alive. They are the fruit that grows from a life rooted in obedience. B3-C02-S02- “Good Works Evidence, Not Earning” explains that good works are the outward proof that faith has taken hold, not the cause of salvation itself. B3-C02-S01- “Love Proven Only

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Through Obedience” both reveal that love for God is seen in the doing of His commandments.

The called hear the Word, but the chosen obey it. They repent, are baptized in water for the remission of sins, receive the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, and walk in good works that confirm their faith is alive. Without obedience, faith dies. Without action, hearing becomes self-deception. Those who are chosen are those who continue in both faith and obedience to the end.

(See Book 2, Chapter 3, Study 2: Baptism God’s Appointed Moment of Remission, and Study 3: The Holy Ghost The Indwelling Gift of the New Covenant for full doctrinal foundation.)

OBEDIENCE AND SEPARATION

When God called Abram, He said, *“Get thee out of thy country”* (**Genesis 12:1**). That was his first call; the call to obedience. Later, God called him again to sacrifice Isaac, testing the depth of his surrender. That was his second call, the call to greater purpose.

The first call separates you from sin; the second separates you for service. Both require trust and obedience. *“Be ye holy; for I am holy”* (**1 Peter 1:16**). Separation is not pride, it is identity.

Those who are chosen are not better than others; they are simply faithful in what they heard. Separation marks ownership. *“It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever”* (**Exodus 31:16–17**).

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TRUTH, REFINEMENT, AND CORRECTION

Truth demands examination. *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith”* (2 Corinthians 13:5). The chosen are not offended by correction; they are shaped by it.

Doubt, when handled correctly, can become a tool of refinement. It exposes what needs strengthening. *“A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise”* (Psalm 51:17). (See B2-C01-S09 “When Doubt Is a Call to Examine, Not to Fear.”)

Refinement is how God prepares those who answered the first call to receive the second. *“The trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise”* (1 Peter 1:7). Fire proves faith, it does not destroy it.

Correction is the proof of love. *“Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth”* (Hebrews 12:6). Those who reject correction reject growth. (See B3-C02-S04 “Truth or Deceit: Testing What You Believe.”)

CONTINUING IN THE TRUE DOCTRINE

The chosen continue steadfastly in the same gospel the apostles preached; repentance, water baptism for the remission of sins, and the receiving of the Holy Spirit. *“They continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship”* (Acts 2:42). (See B3-C02-S03 “Continuing in the Apostles’ Doctrine.”)

The first call draws you into covenant; the second commissions you to guard that covenant. *“Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints”* (Jude 1:3).

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THE BATTLE AND TESTING OF ALL THINGS

The greatest battle of the chosen is not with men but with thoughts. *“We wrestle not against flesh and blood” (Ephesians 6:12)*. The enemy attacks the mind because identity governs obedience.

If he can make you forget who you are, he can make you question what you are called to do. (See B3-C01-S02 “Identity in Christ and the Danger of Spiritual Amnesia.”)

Testing protects truth. *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God” (1 John 4:1)*. The chosen test everything by Scripture, because they know that obedience without discernment can lead to error.

THE FINAL CALL

The Spirit still says, “Wake up.” The called hear and delay; the chosen hear and obey.

Paul wrote, *“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16)*. Time reveals who truly answered the call. Every act of obedience proves whether you belong to those who began or those who endured.

You were not called to blend in but to stand apart. The first call saves your soul; the second call sends your life. Remember what you have learned, act on what you know, and continue in what you have received. *“Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58)*.

(See also B3-C02-S01 “Love Proven Only Through Obedience,” and B2-C03-S07 “Enduring to the End: Salvation Maintained by Faithfulness.”)

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