

Calling on the Name of the Lord

Text: Acts 2:16-21

Introduction:

1. This concept is often misunderstood in the religious world.
 2. Most claim that it is the doctrine of salvation by faith only.
 3. What does the Bible teach about calling on the name of the Lord?
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- I. The Old Testament Record
 - A. Genesis 4:26 – used of worship and/or prayer
 - B. Genesis 12:8; 13:4 – only in submission to God
 - C. I Kings 18:24 – contrasted with idol worship
 - D. Psalm 116 – a life of faithful dedication
 - E. Isaiah 48:1 – must be according to truth
 - F. Joel 2:32 – one day, all men would be able

 - II. The Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:21-38)
 - A. This is the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy.
 - B. It was more than merely saying the name of the Lord (cf. Matthew 7:21).
 - C. Instead, they had to hear the Gospel (vs. 33).
 - D. They were required to believe the Gospel (vs. 36).
 - E. They had to repent and be baptized (vs. 37-38).
 - F. Only then had they called upon the name of the Lord.

 - III. The Conversion of Saul (Acts 22:1-16)
 - A. Paul had to hear and believe the Gospel (9:6).
 - B. He had to obey God's command to be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (cf. 2:38).
 - C. Only then was he said to be "calling on the name of the Lord."

 - IV. The Letter to the Romans (Romans 10:8-21)
 - A. They had to hear the Gospel, but hearing alone was not enough.
 - B. They had to believe the Gospel and confess their faith.
 - C. They also had to be baptized (cf. 6:3-4, 17-18).

 - V. The Faithful Christian (Acts 9:14; 1 Cor. 1:2)