

FOR JESUS SAKE, **HOW** SHALL WE REACH THE LARGEST WORLD THAT'S EVER BEEN?

Romans 10:13-15 for "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 **How** then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And **how** shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And **how** shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And **how** shall they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "**How** beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" (NASB)

I. **HOW** then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed?

- A. "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)
- B. We are called by God, but how? In some mystic sense? No.
 - 1. John 16:8 "And He, when He comes, will convict (by oral persuasion) the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; (NASB)
 - 2. 2 Thessalonians 2:14 And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NASB)
 - 3. Acts 2:39 "For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself." (NASB)
- C. We are told to make our call upon God in response to the preached word.
 - 1. Acts 22:16 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.' (NASB) See 1 Peter 3:21.
- D. A. Calling-on the name of the Lord includes the following:
 - 1. Calling-on is contingent upon faith.
 - 2. Calling-on is contingent upon hearing.
 - 3. Calling-on is contingent upon preaching.
 - 4. Calling-on is contingent upon being sent.
- E. But what of the word "believe" here in verse 13?
 - 1. One must believe at least, as seen in verses 6 and 7, the incarnation as well as the resurrection.
 - 2. Verses 8 through 11 map out the proper response of belief of the gospel, in part — confess (*homologeh'o*) that Jesus is Lord. "Jesus is Lord" is the "good confession." (1 Tim. 6:12-13). Lordship ascribes to Jesus both ownership and deity. Also one must believe in his heart that Jesus is resurrected.
 - 3. The complete Gospel is found in Acts 2: The Birth, Death, Burial, Resurrection, Ascension, Crowning and Glorification of Jesus Christ.

II. **HOW** shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? vs. 14

- A. The Calvinist would say one is saved "behind ones back, while asleep or in a coma."
- B. But Romans 10:17 So faith [comes] from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. (NASB)
 - 1. See John 20:24-29 for the account of Thomas' unbelief.
 - 2. James 1:21 Therefore putting aside all filthiness and [all] that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. (NASB)

III. **HOW** shall they hear without a preacher? vs. 14

- A. Phil Young says, *“It is the duty of the Whole church to preach the Whole Gospel to the Whole world the Whole time and that's the Whole story!”*
1. Everyone must, in some way shape or form, be directly involved in the salvation of the world at large! Jesus reinforces this in Matt. 28:18-20.
 2. This is the mission of the church.
 - a. 1 Timothy 1:15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost [of all.] (NASB)
 - b. Luke 19:10 "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (NASB)
 - c. Ephesians 3:10 in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly [places.] (NASB)
 - d. 1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for [God's] own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (NASB)

IV. **HOW** shall they preach unless they are sent? vs. 15

- A. Jesus sent his disciples constantly.
1. Matthew 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them, saying, "Do not go in [the] way of [the] Gentiles, and do not enter [any] city of the Samaritans; (NASB)
 2. Luke 10:1-2 Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them two and two ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. 2 And He was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. (NASB)
 3. John 20:21 Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace [be] with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." (NASB)
 4. John 21:15-17 So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, [son] of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." 16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, [son] of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, [son] of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep. (NASB)

V. **HOW** beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things! vs. 15

- A. Tell the story of Pokey Miller who was requested to preach, at the graveside burial of a single foot of an amputee.
- B. Paul, however, is saying something much more sober than this.
1. “The beautiful feet” business in verse 15b refers first to the feet of the herald of God bringing “good news” to the Jews left in ruined Jerusalem that Babylonian captivity has ended (Isa. 52:7). Secondly those same “good news” feet announce deliverance to all who “heed” the Gospel of Jesus Christ.