

Systematic Theology

The Doctrine of Salvation: Calling and Regeneration

The biblical order of salvation

1. Election-predestination
2. Calling and regeneration
3. Conversion (faith and repentance)
*also union with Christ
4. Justification
5. Adoption
6. Sanctification and perseverance
7. Glorification

I. Calling

2 Cor. 4:3-4

A. Terminology, Definitions and Presuppositions

1. Terminology
2. Definitions of Effectual Calling
Bruce Ware, *Still Sovereign* (211)
LC, 67; SC, 30-31; WCF, X, 1-2
3. Presuppositions

B. The External Call of the Gospel

1. It is commanded (Matt. 28:19-20)
 1. Universal and indiscriminate (Mt. 11:28; Jn. 7:37; Isa. 45:22; Rev. 22:17)
 2. Resistible (Isa. 65:11-12; Luke 9:30; Acts 7:51)

C. The Effectual Call of the Gospel

1. 1 Cor. 1:17-31
2. Rom. 8:28-30
3. Jn. 6:37, 44, 64-65
4. 1 Cor. 1:9
5. 2 Tim. 1:9
6. 1 Pet. 2:9

7. 2 Pet. 1:10
8. Acts 13:48; 16:14; Rom. 1:6-7; Ezek. 37; Jn. 11

D. The Free Offer of the Gospel

1. We acknowledge an element of mystery between sovereign grace and moral responsibility.
2. We acknowledge the end and the means (2 Tim. 2:10)
3. We acknowledge our task.
4. We leave the results with God and give Him all the glory

II. Regeneration

A. Only three views of regeneration:

1. Baptismal regeneration
2. Decisional regeneration
3. Sovereign regeneration

B. Definitions of regeneration: connection to effectual calling,

C Major Passages

Ezek. 36-37

Titus 3:5

2 Cor. 4:3-6

Eph. 2:4-5

1 Pet. 1:3, 23

John 1:12-13

John 3:1-8

D Other Passages

Deut. 30:6; Jer. 32:39-40; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24; Jas. 1:18;

1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18

E The Nature of Regeneration

- 1 It is a sovereign work (Jn. 1:12-13; 3:3-8; Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3)
- 2 It is a radical work (Ezek. 36:26-27; 1 Jn. 3:9 et. al)
- 3 It precedes and causes faith and repentance (1 Jn. 5:1; Eph. 2:5, 8-9; Phil. 1:29).
- 4 The Agent of regeneration is the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:3-8; Titus 3:5)
- 5 The Instrument of regeneration is the Word of God (Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23).