



Lecture #10, Part 6

Course Information

1. Course Description

A study of the persons of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and their unified teaching of the doctrines of the Bible.

Survey of the Doctrines of the Bible

The Holy Spirit: The New Genesis

REGENERATION IS GRACIOUS

The unregenerate experience the outward call of the gospel. This outward call will not effect salvation unless the call is heard and embraced in faith. Effectual calling refers to the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration. Here the call is within. The regenerate are called inwardly. Everyone who receives the inward call of regeneration responds in faith. Paul says this:

Romans 8:30 (NASB)

³⁰ **and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.**

This passage in Romans is **elliptical**. That is, it requires that we supply a word to it that is assumed by the text but not explicitly stated. The big question is, Which word do we supply—some or **all**? Let us try **some**:

Moreover, some whom He predestined, these He also called; some whom He called, these He also justified; and some whom He justified, these He also glorified.

To add the word **some** here is to torture the text. It would mean that some of the predestined never hear the call of the gospel. **Some** who **are** called never come to faith and justification. Some of the justified fail to be glorified. In this schema not only would calling not be effectual, but neither would predestination nor justification be effectual.

The implication of this text is that **all** who are predestined are likewise called. **All** who are called are justified, and **all** who are justified are glorified.

If that is the case, then we must distinguish between the outward call of the gospel, which may or may not be heeded, and the inward call of the Spirit, which is necessarily effectual. Why? If **all** the called are also justified, then **all** the called must exercise faith. Obviously not everyone who hears the external call of the gospel comes to faith and justification. But **all** who are effectually called do come to faith and justification. Here the call refers to the inward work of the Holy Spirit that is tied to regeneration.



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Those whom the Holy Spirit makes alive most assuredly come to life. They see the kingdom; they embrace the kingdom; they enter the kingdom.

It is to the Holy Spirit of God that we are debtors for the grace of regeneration and faith. He is the Gift-giver, who while we were dead made us alive with Christ, to Christ, and in Christ. It is because of the Holy Spirit's merciful act of quickening that we sing *sola gratia* and *soli deo gloria* — **to the glory of God alone.**