

## CALLED FOR OBEDIENCE TO JESUS CHRIST

1 Peter 1:2 “Called . . . for obedience to Jesus Christ.”

You live in a covenantal relationship with God. A covenant is an agreement, pledge, a promise. The covenant or agreement God has established with you is recorded already in Leviticus 26:12, “And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.” This relationship God has established with you is included in the word “called” in 1 Peter 1:1.

1 Peter 2:2 unpacks what this covenant relationship means regarding the life you live. God has chosen, called, elected you and promised to be your God. In turn, you become His “people” or a member of His family. He has chosen, called, elected you to take you away from following the Devil, the world and your sinful nature. He has chosen, called, elected you to faithfully believe and follow His word. Thus 1 Peter 1:2 says your God has “called (you). . .for obedience to Jesus Christ.”

Your obedience of God and His word is not something you do naturally. As your coming to faith in Jesus was the work of the Holy Spirit so is your obedience to Jesus. The Holy Spirit’s gift of faith enables you to submit completely to Jesus and stop obeying the voice of the evil one and his allies. Jesus taught, “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. . .” (Luke 6:46-48)

The Psalmist (author is unknown) declares, “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD (GOD’S WORD), and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1:1-3) St. Paul’s words in Romans 8 add, “. . .we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (verse 28) “. . . you who are called (chosen) belong to Jesus Christ.” (Romans 1:6)

By God's grace, through the Holy Spirit's gift of faith in Jesus Christ, you walk the Christian walk and talk the words of Christ.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, I pray You will continue to sanctify me, that is, keep me faithful, trusting in Jesus for my salvation and living my life in obedience to Him.

"Come, follow Me," the Savior spake, "All in My way abiding;  
Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding.  
O bear the cross, whate'er betide, Take My example for your guide.

"I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying;  
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below.

"My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing;  
And gracious words My lips express, With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.

"I teach you how to shun and flee "What harms your soul's salvation,  
Your heart from ev'ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to His Word, In suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain The crown of heav'nly life obtain.  
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