

# **Irresistible Grace (Effectual calling)**

Sermon 8 in the Doctrines of Grace Series

## **I. The General Call and the Effectual Call**

The general (outward) call is a call that can be rejected.

The outward call is given by men to men.

The outward call is our responsibility – but we do not have the ability or responsibility to change the heart of a sinner.

The effectual call is the sovereign work of God in the heart.

This is also called “regeneration”.

The effectual call never fails – John 3:6-8, 27

## **II. A List of Scriptures Regarding the Spirit’s work in Regeneration**

See back page

## **III. Two Biblical Illustrations of Effectual Calling**

A. Lazarus – John 11:1-44

B. Ezekiel’s Vision of the Dry Bones – Ezekiel 37:1-14

1. Verses 1-10 -- The Vision Itself

A vast collection of very dry bones

God’s question.

Ezekiel’s wise answer

God’s command – “Speak to the bones”

Ezekiel’s obedience – the use of means (even when it appears to be foolish or hopeless)

The breath (spirit) comes and there is life

2. Verses 11-14 – The interpretation and the Application

See 2 Cor. 2:14-16