

CALLED...
By HIS
Name



J. N. Runner

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Dedicated:
to Robert and Pamela Truck....
...it's been the journey of a lifetime...
...and a great one too....



2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.



Ephesians 3:13 Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,



Isaiah 43:6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.



*2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. **And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.***



Genesis 4:25 And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

*4:26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: **then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.***

The life of the third son of Adam and Eve, Seth, must have been quite a contrast to the time years earlier, when his two brothers Cain and Abel were raised. His brother Abel was dead, slain by his other brother who because of his crime had been banished. Somewhere beyond the horizon was this land of Nod, east of Eden, where Cain and his wife (obviously a sister) were establishing the first city or community of people, Cain's sons and daughters, that he called after the name of his first son, Enoch. There is no telling how many sons and daughters of Cain had populated the city of Enoch when Seth's son Enos was born. Cain – the first born but disinherited and disqualified from being the 'chosen one' to bring about the seed of the woman that would bruise the head of the serpent, as God had promised Adam. (Genesis 3:15)

There is also no telling how or when Seth began to realize that amid the growing number of the progeny of his older brother Cain, *he* was the chosen one to bring about this seed. But indeed he *had* to know when he looked down at his progeny – his first born, Enos. And with that revelation, he would be the first of humanity to call upon the name of the Lord. It was more than just calling out 'God', like you'd call for your friend to help you with a favor or chore. It was humanity reaching out to deity, for His mercy and grace, a sincere appreciation and acceptance

of the calling as he realized he was the chosen one. Centuries later the Apostle John would sum up the amazing revelation:

1 John 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.

And with that amazement, Seth marveled that he and his son had been called; he and his son had been chosen; he and his son had been named. With that thankfulness, that revelation, Seth began what generations after him with the same revelation and amazement would do: he *called upon the name of the Lord*.



There is contained in the Holy Bible enough hidden mysteries to keep the truly curious searching their entire life. That is one way of saying no one has all the answers... but we're working on it. And pondering the mysteries of the scriptures, a believer has faith that everything contained in scripture has some significance.

Revealing the mysteries of the Old Testament by connecting the types and the shadows, such as the great truths found in the Tabernacle in the Wilderness and Solomon's Temple that portrays the Gospel in the New Testament has been a subject of great interest, and for good reason.

One of the greatest truths of all is the topic of the very token of the covenant itself that God gave Abraham. When God gave the command to Abraham in Genesis the 17th chapter to circumcise all the males and to circumcise the babies on the eighth day, it is doubtful that any mortal knew anything about prothrombin or vitamin K or any of the particulars that make conditions at optimum level for blood coagulation for the delicate surgery of circumcision on an eighth day old baby boy. But God knew and so decreed, and again, doubtful that he took the time to explain the medical sense to Abraham any more than He explained to Abraham why he wanted him to take his son, his only son, up to Mt. Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering. God basically said, "just do it".

But as God eventually unfolded the purpose of that fateful day by unveiling a ram caught by his horns that became the scapegoat ('escape' goat) portraying the Lamb of God that would

come years later as God manifest in human flesh, we also see some rhyme and reason for the token of the covenant, circumcision, as we look closely to the Hebrew and Greek meanings. This study is not intended to explain all the mysteries involving it, but we hope a few clues will shed some interesting light.

Genesis 17:4 As for me, [God said] behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

17:5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

At the time of this change of name, God established the token of the covenant with Abraham, which was circumcision:

Genesis 17:9 And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

17:10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

17:11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

17:12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which [is] not of thy seed.

17:13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my

covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

17:14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

Since that day, the descendants of Abraham have carried on the custom.

Brit Milah

On the eighth day of the male baby's life, in the ancient Jewish '*Brit Milah*' or Covenant of Circumcision, as Abraham's name was changed, the male baby is given his Hebrew name. This is not for the females born, since the male would be the one to carry on the family name. The male baby would usually take on the name of an honored relative and the surname of his father. The name is not to be mentioned openly, only in hushed tones among the parents, to be revealed at the time of the circumcision.

There are two examples in scripture that show the naming of the child at circumcision:

The official naming and circumcision of John the Baptist

Beginning in the 11th chapter of Luke, we read of the angel of the Lord giving the announcement of the birth of a son, and that his name should be called *John*:

Luke 1:11 And there appeared unto him [Zacharias] an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

1:12 *And when Zacharias saw [him], he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.*

1:13 *But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.*

Skipping to verse 59 of the same chapter, we see the fulfillment of the prophecy:

*Luke 1:59 And it came to pass, that **on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child**; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father.*

1:60 *And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John.*

1:61 *And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name.*

1:62 *And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called.*

1:63 *And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, **His name is John.** And they marvelled all.*

The official naming and circumcision of Jesus:

Luke 2:21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Circumcision: Type & Shadow of Water Baptism

As circumcision was the essential token of the covenant between God and Abraham at the time when his name was changed, there

is the indisputable connection between Old Testament circumcision and New Testament water baptism:

Colossians 2:11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Notice the colon at the end of verse 11 – it points to the subject of being **buried** with him in baptism. As we become sons of God (John 1:12) we take on the NAME of JESUS through water baptism – the New Testament equivalent to Old Testament circumcision!

And as God made obedience to the Abrahamic covenant essential to obtaining the promises, Jesus placed the same importance upon being born of water and of the Spirit:

Genesis 17:14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

To show the importance of doing things God's way, in the 4th chapter of Exodus, God was intent to pronounce judgment of DEATH upon none other than *Moses* for not circumcising his son:

*Exodus 4:24 And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that **the LORD met him [Moses], and sought to kill him.***

4:25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me.

4:26 So he [the LORD] let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.

In the Gospel of John the 3rd chapter, Jesus is clear about the importance of being ‘born of the water and of the Spirit:

*John 3:5 Jesus answered [Nicodemus], Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he **cannot** enter into the kingdom of God.*

At water baptism, is where we become ‘born of the water’! And being born again, as a newborn babe takes on the name of his Father, we too take on the name of our Heavenly Father!

Calling Upon the Name of the Lord is Taking On the Name!

With this foundation, let’s look now to the Book of Psalms:

Psalm 116:12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?

*116:13 I will take the cup of salvation, and **call upon the name of the LORD.***

Calling on the name of the Lord has a great significance. It isn’t just ‘Lord help me!’

The word ‘call’ or ‘to call’ is the Hebrew word ‘qârâ’, a type of Hebrew verb called a pual verb form. *A pual verb form takes the verb and intensifies it and shifts its focus to the subject. Instead*

of the verb describing something the subject is doing, the verb describes something that IS BEING DONE TO THE SUBJECT. It literally means to be called, be named, be called out, be chosen as in 'I will be called; I will be named; I will be chosen'!

We find this Hebrew word 'qârâ' throughout the Old Testament. One other place that is very significant is in the 2nd chapter of the Book of Joel, the verse of scripture that was quoted by the Apostle Peter in the 2nd chapter of the Book of Acts. We will read both scriptures in the Book of Joel, and in the Book of Acts:

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, [that] I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

2:32 And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Before we go to the Book of Acts where Peter quotes this verse, let us look at the connection between what Joel prophesied in

the Old Testament and what Jesus said to do in the Gospel of Luke:

Luke 24:46 And [Jesus] said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

24:48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high

The command was to go to Jerusalem – because there, as Joel said, would be deliverance!

Also notice that repentance and remission of sins should be preached.... How? 'In HIS name'!

Another Greek word of significance is the translation of 'name' is **o'-no-mä**, which means the authority, the surname of! So literally, Luke 24:47 means 'that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in the surname of Jesus, beginning at Jerusalem'!

Now with these word meanings, we see the connection between Joel 2:32 and Luke 24:47:

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as

the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Then turning to the Acts of the Apostles, read:

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made,

[referring to the Gospel of Luke as the author is the same as the Gospel of Luke so we can read seamlessly from the end of the Gospel of Luke right into the Acts of the Apostles!]

O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

1:4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

1:7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

There shall be deliverance in Jerusalem! The New Testament church was to be birthed in Jerusalem and from there, Samaria and to the uttermost part of the earth!

In the 2nd chapter of the Book of Acts, we see the fulfillment of both Luke 24:47 and Joel 2:32:

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all [ye] that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

2:15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is [but] the third hour of the day.

2:16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

2:18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

2:21 And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

The 'o'-no-mä' or surname of the Lord, as commanded by Jesus in Luke 24:47, and also, the word 'call' here, which was 'qârâ' in the Hebrew in the Book of Joel, is translated **ἐπικαλέω**

epikaleō in the Greek, which literally means **to be surnamed: to call upon the name of as to put a name upon, to surname; to permit one's self to be surnamed; to be named after someone!**

Then Peter, wrapping up his sermon said,

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

2:37 Now when they heard [this], they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?

2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call

The Jews, having knowledge of the Book of Joel, knew, just as Joel said, that to call upon the name of the Lord in water baptism,

they were being surnamed after this Jesus whom they crucified!
[o'-no-mä, the authority, the surname of!]
They were taking upon themselves the name of Jesus!

Peter, the one whom Jesus had entrusted with the keys to the Kingdom of God (Matthew 16:19) used that key to unlock the door of salvation, first to the Jews in Jerusalem, and, according to Acts 1:8, the Samaritans, and the uttermost part of the earth!

This is consistent throughout scripture:

*1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place **call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord***

*Rom 10:13 **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.***

Epikaleō, and o'-no-mä

*Act 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, **calling on the name of the Lord.***

Epikaleō, and o'-no-mä

Again, epikaleō: to call upon the name of as to put a name upon, to surname; to permit one's self to be surnamed; to be named after someone; allowing oneself to be surnamed after the surname of the Lord!

At baptism, we renounce our old life and we allow ourselves to be surnamed after our Father, Jesus, taking on His name at baptism!!! If we are to be sons of God, we must take on His name: 'Epikaleō, ' allow ourselves to be surnamed!

Now let us read again this scripture showing the connection between Old Testament circumcision and water baptism:

Colossians 2:11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Not only is there no other provision in scripture for taking on the surname of Jesus when we 'call upon the name of the Lord' during water baptism, there is no other provision in scripture for being identified in his burial than water baptism!

Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

6:5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection

In the New Testament we see the authority and power of the Name of Jesus. Notice this:

*Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the **name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you

This literally means to be baptized in the surname of the titles Father, Son and Holy Ghost, [o'-no-mä, the authority, the surname of!) which as we saw in Luke 24:47, is JESUS!

Matthew 28:19 was a command by Jesus to baptize in a NAME SINGULAR! The apostles did not repeat the command, but they obeyed the commandment as we have seen. Since Father, Son and Holy Ghost are titles of the manifestations God, the apostles understood His SAVING NAME to be Jesus. Can anyone dare say that the apostles disobeyed the Lord or failed to baptize properly? The NAME OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST IS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

The actions of the apostles in the Book of Acts is further proof of this truth. Let us look again, and see how consistent the scripture is:

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, repent and be baptized every one of you in the name [onoma; surname of] of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost

Repentance and remission of sins was indeed preached in 'His name' the name of Jesus! And so was it everywhere else in the Book of Acts!

The Samaritans:

Acts 8:16 They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus

The household of Cornelius, the first gentile to be converted:

Acts 10:48 Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus

The Ephesians

Acts 19:1-6 'Certain disciples' were rebaptized in the name of the Lord Jesus

The Apostle Paul is commanded to be baptized:

Act 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. [Epikaleō, and o'-no-mä]

No Other Name!

Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name [ὄνομα onoma] of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Acts 4:7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

4:9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

4:11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal,

[σφραγίς sphragis - that by which anything is confirmed, proved, authenticated, as by a seal (a token or proof)]

*The Lord knoweth them that are his. **And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.***

Here, the word 'nameth', or ὀνομάζω onomazō – is a derivative of 'onoma', **to bear the name of a person or thing!**

When we 'call upon the name of the Lord, that is exactly what we do – we now bear the name of Jesus, our heavenly Father! It is our.... CALLING – our **vocation!**

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

Vocation = klēsis -calling

One who is called = Kaleo -called after; surnamed after, from where we get 'epikaleo'!!

*1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a **chosen** generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.*

Oh the very word "church" ecclesia – means not only “the called out ones”, but ‘ecclesia’ is from a derivative of "kaleo" - a deeper meaning than 'the called out ones' - **it means 'those who are called by his name'**

Eph 3:15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

The church! “I” shall be called – “I” shall be named I shall be chosen!!!!

In conclusion:

After receiving His Spirit, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and having been surnamed after the Lord by 'calling on the name of the Lord' at water baptism, we, are sons of God who can now call him Father, as we have taken on His name!

Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Ephesians 3:15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

Isaiah 43:6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

7 Even every one that is called by my name:

for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

'I will be called; I will be named; I will be chosen'!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Nicholas Runner became acquainted with Apostolic truth in 1969 at the age of 19 years old. Although raised by loving, caring parents, he got caught up in the whirlwind of the '60's. His exit from that era was due to an eye-opening experience he had while attending the Altamont festival in Livermore, California on December 11, 1969, and an invitation to Truth Tabernacle in Fresno California a few weeks later, on December 31. These two events led him to a life changing experience – receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost and being baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus

Christ. In 1974 he became the pastor's assistant to Elder Vaughn Morton at Truth Tabernacle. Six years later, in 1980, he felt his call to go to Visalia California to pioneer a church, The Fortress of Truth. Thirty years later in 2010 he retired from pastoring but remains in Visalia at the Fortress of Truth.

