

SETTLED CALLING

Acts 22:10 (ESV)

Every disciple looking to ministry must come to a point where they settle their calling. Settle by definition means: *to resolve definitely or reach an agreement about...* In the passage we are going to look at, we see Paul's settled decision about the will of God... He asks a very important question: *What shall I do-*

Acts 22:10 (ESV) And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.'

I MISTAKEN APPROACH

A- The first mistaken approach about Calling/Will of God that its another option of something I *could* do-

1. Like; I could be a computer engineer, architect, landscaper, general contractor, or a preacher
 - a. Its another option in a list of *occupations* of what we could do...
2. Paul in our story does see it that way: **V10** What shall I do, Lord?
 - a. Lord: Speaks of a higher authority, a Ruler, a Master...
 - b. That is a reference for us: Paul surrenders his sovereignty to God's sovereignty... You are above me!
 - i. You are above my plans, will, desires, pursuits... Instead: What is YOUR plan, will, desire for my life?

B- The second mistaken approach is that we decide when we will obey the will of God.

1. **V10** Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you
 - a. There wasn't an option regarding the time... Rise and go had an urgency...
 - i. Getting further revelation, getting *all that is appointed to him* was contingent on immediate obedience.
2. Sometimes there is a time factor connected to the will, plans, purposes of God.
 - a. I didn't immediately obey God... but there was a day that looking back on all my ministry was time sensitive.
 - b. Look at states or nations; Its like an opportunity opens, but then closes... China would be a recent example
3. Don't make these mistakes: Its optional or Its when I decide...

II I DIDNT SAY NO:

A- Think: Why would men feel these approaches are acceptable?

1. Because I didn't say NO... Most here wouldn't blatantly tell God NO...
 - a. We package it up a bit nicer- I could do this, I would do this, I may do this, I'd like to do this...
 - b. Not yet, After I, I will when, First let me...
2. We make it gray... but its actually more black and white... Not yielding to God in Obedience is still disobedience
 - a. Not saying YES is still a NO...
 - b. **Matthew 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness... **SEEK FIRST!** That's a command
 - c. **Matthew 8:18** And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side.
 - i. He gave a command... This is followed by 2 men: A scribe and a Disciple and the cost of discipleship!
 - ii What did the disciples do? They followed Jesus into the boat- YES or NO

B- What have you said to God's calling? What have you decided to do with it? What are you doing with it?

III SETTLED CALLING:

A- What we see in the story of Paul is Settled Calling-

1. **V10** What shall I do, Lord?
 - a. He asks God what He wants him to do-
 - i. That is a question that will be answered daily, seasonally, and different junctions in life... What do you want me to do?
 2. Then Paul obeys it... He is led to Ananias, and the specific location God told him to go.
 - a. His actions fell in line with his question. He settled I am going to do what God wants me to do.
- B-** This is something every disciple pursuing ministry must settle- The Calling, and Obeying it
1. That every decision will be a God decision, a Calling decision, a Ministry decision
 2. That will guard you against the mistakes of *optional calling* or at a *later time*
 - a. Settling calling will solidify and change your entire life! I know it did for me, and for other men in ministry!
 - b. JD: lacked confidence for ministry, I preached, prayed for disciples, he said it settled that day, pioneering today.