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THE COST OF THE CALL

As we look at scripture, we see that many in both the Old and New Testaments were called by God for a specific purpose. Many responded positively, knowing the cost of the call.

Jeremiah was very young when God called him. God told him he was called even before he was formed in his mother's womb. (Jeremiah 1:5.) He was told what his call would be in Jeremiah 1:10. His call was to root out, pull down, to destroy, to throw down, to build, and to plant. He was told to not be afraid because God would put his words in his mouth. He accepted the call and became the weeping prophet. I am sure that it often was more than he could bear. He wanted to quit many times but that fire in his bones kept him going even when he was weary (Jeremiah 20:9). He was told not to marry, which would be difficult for any young person. He was told that they would not listen, and for 40 years he proclaimed the message of judgment.

The call of God as a prophet or any other call is never going to be easy. The Apostle Paul was told how much he would suffer for the Lord but said yes to the call. Throughout scripture we see many were slain, martyred, mocked, hated and more.

The cost of the call? It is total surrender of your life no matter what confronts you. It will be painful to give up everything of earthly value, my friends, to answer yes to His call. But, even knowing the difficulty of the call, we must say yes. I think of the rich young ruler that Jesus called and was told to sell all that he had and give it to the poor. It was more than he could bear, and he walked away from the call. I wonder how often he wept at that decision. I wonder if there was regret.

We may not see the rewards of being obedient on this side of heaven, but the rewards will be granted by the Lord on his return for those that chose His will and answered yes when called.