

Eleutheros Newsletter

September 2018

News of Interest

Have you ever felt the urge to present the Gospel to someone but then realized you need training or encouragement?

Check out this soulwinning seminar from Eleutheros Books!

<http://www.eleutherosbooks.com> Click on "Seminars"

Eleutheros Books will be offering a new ministry soon: a school of Theology.

It will begin with two course offerings.

1. Soteriology (the doctrines of salvation), featuring 30 lectures on the entire major subjects pertaining to the Gospel. Students will be able to purchase lectures on any subject for a small fee or sign up for the entire course that would include Bible memory work, soulwinning, quizzes, and tests. The course has been approved as an elective in an accredited seminary. Required reading: *The Ramifications of Our Salvation*.
2. I and II Corinthians, featuring 30 lectures on these Pauline epistles. Course requirements similar to that on Soteriology. Required reading: *Spiritual Gifts Verse by Verse: A Commentary on I Corinthians 12-14*.

Any interested students can learn about these courses in the October newsletter.

Jesus' Relationship with the Father

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God ([John 1:1-2](#)).*

Those who know our Lord as Savior believe that God's nature is both unity and trinity.

The unity (oneness) of God is clearly revealed in the Old Testament: *Unto thee it was shown, that thou mightiest know that the Lord He is God; there is none else beside Him ([Deuteronomy 4:35](#); see also [Deuteronomy 4:39](#); [6:4](#); [I Kings 8:60](#); [Isaiah 45:5f](#)).* In addition, it is clearly revealed that the Yahweh of the Bible is the ONLY God: *Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders ([Exodus 15:11](#); see also [Zechariah 1:9](#))?*

The doctrine of the trinity of God is not a truth of reasoning, but of revelation, particularly in the New Testament, Good examples of this are found at our Lord's baptism where

the Holy Spirit descended on Him and the Father identified His Son as beloved in [Matthew 3:16f](#); and His prayer that the Father would send forth the Holy Spirit ([John 14:16](#)).

The three Persons are also associated together in their work ([I Corinthians 12:4-6](#); [Ephesians 1:13-14](#); [I Peter 1:2](#); [3:18](#)); [Revelation 1:4f](#)).

The nature of God can be stated simply: there is one God Who exists in three Persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. To understand this truth in totality, however, is quite difficult.

Some try to say the egg is a good analogy. It has a shell, the yellow, and the white. God however, is not in three *parts*. Others suggest that water is a good analogy. It can be steam, water, and ice, but God does not have three *properties*. Still others try to say a man who is a father, a husband, and a teacher explains Him well, but He does not have three *positions*.

God exists in three *Persons*, and there is nothing analogous to Him! His being is simple, numerically one, free from composition; man's composition is compound, having both a material part and an immaterial part. God is spirit ([John 4:24](#)) and is therefore not susceptible of any such division.

And so we are left to simply rely on the testimony of Scripture to understand these things.

The same applies to our Lord's relationship to the Father. Certain things are revealed, but they are beyond our ability to totally comprehend! These things are clear:

1. Their relationship is eternal. *The same was in the beginning with God* ([John 1:2, 15](#)).
2. Jesus was submissive to His Father. *Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to finish His work* ([John 4:34](#); [6:38-46](#); [9:4](#)).
3. Their relationship was (and is) very close. *The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into His hand* ([John 3:3-4](#); [7:28-29](#); [8:16](#)).
4. They work and plan things together. *Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do: for what things so ever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise* ([John 5:19](#)).
5. Jesus is sitting on the right hand of the Father. *Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His Person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high* ([Hebrews 1:3](#); see also [Mark 1:40](#); [Acts 2:33](#)).
6. Jesus is a great gift to man from the Father. *Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but My Father giveth you the true bread from heaven* ([John 6:32](#)).

7. Jesus received His doctrine from the Father. *Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not Mine, but His that sent Me* ([John 7:16](#)).
8. Jesus and the Father have intimate knowledge of each other. *As the Father knoweth Me, even so I know the Father, and I lay down my life for the sheep* ([John 10:15](#)).
9. Jesus' death was a direct command from His Father. *No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father* ([John 10:18](#)).
10. Believers in Jesus were given by to Him by the will of the Father. *And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand. My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand* ([John 1:28-29](#)).
11. Jesus and the Father are one *Essence*. *I and My Father are one* ([John 10:30](#)). The word "one" here is neuter in the Greek and indicates one *Essence*, not one *Person*.
12. Jesus is the Son of God. *The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God* ([Mark 1:1](#)).
13. The Father always hears the prayers of His Son. *Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard Me. And I know that Thou hearest Me always* ([John 11:41-42a](#)).
14. Knowledge of Jesus is knowledge of the Father also. *If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also; and henceforth ye shall know Him, and have seen Him* ([John 14:7](#); [12:44](#)).
15. Jesus' love for believers is the same as the Father's love for Him. *As the Father hath loved Me; so I have loved you: continue ye in My love* ([John 15:9](#)).
16. Jesus prayed that the Father would glorify Him. *And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self with the glory, which I had with Thee before the world was* ([John 17:5](#); [Philippians 2:6](#); [Colossians 1:15](#)).
17. Jesus was anointed by His Father. *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power* ([Acts 10:38](#)).
18. Believers belong to Jesus; Jesus belongs to the Father. *And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's* ([I Corinthians 3:23](#)).
19. Jesus is just as much God as is the Father. *Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God* ([Philippians 2:5](#); and many other verses.)
20. The Father raised Jesus from the dead. *Who by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God* ([I Peter 1:21](#)).

Just as there is an amazing relationship between the Father and the Son, there is also an amazing relationship between God and the believer (because of the work of His Son)! Praise the Lord!

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure ([1 John 3:1-3](#))!

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Traditional Folk Song

*I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus, keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee!*

*Thro' this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, der Lord, none but Thee!*

*When my feeble life in o'er,
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore!*

*Just a closer walk with Thee!
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea!
Daily walking close to Thee!
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be!*