

Eleutheros Newsletter

May 2021

News of Interest

Eleutheros Books is dedicated to offering literature and course offerings that will help believers to think Biblically.

Feel free to check out the following:

[*The Ramifications of Our Salvation*](#) explains what happens Biblically when a believer is saved by God's grace.

[*Bible Translations: A Closer Look*](#) explains the challenges translators face and gives reasons why the wording in some versions is so much different from that of other versions.

[*Spiritual Gifts Verse by Verse: A Commentary on I Corinthians 12-14*](#) deals with every phrase in these three chapters which are key to understanding the blessings and challenges of the gifts God gives to every believer.

[*A Portrait of Jesus*](#) looks at our great Savior for Who He is and what He has done (and will do) from eternity past to eternity future.

[*The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*](#) presents clear and important evidence for our Lord's resurrection, the greatest event in all of history.

[*19th Century Influences on 21st Century Christianity*](#) gives insights into many factors from the past that are still influencing the Church today.

All these books can be purchased by going to the website: www.eleutherosbooks.com

Very soon the first of several courses will be available through Eleutheros Books. Entitled Soteriology, it will involve 30 audio/visual lectures, tests, quizzes, and Bible memory assignments.

God willing, other future courses will be made available: I and II Corinthians, Life of Christ, and Elementary New Testament Greek.

Thoughts from the Psalms

Psalm 61

In this great Psalm David writes about his *total* dependence on God.

1 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.

King David surely knew that God knew everything about him. In [Psalm 139:1](#) he recognized that God knows Him and has searched him out. In that same chapter he

expands the thoughts to include God's awareness of his actions (*Thou knowest my down sitting and mine uprising*) and thoughts (*Thou understandest my thought afar off*)—[Psalm 139:2](#).

David was also in the habit of crying out to his Lord (*Lord, I cry unto Thee*—[Psalm 141:1](#); *I cried unto the Lord with my voice*—[Psalm 142:1](#)).

One might ask why David, knowing that God was aware of everything, would cry out to God. The simplest answer is that he wanted to remain close to God and thus express his total dependence upon Him!

2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

David recognized that he often faced circumstances that were far too difficult for him to deal with in his own strength (*when my heart is overwhelmed*). He was committed, however, to trust God no matter where he might be (*from the end of the earth*)! He also trusted that God would use the circumstances that seemed so impossible to bring great blessing into his life (*lead me to the rock that is higher than I*).

The Apostle Paul recognized the same thing: *Tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us*—[Romans 5:3-5](#)).

Great challenges in our lives are actually the beginning of a process which results in great blessings from God!

3 For Thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy.

No doubt David remembered so many times that God had delivered him from cruel enemies!

4 I will abide in Thy tabernacle forever: I will trust in the covert of Thy wings. Selah.

David was very grateful to God and rejoiced in the prospect of a place to worship God forever (*I will abide in Thy tabernacle forever*) and was quite willing to trust God for his safety in this life (*I will trust in the covert of Thy wings*).

God's deliverance is extended both to our needs in this life and the eternal life we will enjoy in heaven!

5 For Thou, O God, hast heard my vows: Thou hast given me the heritage of those who fear Thy name.

Note in this verse that David is not *pleading* for God to hear his prayer as he did in verse 1 of this Psalm. He now has *confidence* that God has heard his prayer!

By the phrase *those who fear Thy name* David recognizes that it is important for God's people to reverence (*respect*) God! David surely did!

6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: and his years as many generations.

David knew that by God's grace he would have many years to serve Him.

7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him.

King David was so grateful that *mercy and truth* are eternal factors which preserve those who trust in God!

Consider also that Jesus is full of *grace and truth* ([John 1:14](#))! Grace is God's love extended to those who do not deserve it! Truth is God's honesty based on His holiness! What a salvation we have! It is based on both of these great factors!

8 So will I sing praise unto Thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

Recognizing God's greatness, David commits to sing His praises both in this life and forever!

May this Psalm and the words of the hymn inspire us to trust God fully and praise Him forever!

O for a Heart to Praise My God

Charles Wesley

*O for a heart to praise my God,
A heart from sin set free;
A heart that always feels Thy blood
So freely shed for me!*

*A heart in every thought renewed,
And full of love divine;
Perfect and right and pure and good,
A copy, Lord, of Thine!*

We will consider more thoughts from the Psalms in next month's newsletter.