

Eleutheros Newsletter

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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.

Eleutheros Books is now offering online courses.

Would you or anyone you know be interested in learning more Bible?

How about learning more about salvation?

Or a course that deals with many issues the Church still faces today?

Currently offering: Soteriology 101, 102, and I Corinthians

Study at your own pace! <https://eleutheros-seminars.thinkific.com/>

The Ramifications of Our Salvation is now available in a Spanish translation (both in paperback and eBook formats)! To make a purchase, go to www.amazon.com and enter [Las Ramificaciones de Neustra Salvacion](#) in the search bar.

Thoughts on Romans

1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

There were quite a number of factors in Paul's life that are relevant to what he says in this amazing verse: 1. He was a servant (actually a slave) of Jesus Christ ([1:1a](#)); 2. He was commissioned by God

to be an Apostle ([1:1b](#)); He had seen the risen Christ and was convinced by the Holy Spirit that Jesus is the risen Savior ([1:4](#)); He prayed without ceasing for believers and unbelievers ([1:9](#)); And because he had such a burden for all humanity—whether Greeks or “Barbarians” (non-Greek-speaking people) - he was ready to preach the Gospel to the Romans whom he had never met ([1:14-15](#)).

Such an awareness of how God had saved and called him caused Paul to be obedient to the commission he had received from Him. That surely led Paul to say he was not ashamed of the Gospel!

He had already experienced the joy of leading many to Christ in cities throughout Arabia, Cyprus, Galatia, and a number of cities in Europe. There was no doubt in his mind that the Gospel of Christ is “the power of God unto salvation to everyone the believeth.”

Paul would not change the basic Gospel message for any reason: *I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another (“different”) gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from, heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that which ye have received, let him be accursed* ([Galatians 1:6-9](#)).

Paul also refused to use worldly methods when he preached the Gospel: *Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye might obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we are incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway* ([1 Corinthians 9:24-27](#)).

Paul was convinced that presenting the Gospel was absolutely necessary. He was also convinced that presenting the Gospel in his way rather than His way was not at all acceptable!

We are living under very different conditions than what Paul faced in the 1st century, but the Bible is the Word of God and does not change!

There are two significant problems that the 21st century Church faces. 1. So few Christians have ever even attempted to lead a lost soul their Savior! This author has seen statistics that indicate that only 2 or 3 percent of professing Christians have ever presented the message of salvation to anyone else, and about half of that small number gives up quickly because they find that not all are happy when they hear someone tell them about sin, hell, the blood, repentance, and the fact that their religion or “good works” cannot save them! 2. There are far too many preachers and evangelists who seem to be more concerned that they might offend their audience and therefore present messages that ignore man’s sinful condition.

People like to hear that they are “ok.” God says that man is in desperate need!

The Gospel is the answer!

*A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-ending soul to save,
And fit it for the sky.*

To serve the present age,

*My calling to fulfill;
O may it all my pow'rs engage
To do my Master's will!*

A Charge to Keep I Have

Thomas Shepherd

We will continue these thoughts on Romans in next month's newsletter.