

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/>

Thoughts on Romans

1:6 *Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ.*

In verse 5 Paul proclaimed that the Gospel message had been delivered and obeyed by saving faith “among all nations.” History reveals that Peter, after his ministry in Jerusalem, served in *Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bythinia* (sparsely populated areas in northwest Turkey—I Peter 1:1) and Babylon (I Peter 5:13). “Doubting Thomas” went to southern India and planted churches that are still preaching the Gospel today! Andrew preached the Gospel in Scotland. The Apostles went everywhere as Jesus mandated just before ascending to heaven: *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth* (Acts 1:8).

Here in verse 6 he assures the believers in the church at Rome that they were *among* those in other places who had been saved by God’s grace. This is an indication that it does not matter where a person lives. If one believes in Christ as Savior, he is spiritually related to millions of other believers all over the world!

This means we can have fellowship with each other no matter where we travel on this earth! Even more important, we can pray for fellow believers, knowing we have a common faith and a great Savior who listens to our prayers for others!

The Apostle then writes that the church at Rome had been *called of Jesus Christ*. The Scriptures explain that salvation is offered to all, including the predestined (Romans 8:30), the weary and heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), whoever believes in Him (John 3:16), and the ends of the earth (Isaiah 45:22),

God is not limited in how he extends a call! He can call men through the Word of God (Romans 10:16f). He can call men by the Holy Spirit (John 16:8), The Holy Spirit urges the sinner to come and accept Christ. God urges His servants to call men (Romans 10:14). Jonah is a good example of God’s use of human messengers to bring a city to repentance. The Word of God must be brought to the unsaved world by regenerated persons. Believers can testify to the power of the Word and the Spirit in their lives (I Thessalonians 1:5). God can extend a call by His providential dealings with men. His goodness is intended to bring men to repentance (Romans 2:4), but if that does not succeed, then His judgments are to do it (Psalm 107:6,13).

Jesus came to this earth to *seek and save that which was lost* (Matthew 18:11). He has many ways to extend the offer of salvation, and Paul makes it clear that God moved in the hearts of the people in Rome, extending an effectual call, with the result that they were saved by God’s amazing grace!

1:7 *To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Paul loved fellow believers, no matter where they lived. He had not yet ministered in Rome (see 1:10-12), but he extended his love to the church because they were *beloved of God, called to be saints*, and thus had a common faith and position in Christ with him.

A *saint*, Biblically speaking, is one who is holy. The phrase for “saints” in this verse is **οἱ ἅγιοι**, literally “the holy ones.” A saint is one who has been called by God, has believed in God, and has been made holy positionally by God.

To God be all the glory!

Consider the words of this wonderful hymn:

*My Father is omnipotent,
And that you can't deny!
A God of might and miracles—
'Tis written in the sky.*

*Tho here His glory has been shown.
We still can't fully see
The wonders of His mighty throne—
Will take eternity!*

*The Bible tells us of His pow'r
And wisdom all way thru,
And every little bird and flow'r
Are testimonies too!*

*It took a miracle to put the stars in place,
It took a miracle to hang the world in space;
But when He saved my soul,
Cleansed and made me whole,
It took a miracle of love and grace!*

It Took a Miracle

John W. Peterson

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