

## ***Eleutheros Newsletter***

October 2022

### **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.

[\*19<sup>th</sup> Century Influences on 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.amazon.com) and enter [Las Ramificaciones de Neustra Salvacion](#) in the search bar.

## Thoughts on Romans

**1:11** *For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established.*

The Apostle had not been to Rome but for quite some time had a strong desire (*long to see you*) to minister to the church there. Paul knew that the Roman assembly was doing good things (see [Romans 1:8](#)) and had a heart to use the gifts God had given him to be a blessing for them.

Paul had an amazing love for Christians throughout the Graeco Roman world of his day. This love became a reality in the lives of all the Apostles, Consider what the Apostle John said in his first epistle after Paul was beheaded for his faith: *But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him* ([I John 2:5](#); see also [I John 2:10-11](#), [15](#); [3:1](#), [10](#), [11](#), [14](#), [16-18](#), [23](#); [4:7-8](#), [10-12](#), [16-21](#); [5:2-3](#)).

It was also Paul's desire to provide spiritual benefit to the people in the church. He spoke of the importance of this to the church at Ephesus: "And he have some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" ([4:11-12](#)). Later in Ephesians he spoke of the purpose of the "perfecting" of the saints: "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every word and doctrine, by the delight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love" ([2: 14-15a](#)).

Commented [JR1]:

How important it is for church leaders to pray for their people and to train them to be mature servants for our Lord!

**1:12** *That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.*

Two points can be made from this verse. First, Paul recognized that he had needs ("that I may be comforted"). As amazing as it seems to many, even Paul recognized that he was insufficient in himself to serve God effectively. Sometimes this great Apostle suffered grave temptations ([Romans 7:7-25](#)), loneliness ([II Timothy 4:11](#)), and persecutions of varying degrees ([II Corinthians 2:4](#); [6:1-10](#); [11:23-29](#)).

All of us suffer from time to time, but the Apostle endured so much more!

Second, Paul recognized the value of fellowship ("together with you"). Paul emphasized this in much of his writing, but consider these verses from other epistles: "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind" ([Philippians 2:2](#)); "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God..." ([Colossians 2:2](#)); "Comfort one another with these words" ([I Thessalonians 4:18](#)).

He was persuaded that time together with the Romans would be encouraging both for him and the believers in the church.

We do well to implement this important truth today instead of emphasizing petty differences, causing discord on the body of Christ!

This great hymn is helpful in this regard:

**Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

John Fewcett

*Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above!*

*Before our Father's throne  
We pour our deepest prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.*

*When we asunder part,  
It gives us inward pain,  
But we shall be joined in heart,  
And hope to meet again!*

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