

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 Nuestra Salvacion](#) in the search bar.

Thoughts on Romans

1:18 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.*

The Greek noun here is ὄργη (orge) as opposed to another New Testament Greek noun θυμός (thumos). The former word here suggests an abiding and settled habit of mind with the purpose of revenge or punishment. The other word suggests a boiling agitation of feelings. A good way to describe “the wrath of God” in this verse is a condition in which God is consistently disgusted with our sin and will, because of His holiness, punish it.

Unfortunately, many in Christian circles today do not emphasize man’s sinful condition and how God’s holiness deals with it. In this author’s opinion, such a treatment of this subject is doing great harm to the cause of Christ!

Why would an unbeliever want to hear about the deity of Christ, His sinless life, the shedding of His blood on the cross, and His bodily resurrection if he/she believes all is well? So many believe their good works are more numerous than their bad works and therefore what Jesus did is irrelevant! On the other hand, when the Holy Spirit is working and the Word of God is presented, an unbeliever must confront the truth: he has offended God and is facing eternal damnation in hell!

We do know, thank Him, that God’s grace is vastly more powerful than our sin, and all men who truly repent and believe in Christ will be saved from the wrath of God: *Moreover, the law entered, that the offense might abound. **But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*** ([Romans 5:20](#)).

A true presentation of the Gospel MUST begin with the simple truth that all have sinned (see [Romans 3:23](#)). It then ends with the fact that Jesus shed His blood and paid for that sin ([Isaiah 53:5-6](#)) so that those who believe will be saved ([Acts 16:31](#))!

Notice in this verse that the wrath is God’s. The vast majority of times “God” in Scripture is a reference to God the Father. And that is the case here.

And yet, hating sin as much as He does, God sent “His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life” ([John 3:16](#))!

Here is a good way to look at this: God the Father *planned* our salvation; God the Son *paid for* our salvation; and God the Holy Spirit *administers many of the blessings* of our salvation! To all three Persons be the glory!

Next in this verse, notice that God’s wrath is against “all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.” There are some who feel that some wrongdoing escapes God’s awareness or that God does not punish it in some cases. This clear phrase will not allow such an attitude (see also [John 5:17a](#))!

One point that should be emphasized is this: ALL sin will be punished! In the case of unbelievers, the punishment is an eternity in an awful place called hell; in the case of believers the punishment was paid for by our Savior at the cross!

Next in this verse is the phrase “who hold the truth in unrighteousness.” As amazing as this may seem, there are millions (perhaps billions!) of people who actually understand some elements of Gospel truth but hold them (in unrighteousness). In other words, they mentally recognize that Jesus was a *good man* or a *prophet*, but they do not want to recognize Him as their Savior from sin.

Sin has blinded their eyes! Even “the heavens declare the glory of God” ([Psalm 19:1](#)) but the definition of sin is failing to glorify God ([Romans 3:23b](#)).

The truth of this great hymn certainly applies:

What a Wonderful Savior!

Elisha A. Hoffman

*Christ has for sin atonement made--
What a wonderful Savior!
We are redeemed, the price is paid--
What a wonderful Savior!*

*He cleansed my heart from all its sin--
What a wonderful Savior!*

*And now He reigns and rules therein--
What a wonderful Savior!*

*What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Jesus!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Lord!*

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