

Eleutheros Books Newsletter

March 2024



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.

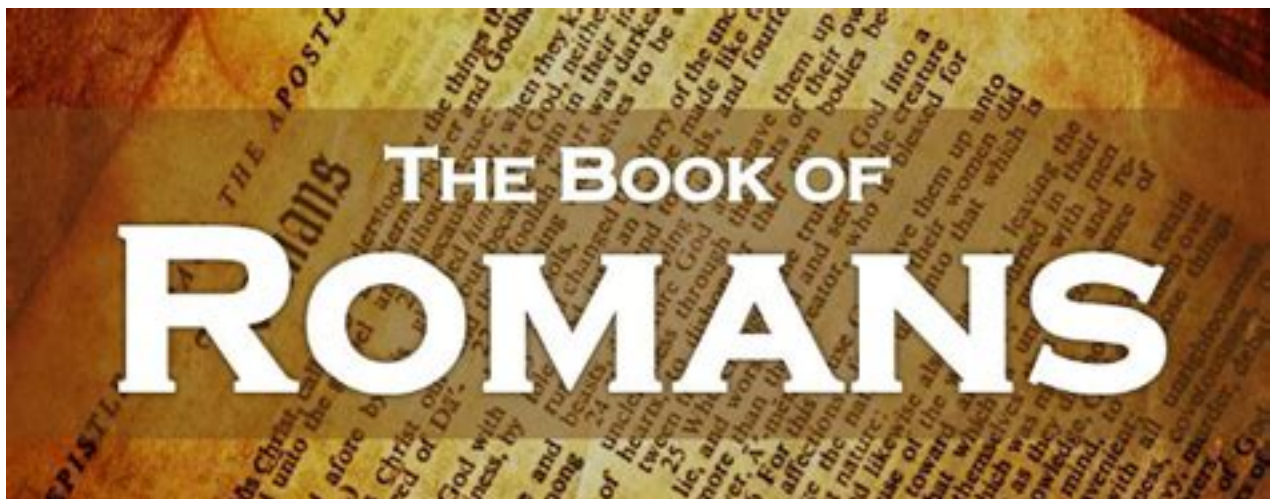
Would you or anyone you know be interested in learning more Bible?
How about learning more about salvation? Or a course that deals with many issues the Church still faces today?

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.

God willing, Spanish translations of *A Portrait of Jesus* and *19th Century Influences on 21st Century Christianity* will be available soon. Work is underway! Updates will be made available in future newsletters.

Eleutheros Books is pleased to announce a good connection with Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary, a Biblically sound institution which has been around well over thirty years and offers quite a range of degree programs. Dr. John Rataczak will be offering Bible and Theology courses online immediately and Beginning New Testament Greek on zoom for the seminary early in the new year. Feel free to check out [Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary!](#)



Thoughts on Romans

2:4 *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

Having mentioned man's inexcusable and judgmental attitudes (2:1-3), Paul now questions the willingness of unregenerate people to accept the wonderful and gracious offer of salvation that God provides! How amazing it is that God is so loving and patient with mankind (note the words *forbearance and longsuffering* in this verse)!

One of the keys to understanding 2:4 is the word translated *goodness* [χρηστότης].

There are two Greek nouns which can legitimately be translated "goodness." These are ἀγαθωσύνη and χρηστότης.

The following comments about these two synonyms are based on Richard C. Trench, *Synonyms of the New Testament*, pp. 231-235.

"A man might display his ἀγαθωσύνη, his zeal for goodness and truth, in rebuking, correcting, chastising. Christ was not working otherwise than in the spirit of this grace when He drove the buyers and sellers out of the temple (Matt. 21:13); or when He uttered all those terrible words against the Scribes and Pharisees (Matt. 23); but we could not say that His χρηστότης was shown in these acts of righteous indignation. This was rather displayed in His reception of the penitent woman (Luke 7:37-50; Psalm 24:7-8); as in all other of His gracious dealings with the children of men" (pp. 234,235).

"χρηστότης, a beautiful word, is the expression of a beautiful grace.... The A.V. renders it 'good' (Romans 3:12); 'kindness' (II Cor. 6:6; Ephesians 2:7; Col. 3:12; Titus 3:4); 'gentleness' (Galatians 5:22)." Trench also suggests "sweetness" as a possible translation on pp. 232, 233.

It is clear that God has a character of ἀγαθωσύνη which demonstrates the inward goodness of His holiness; He also has the amazing love which is expressed in χρηστότης!

On the one hand God cannot do *anything* which violates His holy nature; on the other hand, He chooses to manifest χρηστότης even to those who despise it!

John expresses this amazing truth in a slightly different way: *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth* (John 1:14).

Grace is God's love extended to us who surely do not deserve it; the truth is that we all deserve severe punishment in hell.

Paul is explaining that God's χρηστότης is leading people all over the world to repentance and Peter agrees when the Holy Spirit inspired him to write *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance* (II Peter 3:9).

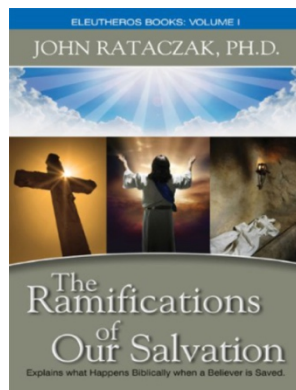
Both faith and repentance are blessings from God!

What an amazing message we have to present to unsaved souls!

May we do so Biblically and with hearts full of love!

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

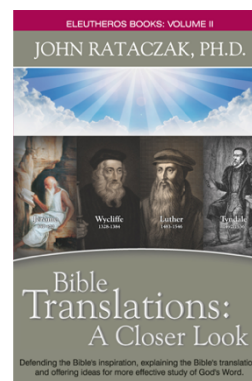
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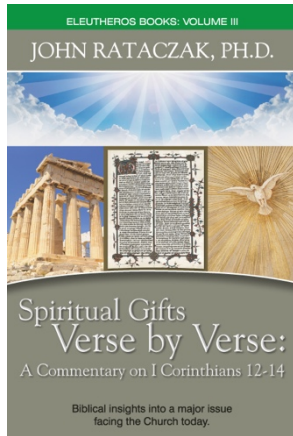


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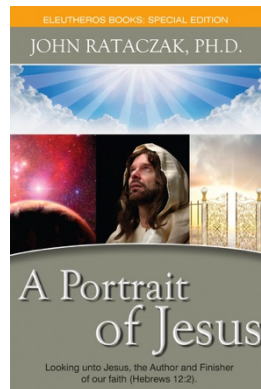
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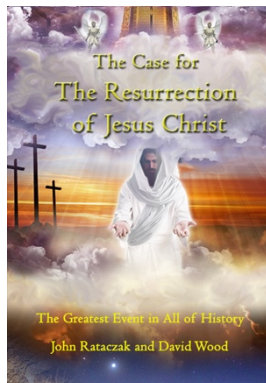


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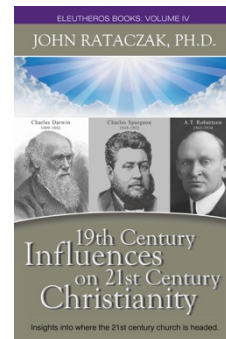
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Jacksonville
Baptisttheologicalseminary

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The history of [Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary](#) has been a chronology of miracles and accomplishments. From our inception in 1992, God has seen fit to bless and advance us in tremendous ways.

JBTS is uniquely Baptist. Unlike many institutions, we have no financial base of support from conventions or associations but endorsements, commendations, cooperation, and support of many ministers, denominational leaders, and churches. We are committed to biblical conservatism and evangelical theology.

We endeavor to provide a Christ-centered education that is comprehensive yet practical in approach. Both residential and external courses are available. Our school strives to provide courses of the highest standards at a fraction of the cost of liberal arts colleges and other seminaries.

The external programs of Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary make it possible for students to continue their educational goals while enabling them to continue their ministry or employment without attending classes on campus. External students may enroll at any time during the year and may proceed with their studies at their own pace. Educational preparation is an adventure and for that reason we are dedicated to helping our students achieve their best. Our teachings are true to the Bible, standing on the fundamentals of faith.

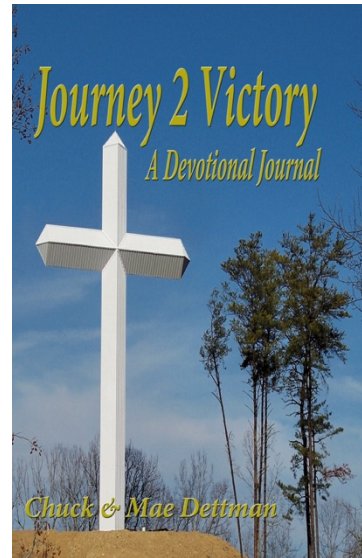
The seminary looks forward to a partnership with Dr. John Rataczak as he joins our adjunct faculty, concentrating on external studies.

For additional information on JBTS contact us at <https://jbtsem.com/contact/>

Books by Chuck & Mae Dettman



[The Marriage Journey](#) gives helpful navigational aids you can easily apply during the stormy times of your marriage flight. The aeronautical theme gives an uplifting perspective to the turbulence often experienced in marriage. The Journey checkups, flight plans, and more, make for an easy read, plus offer a fresh and unclouded approach to help you build a strong marriage and family.



[Journey 2 Victory](#) serves as a tool to assist in healing not only marriages and relationships, but also individuals. Many times when our thoughts are committed to paper God gives us comfort and ‘releases’ our hurt and pain. This is a journal designed to give you a sense of freedom and peace using a word, with a related scripture verse, to reflect and pray your struggles to Him. Each day select a word that is significant, pray the scripture for that word and then journal your thoughts.