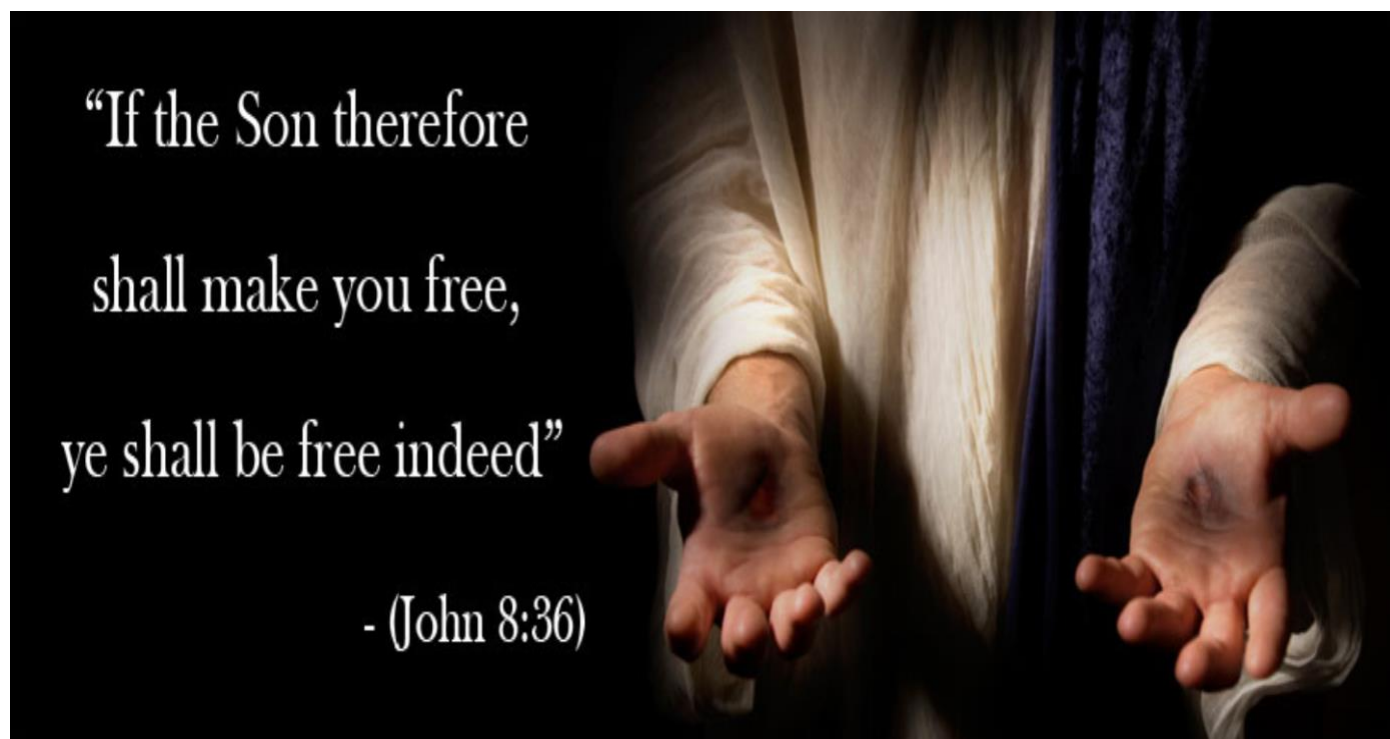


Eleutheros Books Newsletter

November 2024



Dr. John Rataczak will soon be offering a beginning New Testament Greek class on a once-a-week basis via Zoom. If you're interested in learning the original language of the New Testament, feel free to contact Dr. John at either of the following: eleutherosbooks@gmail.com or (419) 917-8199.

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?

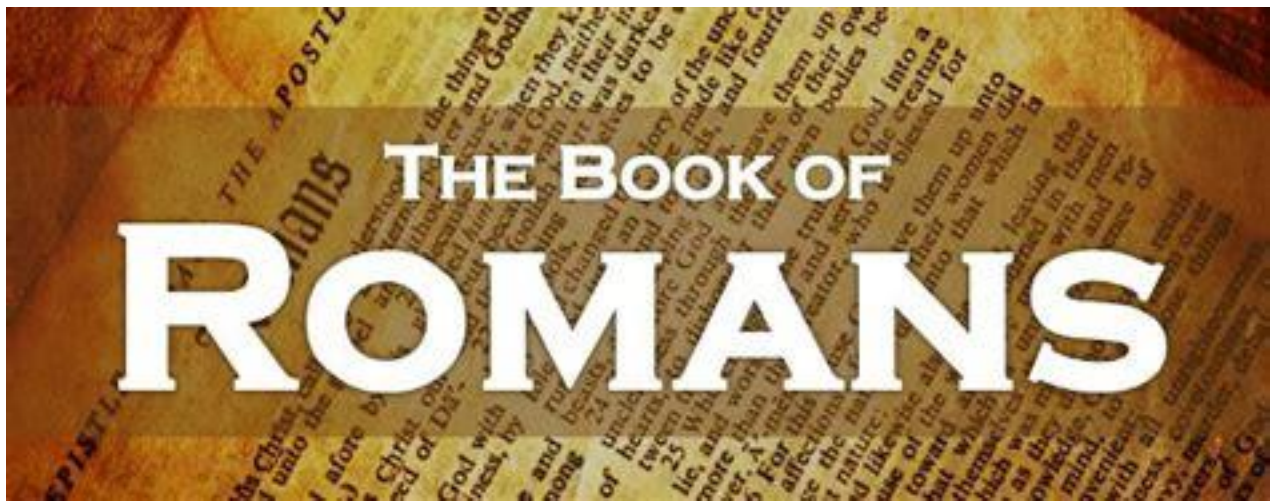
Currently offering: Soteriology 101, 102, and I Corinthians

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 Neutra Salvacion](#) in the search bar.

Spanish translation of [A Portrait of Jesus](#) is available now. Click on the link above to purchase.

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 is 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!](#)



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Thoughts on Romans

2:15 Which show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another.

In the preceding verses the Apostle clearly explains that both Jewed “glory, honor, and peace” because of the Gospel of Christ ([1:1](#) and Gentiles are equally guilty before God but have been offered 6; [2:11](#); [2:13-14](#)).

Here Paul is further describing the condition of the Gentiles.

They are “a law unto themselves” ([2:14](#)). The Jews prided themselves in the Law of Moses, but that law could never save them and they never obeyed it. The Gentiles have developed their own “law” (various religions which are totally man-made and cannot save). The Jews ignored the Law of Moses; the Gentiles invented other things.

Virtually every man-made religion teaches that lying, stealing, and murder are wrong and should be punished in some way. Paul describes this as a partial agreement with certain aspects of the Law of Moses which is “written in their hearts.”

This can be explained by the fact that God created man in His image ([Genesis 1:26-27](#)). Of course, all mankind is in sin because of the fall of Adam, but there is some awareness in the hearts of all that some things are wrong. This much is innate in the hearts of men.

Paul then speaks of the role of man’s conscience (συνείδησις in Greek). What is the meaning of the word “conscience”? The word συνείδησις is a compound noun. The first part means “with, together”; the second part means “knowledge.” An accurate definition of this word would be “an accumulation of knowledge about right and wrong.”

All of us have been taught about right and wrong by quite a number of sources. Some of these would include parents, friends, teachers, pastors/religious leaders, radio, television, the internet, any number of things.

Some of these influences have been well-intended and are generally true and are worthy of consideration; others are obviously worldly/ungodly and should be shunned.

But all these things have been placed in our minds.

Unregenerate man naturally chooses the thoughts that either “accuses or else excuses one another.” In other words, those who are unsaved either accuse believers of being “holier than thou” or “hypocrites” or simply ignore the Law’s real intention.

What is the intention of the Law of Moses? Paul explained this to Timothy: *Knowing this, that the Law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine* ([I Timothy 1:9-10](#)).

Simply stated, the purpose of the Law is to expose man to his awful sin!

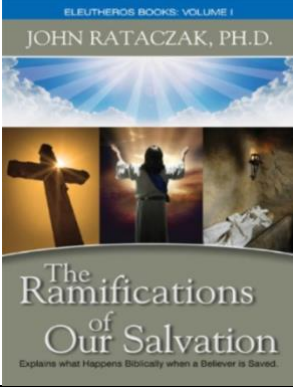
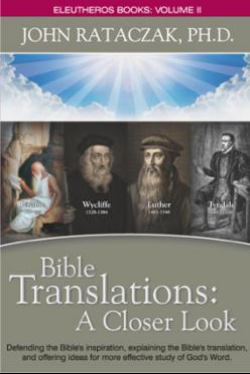
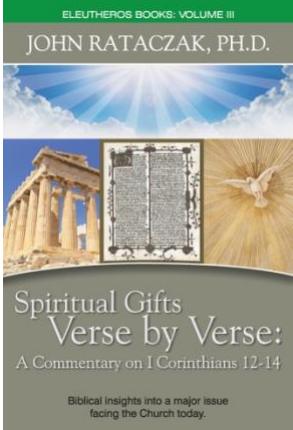
Why?

This leads men to repent “according to the glorious Gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust” ([I Timothy 1:11](#)).

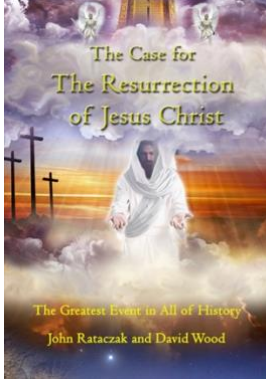
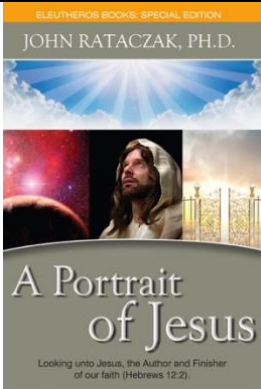
Man must be convicted and condemned by the Law but saved by the Gospel!

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

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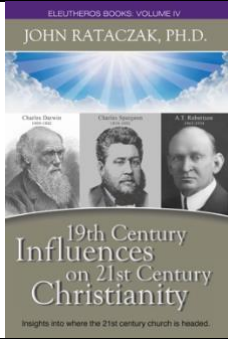
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Jacksonville Baptisttheologicalseminary

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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.

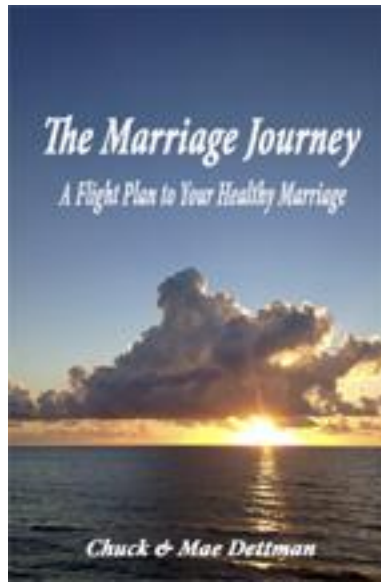
We endeavor to provide a Christ-centered education that is comprehensive yet practical in approach. Both residential and external courses are available. Our school strives to provide courses of the highest standards at a fraction of the cost of liberal arts colleges and other seminaries.

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.

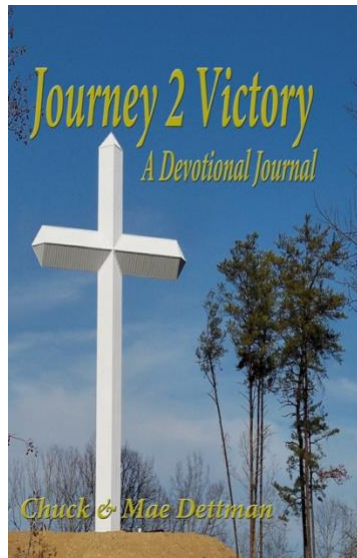
The seminary looks forward to a partnership with Dr. John Rataczak as he joins our adjunct faculty, concentrating on external studies.

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.