

Eleutheros Newsletter

January 2026

Thoughts on Romans

3:8 *And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil that good may come? Whose damnation is just.*

Among the many stressful things that Paul faced in his ministry was false accusations. In this verse he must address a personal attack (note “we,” indicating that Paul and those he had trained) and a moral transgression (note “do evil that good may come”).

Consider what Paul wrote earlier: *God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar (3:4a). But if our unrighteousness commends the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance (3:5).*

He does not clearly indicate who were engaging in such assaults on his ministry and the truth here. There were Jews and Gentiles in the church at Rome (see [1:1-7](#)). The majority of the people were faithful believers, but a small group was creating this dissension, and Paul deals with it directly.

Perhaps he had these thoughts from Proverbs in mind while writing this verse: *These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wickedness, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among the brethren (3:16-18).*

One conclusion becomes evident: *whose damnation is just* (the last words of [3:8](#)). God is the ultimate Judge and He is sovereign over all His creation: *But our God is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased (Psalm 115:3).*

Since God has such authority and is absolutely holy, those who pervert His truth and violate His commandments are in desperate need of forgiveness!

Such was the case of the small group of people who were reacting against God and His servants in the church at Rome in the first century AD.

As we enter a new year, may God’s people, young and old, resolve by God’s grace that we avoid unnecessary conflict in our relationships with Christian brethren and things that we know are evil!

May we also recognize that although such sin is disgusting, God has made a glorious promise: *But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound (Romans 5:20b)!*

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