

## Satan, Without Illusions

### Commentary of April 1, 2007 — Who He Is, and Who He Is Not ...

No fooling, Satan is real, but he may be very different than you thought him to be.

This month's "[April 2007 Newsletter](#)" and the Article "Assumptions About Satan" discuss how our faulty presuppositions can lead to bad biblical exegesis and improper understanding of biblical passages. This is true when the topics are about Satan, about angels, the Sons of God, or the entire realm of spirit beings, all of which are part of God's creation, every bit as much as is the physical realm around us. This month's article from a transcribed audiotape lecture by Dr. Martin from the 1970s (which most of you were unaware of) clears up basic and faulty assumptions that many Christians may have about Satan and his origin.

In both the "April 2007 Newsletter" and Article I refer to an important article from September 2000 that Dr. Martin wrote which is an excellent complement to this month's article. That article is called "Lingering Idolatry in the Temple of God." In the "[September 2000 Newsletter](#)" that accompanies the article Dr. Martin wrote the following about angels:

**"The most dangerous personalities in the universe are angels. True, some angels are benign, but even these God often charges with folly and wrongdoing (Job 4:18). One must remember that even Satan the Devil is an angel who appears as an 'angel of light' (like pure and unadulterated 'righteousness,' 2 Corinthians 11:14–15) and at the same time he has been (and is) a 'murderer from the beginning' (John 8:44). ...**

**This is the time to be forewarned about the impending invasion of angelic forces to this earth (and they will NOT be 'good angels'). And I fully intend to fully expose this whole 'angel business' in all its scandals."**

As Dr. Martin noted in September 2000 interest in angels in all forms is increasing. I agree with his assessment then, and the trend continues to the present day. Movies, television, novels (particularly in the science fiction and fantasy), magazines, even news magazines like *Time* and *Newsweek* (which have yearly cover stories about angels), and the interest in angels around the world, all show the public's fascination with angelic beings. I typed "angels" into the Google internet search engine ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com)) and more than 27 million webpages came up on the subject of angels. A lot of people are writing about angels. A much greater number of people are interested in reading and are reading about angels.

In the September 2000 Newsletter Dr. Martin discussed about a book he hoped to write about angels. Unfortunately that book was not written before his death in January 2002.

As time gets closer and closer to Christ's return to this earth, spirit beings of all kinds from all over the universe will become increasingly active — and public — in their manifestations and appearances. They are becoming frightened because their time of relative independence is growing short! Christ has total power over them (Ephesians 1:21; Colossians 2:10, 15) and over Satan (Hebrews 2:14), power to be exerted at a later time, after his Second Coming. The actions of these spirit beings will become "public knowledge," and less hidden. Scientific and government officials will not be able to deny their existence. (Indeed, there is growing evidence that government officials mistake angelic and demonic manifestations for visitors from outer space.)

As believers we have an advantage because we know these spirit beings exist. We know because the Bible openly tells of their reality and their actions. The truth is, as Scripture shows, the "gods" of the ancient world have always been in contact with human beings, to the detriment of humankind.

Satan, the subject of this month's Newsletter and Article, is also very real. He is an existential being who has limitations placed upon him by God. Satan is knowledgeable and powerful, but he is not all knowing or all powerful. God limits his power and abilities within strict guidelines, and Satan is further limited by only being in one place at any moment. Read my short article "[Where Does Satan Live.](#)" Surprisingly, a passage in Revelation chapter 2 discusses one location where Satan has (or at least had in the past) a place where he dwelt.

### ***Audio of the Book 101 Bible Secrets***

As several of you have realized by going to [The Byte Show](#) website, as of this date I have done over 18 internet radio shows reading, commenting upon, and answering questions about topics in Dr. Ernest L. Martin's excellent book [101 Bible Secrets That Christians Do Not Know](#). In the next few days you will see links to all of those shows appearing on the [101 Bible Secrets](#) online webpage. These internet radio shows are presented in MP3 format for easy downloading or direct play.

If you wish, you will be able to "listen" to the book while you follow along with the written text, or just listen to the audio. On some shows we cover 1 or 2 Bible Secrets; on other shows 5, 6, or more Bible Secrets are covered. All of the 101 Bible Secrets have been covered, and at present Ms. GeorgeAnn Hughes and I are working through the Appendices of Dr. Martin's wonderful book.

Many have commented to us that they appreciate these *Byte Show* presentations and enjoy the relaxed nature of the presentation of Dr. Martin's excellent biblical teaching. The information that comes out from decades of his research brings whole sections of the Bible to life, giving meaning to otherwise obscure or misunderstood passages of Scripture. I enjoy doing the shows and we will be doing more in the future. In addition we occasionally cover topics from articles that I have written.

### ***Newsletter Linking***

I instructed our Webmaster to cross-link past Articles with their corresponding Newsletters, and vice versa, back to the first combined online ASK Newsletter and Article beginning in January 1999. (ASK began in 1985.) Thus far links have been made going back to January 2002. These Newsletters, whether written by Dr. Martin or by me, contain useful and important information in addition to the biblical exegesis and analysis within the articles themselves. For those who are interested, a sequential reading of the Newsletter will give an interesting historical and developmental aspect to Dr. Martin's important biblical research.

Remember, as I always want to emphasize that the focus of the ASK website is on the Holy Scriptures, not on the man Ernest L. Martin, or on me, or on anyone else. The focus is on the Word of God, both the written Word of God and the living Word of God, Christ Jesus, both of which reveal God the Father.

Thank you all again for your interest and support.

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