



Associates for Scriptural Knowledge • P.O. Box 25000, Portland, OR 97298-0990, USA

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WebPage on the Internet: <http://www.askelm.com> • E-Mail address: askoffice@askelm.com

Dear Associates and Friends,

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The Newsletter is shorter this month to give more space to the article: “[Introduction to Ezekiel](#)” by Dr. Ernest L. Martin. It starts, of course, with the awe-inspiring opening scene of God in His throne coming out of heaven. Only later does the apostle Paul tell us that the being on the throne is Christ, the firstborn of creation (and firstborn from the dead, Colossians 1:15–18; Revelation 3:14).

Most all of you are familiar with chapter 1 of Ezekiel with its description of God’s magnificent throne descending from heaven. The “conveyance” (or “craft,” if you wish) as described by the prophet Ezekiel is not understandable to us today because Ezekiel lacked a vocabulary that relates to our modern terms. So, do not expect Dr. Martin or anyone else to adequately explain in modern terms what Ezekiel described as best he could. Rest assured that the conveyance Ezekiel saw is not obsolete. God exists, Christ exists, and so do the cherubim that make His movable throne. We of the first resurrection shall see it, and then the Hebrew of Ezekiel’s description will make perfect sense.

Winston Churchill is quoted as saying “War is mainly a catalogue of blunders.” While this is true, so are our individual lives “mainly a catalogue of blunders.” In fact, that statement is one answer to the purpose of life. It is intended that we make blunders, make mistakes, that we sin, all so we will learn good from evil, and have our sins made into righteousness through the works of Christ Jesus all on our behalf.

Israel’s story was a catalogue of blunders and gross sins especially at the end of the separate kingdoms of Israel and Judah. God continually warned His people throughout this period. Judah in particular had the warning of Jeremiah’s prophecies and his Book of Lamentations. Groups of Jews were taken captive to Babylon and Ezekiel received his visions and prophecies while there. Then God, in his grace, after the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, made the people to understand the truth of Lamentations. They lived the horror resulting from the blunders and sins as described there. Ezekiel then gave visions of hope.

The people’s sins increased. God’s presence departed. Ezekiel’s later visions again explained to the Jews (and the exiles from Israel) why they were punished. But these later visions also gave them hope and God’s promise that a sequel of blessing would come to His people. God promised through Ezekiel to again have His presence in a new Temple in the future, and in little sanctuaries. This information is most interesting.

Thank You

Each of us has created a catalogue of blunders in our lives. Some of those blunders are life-changing and their effects last to the end of our lives. Yet we have a sequel individually and collectively that will come from God. It is important to know what that sequel is in its varied forms. I hope that you have found that ASK provides much of the knowledge you need to know so that you have peace in your life, in spite of your blunders. I know that because of Dr. Martin’s research and explanations, the biblical information I have learned has greatly enhanced my understanding of God, Christ, and their plan for me and mankind.

We at ASK are blessed to provide you with this excellent teaching that makes your Bible come alive. We thank you for your blessings to us in whatever ways you can provide it. Pray for us; contribute to ASK so we can continue providing this valuable material; tell us what teachings you value. We always appreciate hearing from you. God bless you for helping us. We thank you from deep within our hearts.

David W. Sielaff
david@askelm.com