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Dear Associates and Friends,

September 2016

One of my functions as editor of Dr. Martin's works is to clarify his teachings where necessary. Another of my functions is to update his teachings. One effective way for me to do this is to reformat articles so the teaching comes forth — hopefully — with greater clarity and updates are placed where needed.

The article for September is "[The Strange Ending to Sotah](#)." If you read it before, you probably said to yourself, "Very interesting, but complex." I hope that with the new notes and formatting it will still be interesting but more readable. Hopefully you will better understand the thinking of some Jewish religious leaders after Jesus' crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension in 30 AD. This was a major event in the city of Jerusalem during the Passover season when the number of people in Jerusalem increased at least 5-fold.

After all, Jewish leaders and all Jews in the city were publicly accused by the apostle Peter at Pentecost in Acts 2:22–24 (and later in 4:10–12) of putting to death their Messiah — the Son of God. Jesus Himself cried out just before He died, "**Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do**" (Luke 23:34). Even though their actions were intentional, truly they did not know the significance of what they were doing when the leaders and the crowd yelled "**Crucify Him! Crucify him!**" (Matthew 15:13–14; Luke 23:21; John 19:6, 15). More importantly, they did not know the true worth of the person they were killing. He was none other than the being through whom God the Father (YHWH) created everything that exists in heaven and in earth (Colossians 1:15–17), it was He "**Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature**" (verse 15).

The Jews will someday come to recognize that their ancient sages who composed the Jewish commentaries on the "oral law" put to death their Creator, their Messiah, and their Savior. This will occur when God acts on behalf of His people Israel:

**"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and THEY shall look upon me whom THEY have pierced, and THEY shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and [THEY] shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."**

• **Zechariah 12:10**

If you continue reading in Zechariah chapter 12 through chapter 14, there will be a moral cleansing, a spiritual cleansing, and an idolatry removal in all aspects of their lives beginning at Jerusalem. They will come to recognize Jesus Christ as the one they have been seeking, but until then God has veiled their understanding.

What the apostle Peter said at Pentecost will come to pass, exactly when God wants it to occur:

**"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God has made that same Jesus, whom YOU have crucified, both Lord and Christ [Messiah]."**

• **Acts 2:36**

This verse and the facts above it were known to Peter's listeners on that Pentecost morning. It all combined to strike at their heart, to convict them to repent, and beg God for forgiveness. The result?

**"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?'"**

• **Acts 2:37**

In a time future to us, those Israelites who will receive the blessing from God as Zechariah 12:10ff predicts,

they will mourn, and wail in repentance — they shall react just as those at Pentecost, they will cry out the same question: **“Men and brethren, what shall we do?”**

So, ... when the rabbis in the past, the rabbis of the Talmud, worried that their ancestors putting Jesus to death coincided with or caused the beginning of the woes of destruction of their nation, their city and their Temple — they speculated: Was Jesus really the Messiah? Was He really the Son of God?

For the sages who compiled the Talmud, looking back, every aspect of Jewish life degenerated from the time Jesus was crucified. Their suspicions are reflected in **“The Strange Ending to Sotah”** where their sages wondered who was Jesus of Nazareth?

### ***Soncino Talmud Is Now Available***

In a July 2006 Commentary, **“English Translation of the Talmud,”** I expressed a great desire that the complete Soncino English edition of the Babylonian Talmud become available online. That has now occurred with the **“Online Soncino Babylonian Talmud Translation.”** It was put online in AWOL (**Ancient **World **Online****) January 2012 and updated 10 August 2015.<sup>1</sup> Previously only select portions of the Soncino Talmud was available, but now the entire Babylonian Talmud is available for use. If you have any interest in the Talmud at all, I recommend you bookmark the free PDFs page.**

### ***Video Coming Soon***

I have been informed that the videos from the “2016 Pikes Peak Prophecy Summit” have begun to be shipped. Once I receive my copy (because I was a speaker) I will put it into the hands of our Webmaster and he will put it online. I gave Dr. Martin’s information of “Temple Symbolism in Genesis” in a PowerPoint presentation, so you will see the graphics I created and not just me talking. I think you will enjoy it.

All speakers are permitted to use their own material at the conference any way they wish, so we will put my presentation on the ASK website for all to watch — free.

### ***Thank You***

Do you want to know a secret? You know more than you think you know. What is it you know? The apostle Paul tells what he taught the Corinthians:

**“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for them that love him.’ But God has revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God. ...**

**For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.”**

• 1 Corinthians 2:7–10, 16

The *ekklesia* at Corinth learned **“the wisdom of God,”** and **“the hidden wisdom.”** Paul wrote if, **“the princes of this world knew ... they would not have crucified the Lord.”** The wisdom you know **now** involves **“the deep things of God”** allowing us to have (in a tiny, tiny way) **“the mind of Christ.”** God’s Spirit is the **“earnest,”** the down payment for our future glory **“in Christ”** (2 Corinthians 1:22, 5:5; Ephesians 1:13–14).

Thank you for letting us help bring you closer to **“the mind of Christ.”** Thank you for supporting ASK, so we can continue to teach you and others.

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<sup>1</sup> The complete citation is: *The Soncino Babylonian Talmud*, Translated into English, with notes, glossary, and indices under the editorship of Rabbi Dr. I. Epstein (reformatted by Reuven Brauner, Raanana 5771).