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Dear Associates and Friends,

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This month's article is "[The Use and Abuse of the Holy Scriptures](#)." This writing by Dr. Ernest L. Martin first appeared in ASK materials in a 1989 booklet. The entire booklet is in this article, with my added updates, links, and edits.

The central issue of this article is the direct and visible entrance of the Kingdom of God into human affairs. The beginning of this Kingdom will occur on earth when Christ Jesus places His feet on the Mount of Olives (Psalm 22:27–28, 72:11, 86:9; Isaiah 2:2–3 [same words in Micah 4:1–2]; Ezekiel 11:3; Daniel 2:44, 7:14, 18, 27; Zechariah 14:1–9; Luke 1:33; Acts 1:11–12; and Revelation 11:15, 12:10, 17:14, 19:6, and more). Christ Jesus, representing God the Father and acting in His Father's personal name YHWH (Exodus 3:15, 6:3, 15:3 for example). There have been misunderstandings about who will be in the Kingdom of God.

**"Wherefore God also has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is ABOVE every name:
[Why?] That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of**

things in heaven, and

things in earth, and

things under the earth; And

that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

• *Philippians 2:9–11*

This article also deals with "the Mystery" of God given to the apostle Paul and others and its relation to the Kingdom of God. In conjunction with an article Dr. Martin wrote in January 1990, "[Salvation and the Kingdom of God](#)," you will better understand the warnings of Christ about those who will not be included in the Kingdom of God, yet those same people (and all from Adam) will be saved according to God's will and by Christ's actions and faith (Ephesians 1:11; 1 Timothy 2:4–6; back to Ephesians 1:9; Colossians 1:20; Philippians 2:10–11, and 1 Timothy 4:10).

Ramona Martin's Situation

Ramona Martin, President of ASK, has been discharged from the hospital and has entered an adult foster care facility. Please continue to pray that her strength increases day by day. Ramona is in a bright and cheerful facility with three other women, under supervision of a trained husband and wife team. Ramona is eager to be able to do some of the work she enjoys, which is to be in contact with so many of you over the years, and overseeing the work of ASK. Her workload has diminished, but not her desire to be helpful to you. For the time being email Ramona **at my email**, david@askelm.com. I will see that she will read it. Please, it will take some time to set up a computer for her, secure it from intrusion.

A New Audio Reading of "[Essentials of New Testament Doctrine](#)"

By the time you read this Newsletter a new professional reading of Dr. Martin's book *Essentials of New Testament Doctrine*, read by Tom Parks, will be online. Each chapter is in MP3 format and can be downloaded to your computer or smartphone. Tom's readings of the other books seem to enhance Dr. Martin's words. Of course, the subject of this book is the Word of God and the coming glory of God and Christ, and their bringing

YOU and all mankind to salvation.

Even if you have read this book, listening to the words will give you new insights into the biblical text that Dr. Martin writes about and analyzes along the way. His work is now an even more valuable resource for us all to learn from, whether we sit and listen to *Essentials*, or listen to it as we do other things.

The written word put into speech can be extremely powerful, even beyond our imagination. In fact, the Holy Scriptures have a unique capability to communicate with people. The apostle Paul correctly wrote, **“faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”** (Romans 10:17). The good words in *Essentials* will deeply inform you, strengthen your faith, and lead you even more to study and recognize the truths of Scripture.

This is why listening to the Scriptures itself being read is a wonderful way to learn while relaxing (or doing chores), whether you listen to the Psalms, historical books, prophetic books, the Gospels, or the epistles — each type of writing has a unique way to convey the thoughts of God (Hebrews 4:12). Remember also the words of the Psalmist: **“How precious also are your thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!”** (Psalm 139:17).

The other books online so far are: *ABCs of the Gospel* (an excellent and short introduction to *Essentials*), *The Tithing Dilemma*, *Restoring the Original Bible*, *The Star That Astonished the World*, and *The Secrets of Golgotha*. Now *Essentials* is online. Enjoy them all, whether downloaded to your phone, and listen in your car or at home. The remaining three books will go online (God willing) in the next few months.

Frightening Proposed Laws in Israel

You will soon hear (if you have not already) about attempts by orthodox Jewish political groups in Israel proposing criminal charges against anyone preaching the Gospel of Christ to Jews. Really? Yes. The proposed penalty for doing so would be prison. Search topics such as [“threats to Christian teaching in Israel”](#) in any internet search engine and you will be surprised at the articles that will come up. Christian groups in Israel for more than a thousand years are outraged — the Vatican, orthodox Christian denominations, recent evangelical Christian groups, Mormons, and Jehovah’s Witnesses — all have outreaches in Israel.

A March 24, 2023, *Jerusalem Post* article has this headline: [“Netanyahu Assures No Law Against Christians After Missionary Bill Outrage.”](#) This means such laws are being proposed. Jewish groups (mostly orthodox) want to ban any Christian from proselytizing Jews to convert from Judaism to Christianity. This issue has been bubbling below the surface of Jewish society for decades. The growth of “Messianic Judaism” in Israel and in Jewish enclaves around the world, has alarmed many orthodox Jewish leaders. They want it stopped.

This trend will not stop. It will increase. There will be a massive conversion of Jews to Christianity before Christ returns, one-by-one, person to person, and the converted Jews will study deeply in their own works. They will find Christ Jesus waiting for them. See Dr. Martin’s 1995 article, [“The Strange Ending to Sotah”](#) that every Jewish person with interest in Christianity should read. A bounty of interesting information is in the Sotah section of the *Babylonian Talmud*. They are writing about Jesus and His crucifixion. This story about Christian persecution in Israel will not diminish. As conversions grow, opposition will increase.

Thank You

First, we are thankful that your prayers and our prayers (my wife’s, Dr. Robin Sielaff, and mine) have been answered. Ramona is in a safe environment for her to regain her strength and then to flourish during this time in her life.

Second, we are thankful that during this period of some “hiccups” with our normal processes you have been patient and continue supporting ASK for the good biblical teaching we provide, mostly from the research and publishing of Dr. Ernest Martin. We will continue to publish as we work through difficulties. **“May God bless you, and keep you ... and give you peace”** (Numbers 6:24, 26).

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