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Dear Associates and Friends,

September 2023

Ramona Martin's Death

Ramona Martin died Tuesday evening, August 22, 2023. Her declining health was due to two heart valves that were not working correctly, and she was too weak to have an operation. Then she was diagnosed with slow-acting leukemia. These conditions meant that her heart was not pumping efficiently, and the blood that went through her body lacked vitality to give her strength to recover. She had a stroke on July 4 and could no longer walk. From that time there were occasions of hope, with regaining her ability to speak. Throughout, she was a positive individual among the other three residents and the caring health care staff.

I saw Ramona on the afternoon of the day she died. For the first time in my visits, she lapsed in and out of recognizing me. A hospice chaplain came to see her while I was there. I left after she fell asleep. I was told later that liquid food was brought to her bedside around 6 pm, and she ate some, and then fell asleep again. She was checked on regularly and died in her sleep sometime before 8:30 pm. See my August 23, 2023 Commentary "[Ramona Martin's Death](#)" for additional details.

Even so, death was the last enemy of Ramona Martin, and will be the last enemy for you, me, and all humanity. When she awakens (and when you awaken) from death, you will NEVER experience death again. Christ has defeated death through His resurrection from the dead, and He will extend His victory, initially to all believers in Christ's resurrection, and later His victory over death will encompass every human being ever born. Ramona Martin understood and believed those facts.

I am grateful I was able to read your notes, encouragements, and emails to her as I received them. She remembered most everyone and acknowledged and appreciated your prayers.

This Month's Article

After Ramona's death, the article I was going to publish did not seem appropriate for the moment, and I postponed it. Instead, I looked at several short Commentaries that I wrote about death and our anticipation of dying. I assembled five Commentaries and included a small article by Dr. Ernest Martin all together under a single title for September 2023. It is titled "[Thoughts About Death](#)." I think it will be useful to us all.

It will give all of you some biblical meat to chew on regarding our relationship to God, Christ, and other people, all of whom are in various stages of the dying process.

Remember To Listen To The (FREE) ASK Audiobooks

Comments I have received about the professional readings of Dr. Martin's books have been very positive. More of you need to access this wonderful resource. All nine books by Dr. Ernest Martin are available to you to "listen and learn." For an enhanced learning experience ...

(1) listen to the text on your computer or tablet, and

(2) read along with the text online, or read along with the printed book while you listen to the reading.

"Faith comes by hearing and hearing BY the Word of God" (Romans 3:7). Some translators believe that the words **"BY the Word of God"** should be **"ABOUT the Word of God."** These books were written to open your understanding to read the Holy Scriptures with expanded knowledge and increased understanding. The goal

is, as the apostle Paul wrote: **“That you might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God”** (Colossians 1:10). With a further blessing that **“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.”** (2 Peter 1:2).

Independent biblical research and information is vital in these turbulent times. There may come a time when books will be more useful than computers which can be shut down at a moment’s notice.

Increased Pricing for the ASK Books – A Second Notice

I do not remember when ASK last increased the prices of our books. Perhaps only once since I became Director of ASK in 2002. Of course, most of you reading these words in the United States already have Dr. Ernest Martin’s books that are of interest to you.

However, because we come close to losing money on every book we sell, and then print on demand (instead of warehousing thousands of books) ... on the first of October 2023 ASK will raise the price of 8 of the 9 ASK books by \$2.00 per book. Remember, all retail purchases of books and DVDs include shipping.

The one exception is Dr. Martin’s book *Secrets of Golgotha*. The price of that book remains the same: \$27.95. We have a quantity of those still in stock. Buy more than one. They make excellent gifts!

In *Secrets of Golgotha* you will learn where Jesus was crucified according to the plain statements of Scripture. (Both traditional crucifixion sites are impossible.) You also will be fully educated in the great suffering Jesus endured during His crucifixion. He knew what His agony and torture would be. He asked God to provide another way for His will to be fulfilled. Note the anguish in His words quoted by Luke:

“And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, saying, ‘Father, if You be willing, remove this cup from Me: nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.’

And there appeared an ANGEL unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

• **Luke 22:41–44**

(Similar in Matthew 26:38–39 and Mark 14:33–41)

God did not take that cup from Jesus, but He sent an angel to strengthen Jesus, His only begotten Son. Matthew adds another detail:

“Watch you and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.’ And again he went away, and prayed, and spoke the same words.”

• **Mark 14:38–39**

His flesh was weak, but provision was made for Jesus to fulfill the agreed plan of salvation of all humanity that God and His Son determined before the foundation of the world.

Still No Overseas Shipments of Books

A reminder. We cannot ship books overseas for several reasons (not even to Canada or Mexico). Two reasons are: the prohibitive costs of overseas postage, and prohibitive insurance cost. However, remember that all ASK books are available free online to read or print for your own use.

Thank You

You have our thanks for your continued support of the work of ASK. We provide truths of the Bible *you cannot find elsewhere*. There is more good information to come, and it will be awesome. We need your financial support to keep this educational work of the Gospel going out to the world. May the blessings of God be with you all. With every good wish.

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