

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

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

Dear Associates and Friends,

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“[The Book of Hebrews](#)” is the Doctrinal article for this month. Dr. Ernest Martin published it in 1982. I put it on the ASK website 20 years ago in September 2004. It presents a strong argument for who wrote the Book of Hebrews, why it was written, when it was written, what group received and first read it. I wrote a 2-page Commentary in September 2004, also titled “[The Book of Hebrews](#).”

Hebrews is a mature statement of pure doctrine presented to long-time believers in strong words. Paul was in prison when he dictated this “sermon” to a scribe, and a messenger carried it to be read aloud to a group of believers that needed its wisdom.

William Lane, a visiting summer professor at Fuller Seminary when I was a student, addressed these issues about the Book of Hebrews in a fascinating lecture. He believed Hebrews was not an “epistle” (a form of “letter” in ancient times). Hebrews was a written “sermon” to be read aloud to an audience that needed its information

The text of Hebrews indicates that the original speaker/writer changed his message and began to teach more elementary information. He realized that his “listening” audience receiving the words to be read to them, was not so mature in knowledge and understanding as they thought themselves to be. The author of the sermon understood that his audience needed different information than he originally intended to give them.

**“For when also, because of the time, you ought to be teachers,
you have need again of one to teach you what are the rudimentary elements of the oracles of God, and**

**you have come to have need of milk, and NOT of SOLID NOURISHMENT.
For everyone who is partaking of milk is untried in the word of righteousness,
for he is a minor.”**

Now SOLID NOURISHMENT is for the mature, who, because of habit, have faculties exercised for discriminating between the ideal and the evil.”

• *Hebrews 5:12–14 CLV*

The author interrupted his written “sermon” and changed it to more elementary teaching. The sermon was penned by a secretary, carried to its recipients across the Mediterranean, and read aloud to them.

More Revelations of Clergy Child Abuse

The Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England (the Episcopal Church) both were in the news for long-term child abuse by clergy. There seems to be a plague of such crimes. A Catholic News Agency reported: “[Archdiocese of Los Angeles announces nearly \\$1 billion clergy abuse settlement](#)” The settlement was actually \$880 million going to 1,353 childhood sexual abuse claims filed against the California archbishopric. Legal fees would increase that total. The article said ...

“The Archdiocese of Los Angeles announced a massive \$880 million clergy abuse settlement on Wednesday, a record payout that Archbishop José Gomez expressed hope would “provide some measure of healing” for abuse victims. Lawyers for both victims and the archdiocese said in a joint press release that the near-\$1 billion settlement would address 1,353 childhood sexual abuse claims filed against the California archbishopric.”

Weeks after the October 2024 Catholic settlement was announced, the Church of England (Episcopal Church) had its own scandal made public in the press of Great Britain. Here is a news blurb:

“Archbishop of Canterbury Resigns Over U.K. Church Abuse Scandal: The Most Rev. Justin Welby, the leader of 85 million Anglicans worldwide, announced his resignation days after a report found he had taken insufficient action over claims of abuse.”

The child sexual abuse occurred over at least two decades and perhaps much longer. It was known about and covered up by the Episcopal hierarchy. The Archbishop of Canterbury resigned in disgrace. No settlement to victims has been mentioned from this scandal, but I imagine the lawyers are making preparations. Such scandals also occur regularly in evangelical congregations as well. The apostle Paul warned us to protect members of God’s *ekklesia* from evil as Christ’s return approaches:

“Now this know, that IN THE LAST DAYS perilous periods will be present,

... For of these are those who are slipping into homes and are leading into captivity little women, heaped with sins, being led by various lusts and gratifications ...”

• 2 Timothy 3:1, 6 CLV

More Congressional Hearings on UFOs (now termed UAPs)

There have been more public hearings about strange sightings of intelligent “craft” in the skies of the world. S-l-o-w-l-y the information is coming out about these sightings that the U.S. government truly does not want to go public about. See the United States Congress web article [“Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena: Exposing the Truth.”](#) The hearings are recorded live and are public. Some of these events in the skies may be man-made craft, others are from supernatural sources, some angelic, and others demonic. The activity will increase as Christ’s return nears.

Thank You

God created you to become His mature child, to do what God Himself and Christ are doing at this moment — creating things that have never existed before. You are one of their creations. Each of us will be doing what our Father and Christ have done. That will be the purpose of your existence:

“... in Him in Whom our lot was cast also, being designated [chosen by lot] beforehand according to the purpose of the One Who is operating all in accord with THE COUNSEL OF HIS WILL, that we should be for the laud of His glory, who are pre-expectant in the Christ.”

• Ephesians 1:11–12

Everything in God’s creation is operating to fulfill His purpose and His will that will be done — eventually, inevitably. Understand that you have been chosen by God’s lottery to be “at the head of the line” to receive His blessings. Know, however, that you were NOT chosen because you are special. You are special ONLY because you were (randomly) chosen to receive God’s blessings as soon as God deems it should be done. He too is anxious to see you grow, mature, be glorified.

Each of us will create marvelous wonders according to our unique talents and even our unique desires. You will be pleased with what you will create, and God our Father will be pleased with you. Every other child of God will do something similar, yet each of us will have a specialized glory. You will please God in your unique way. He is blessing us all with wonderful knowledge of His divine plan for the redemption of the human race to Himself.

ASK is unique in the information it presents. Thank you for your continued support. May God bless you with His Spirit, knowledge and understanding about His love for you and your role in His creation.

David Sielaff
david@askelm.com