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Dear Associates and Friends,

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“[Jeremiah, Part 3](#)” is this month’s article by Dr. Ernest L. Martin. This article was first presented in November 1999 as a taped lecture. It focuses on a central prophecy given to Jeremiah about the 70 years exile of the people from the land of Judea and Jerusalem, and on the 70 weeks prophecy of Jeremiah.

The prophecies of God through Jeremiah are interwoven throughout the fabric of prophetic scriptures in both the Old and New Testament. We want to be responsible students of God’s Word, unlike those of Judah:

“Hear this, now, you people, frivolous and mindless, Who have eyes yet are not seeing; Who have ears yet are not hearing; Are you not fearing Me? Averting is YHWH; ...”

• ***Jeremiah 5:21–22, Concordant Literal Version***

Read this passage in the King James Version and other translations. Jeremiah was trying to minister to the people of Judah about God’s prophecies of destruction. He was doing as God commanded him to do in an attempt for their edification and possible repentance. They did not listen. The people remained “**frivolous and mindless**” until God’s wrath and punishment overtook them in destruction.

God’s prophecies are more than just interesting intellectual exercises. God’s Words are consequential. To properly study the full measure of Jeremiah’s prophetic writings it is necessary to know that much of prophetic writing is interrelated. Let me explain. There are five major writings of Jeremiah in the Old Testament. They are the Book of Jeremiah, the Book of Lamentations, Psalm 89, Psalm 119, and Zechariah chapters 9–14 (written by Jeremiah). Each of these writings is substantial in their own right. To leave out any one of them, say chapters 9–14 of Zechariah, would diminish our understanding of Jeremiah’s prophetic thought and expression.

- Psalm 119 communicates Jeremiah’s love toward God that obedience to His Law should engender but cannot. Psalm 119, the longest in the Bible, sets the standard for the love of God’s word.
- Psalm 89 describes God’s covenant with David and his posterity. The realization that Psalm 89 was written by Jeremiah increases our understanding when we analyze this psalm. The covenant with David was never eternal or forever. It was to last for the *eon*, so long as David’s descendants are obedient to God’s Laws and Word. The last good king was King Josiah of Judah. See Dr. Martin’s article, “[Is David’s Throne in Existence Today?](#)”
- The Book of Jeremiah and the Book of Lamentations in the 6th century BC illustrate the disobedience, judgments, and disasters that can come when God’s Word is ignored. Jeremiah’s message to Israel and Judah fails to cause the people to heed God’s messages.
- The message of Jeremiah also failed to connect with the people of the 1st century as we are told in the Gospels and Acts. At that time also the people rejected ministries even greater than those of Jeremiah and the other prophets, ministries of John the Baptist, Jesus Himself, and the apostles, before and after Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension. Again, devastation came upon the land and people of Judea when Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed. The descriptions of devastation in Jeremiah and Lamentations fit perfectly with the suffering of the Jewish rebellion against Rome in 70 AD.

- However, Zechariah chapters 9–14 give us hope about events future to us today, when Israel and Judah will attend to God’s written message for them. They will respond positively to God’s call to repentance because God Himself shall open their hearts through a pouring out of His Holy Spirit:

“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 [lament] for him, as one mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”

• ***Zechariah 12:10***

A Future Speaking Event and a Cancelled Event

A Future speaking engagement. My lecture “The Roman Catholic Trend toward Salvation of All” has been approved for me to present at the Christian Universalist Association Celebration 2012 conference, September 21–23. It will be held at the Murray Grove Retreat and Conference Center, Lanoka Harbor, NJ. You can read what my presentation will be by reviewing my article “**Modern Recognition of Universal Salvation**,” particularly the portion beginning on page 8 that deals with an obvious major shift in doctrine by the Roman Catholic Church toward a biblically-based understanding and presentation of universal reconciliation and salvation. It will be interesting how the Catholic Church handles this shift away from a hell doctrine to a doctrine of salvation of all.

Event CANCELLATION. One final quick reminder. The Richmond Bible Conference to be held on April 6–8, 2012 has been cancelled by the event’s organizer, Roosevelt Arrington. God willing the event, which is a labor of love for Mr. Arrington, will take place next year.

The facility in Richmond, VA where the conference was to be held is undergoing repairs. The repairs were not to be completed in time for the conference. A change of venue was not possible and the event was cancelled. I was looking forward to this event, as I have for the past 3 years, because it is great to get together again with a group of like-minded individuals who know, understand, and support the truths of God regarding universal salvation.

Thank You

Dr. Martin’s life’s work is available for most everyone who can read or speak English. By necessity we sell books, audios, and videos, but the bulk of ASK material is available around the world through the internet, with only the cost of time to read and learn.

ASK continues its operations through contributions that support this teaching ministry. Maturity in the faith comes through study of the Word of God. It is our purpose and goal to give you as much information as your mind can handle:

“... from God you receive, not the word of men, but, according as it truly is, the word of God, which is operating also in you who are believing.”

• ***1 Thessalonians 2:13, Concordant Literal Version***

ASK writings are not the word of God, of course, but they are designed to teach you about the Word of God, so you will understand the Bible when you read it, increasing your understanding daily. The ultimate goal is for you to go to the Word of God directly with a more complete understanding of its message. **“Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature”** (1 Corinthians 14:20, ESV). We are grateful for the financial support you are able to contribute to the work we do.

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