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Dear Associates and Friends,

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This month's article, "[Matters of Prophecy in Daniel](#)," focuses mainly on analyzing "**The Scripture of Truth**" presented in Daniel 10:21, 11:2–12:4. Daniel was well acquainted with visions, his own and the visions of others, but he had questions about his last vision. God answered his questions. This core prophecy (the last in the Book of Daniel) describes a vision that Daniel himself experienced. He tells us about it in Daniel 10:1. He writes that he understood what he saw, but he did not comprehend the scope, the significance, or the implications of what he saw. But Daniel understood his lack, and prayed and fasted to God to obtain more information. Help was sent to him.

God sent the angel Gabriel to speak to Daniel and inform him about what he wanted to know. He had problems reaching Daniel, and finally did so with help from the archangel Michael. But the important thing is this "**Scripture of Truth**" which — in writing — described the meaning of what Daniel saw in his vision. That is very interesting. It is as if a script of Daniel's vision had been prepared, with notes explaining each "scene." Daniel was shown that script. Daniel wrote for us what was on that document brought from heaven.

One of Dr. Ernest Martin's major points was that **ALL** of this "**Scripture of Truth**" is still to be fulfilled in the future — every bit of it. This goes contrary to every commentary that Dr. Martin had ever seen on Daniel chapters 10–12, and every one I have seen as well. Enjoy this detailed article.

### *One of Dr. Martin's Challenging Articles*

In a related matter, one very interesting short article that Dr. Martin wrote in May 1999 was titled "[The Geography of Heaven](#)." This short (5 printed pages) but intriguing article agrees with this month's article that the events presented in "**The Scripture of Truth**" have not yet happened in history. However, this article also gives evidence that Daniel's vision did not describe events which will take place on earth, but they will take place in heaven. That is, the sequence of events occurring in Daniel 11:2 to 12:4 will not occur on earth. They will take place in heaven.

When I first read this article I was perplexed. I thought, what good is information about events which take place in heaven? How is that helpful? How can I relate to such information? In the article Dr. Martin shows verses that tell us about some conditions in heaven, which is populated. Some things are similar (those living there are roughly the same size as humans on earth), but some things are radically different (the land area is 1,000 times greater than on earth as exemplified by New Jerusalem). Interesting stuff.

In this month's article I did not address or link the geography article within the "Matters of Prophecy in Daniel" article because I wanted to present Dr. Martin's basic information that was not informed by his later "geography of heaven" thesis. We need to learn what Daniel's basic message is, before we can investigate further. In this month's article Dr. Martin shows convincingly that "**The Scripture of Truth**" is commented on and interpreted by Revelation chapter 17. In other words, the two texts cover the same time period.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Martin never returned to the subject put forth in "Geography of Heaven," nor did he refute it or change his view in any other audio he made or article he wrote up, even to the last article he wrote which

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<sup>1</sup> However, in "Geography of Heaven" Dr. Martin points out that the events described in Daniel, such as the wars and relationships between the kings of Persia, the king of Grecia, kings of the north, and kings of the south, all take place IN HEAVEN, including the wars between the kings of the north and the kings of the south.

also deals with **“The Scripture of Truth”** in his January 2002 article titled [“The ‘Great Generation’ and Modern Prophecy.”](#)

Let us examine some interesting points about Dr. Martin’s thesis presented in “The Geography of Heaven.” Below is a chart showing some interesting factors about the “The Scripture of Truth” and Revelation chapter 17. For Daniel, I only consider the vision and the aftermath of what he saw as explained in Daniel chapters 10, 11 and 12. For John, I only consider the vision of the Great Prostitute and the Beast in Revelation chapter 17. Remember, I am considering Daniel’s vision from Dr. Martin’s understanding presented in “The Geography of Heaven,” that Daniel’s vision relates to events in heaven.

|  | <b>Daniel’s Vision<br/>(Daniel chapters 10, 11, and 12)</b>                             | <b>John’s Vision<br/>(Revelation chapter 17)</b>                           |
|--|---|--|
| Vision and Explanation                     | Saw vision, later given explanation   | Vision explained while it occurred   |
| Informants                                 | Gabriel and Michael, 3 weeks after the vision   | Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:1) and delegated angels (Revelation chapter 17) |
| Physical location when the vision occurred | In Persia   | Island of Patmos   |
| What was seen in the vision                | Future events to occur in heaven that affect heaven, will affect earth only secondarily | Future events to occur in heaven, but affect earth                         |
| The vision and writing                     | Daniel shown a writing of the vision he saw, contained in chapters 11 and 12            | John told to write down a description of what was seen                     |
| Perspective                                | From earth to events in heaven  | From heaven to events on earth   |
| Physical reaction to the vision or angel   | Loss of body function and speech (aided to recover)                                     | Loss of body function and speech (aided to recover)                        |

### **Thank You**

Dr. Martin was never satisfied with his understanding of Daniel or Revelation. His understanding of those texts was always “in progress.” Yet he wrote some provocative material that challenged not only normal prophetic scholarship in the past, but also challenged his own knowledge. As a result, God opened his understanding of the Scriptures; he grew in grace and in knowledge. Though it may have been difficult for him, he was willing to change his mind if proven wrong regarding scriptural matters, even throwing out entire, well-reasoned prophetic scenarios. When new evidence from Scripture was read and understood by him, he was willing to start afresh, admit he was wrong, and move on, always using the Word of God as His guide.

Truly, only the Scriptures can be our guide to future events. Everything else should be secondary as an information source: current events, economic and political trends, technology tracks, even the information that history can give us. All are terribly flawed at predicting the future.

If you want to know what God has in store for us all, read what He says about the future, and then discuss it. What makes most of you who read and study the Bible, who are helped by ASK material, what makes you so different? It is that you have gone beyond the spoon-fed religious pabulum. You think for yourselves instead of thinking other people’s thoughts. You try to think God’s thoughts. That is what the Bible presents to you, His thoughts in symbolic form on paper. We are thankful that you appreciate the study materials ASK provides. Thank you for your support of ASK in so many ways. God bless you all.

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