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Dear Associates and Friends,

August 2013

The article for August 2013 is "[The Book of Nahum](#)." Dr. Ernest Martin explains that the background and the object of Nahum's prophecy is Nineveh, the capital city of the Assyrian Empire. In this seventh of the Twelve Minor Prophets, Nahum presents the last message dealing with the period of the Assyrian hegemony over Judah and the nations in the Middle East. After Nahum, the next two books focus on the kingdom and empire of Babylon. It was the Babylonians which led a company of nations to conquer Assyria and the capture of Nineveh. Nahum's prophecies were fulfilled just as God said they would be.

The name "Nahum" means "consolation" or "comfort." This tells us one of the subjects of the Book of Nahum is about the prospect of consolation for his audience, the people of Judah. Then, immediately after announcing Nahum ("Consolation") in verse 1, the prophecy immediately shifts to tell about YHWH's vengeance against the empire of Assyria, the capital city Nineveh, and even vengeance against the unnamed Assyrian king. So, the subjects of Nahum are two-fold: consolation and vengeance.

"God is jealous, and YHWH revenges; YHWH revenges, and is furious; YHWH will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserves wrath for his enemies. YHWH is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: YHWH has his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet."

• *Nahum 1:2-3*

The basis of God's judgment against Gentile nations is not idolatry, but it is about God's jealousy and vengeance. In Exodus chapter 34 God tells how He will act and react toward peoples of the world who mistreat others. He will not ignore bad behavior. Eventually God will punish, whether it be the people of Israel, or the nations He uses as tools to punish Israel. Note these attributes YHWH told to Moses:

"For you shall worship no other god: for YHWH, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: ... And you take of their daughters unto your sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make your sons go a whoring after their gods.

• *Exodus 34:14, 16*

"And YHWH passed by before him, and proclaimed, YHWH, YHWH God, [1] merciful and [2] gracious, [3] longsuffering, and [4] abundant in goodness and truth, [5] Keeping mercy for thousands, [6] forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and [7] that will by no means clear the guilty; [8] visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth [generation¹]."

• *Exodus 34:6-7²*

In spite of his name, Nahum's prophecies focus on God's vengeance rather than God's compassion. Other references to Exodus 34:6-7 in the Twelve Minor Prophets besides Nahum 1:2-3 focus on God's

¹ I put the word "generation" in brackets because the word is not in the Hebrew, although it is implied and the KJV translators put it in italics. Most every English translation I have found inserts the word "generation" based on the Greek LXX translation from the Hebrew to Greek in the 2nd century BC and because a similar verse regarding the 4th evil generation of Amorites (Genesis 15:16) does use the Hebrew word "generation."

² Exodus 34:6-7 is cited elsewhere in the Old Testament (Numbers 14:18; Deuteronomy 5:9-10; Psalm 86:15; and Nehemiah 9:17, 31).

compassion rather than His vengeance (in Joel 2:13–14, 3:19–20; Jonah 4:2; and Micah 7:18–20).

This seemingly harsh passage still applied in the days of Nahum, as he said in verse 1:3. Dr. Martin will explain in the article.³ Moses speaks for God when he gives the Song of Moses in Deuteronomy chapter 32. His statement is not threatening Israel (that He does elsewhere) but it is against ill treatment of His people:

“I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand. ... If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me. I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; ... from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy.

Rejoice, O you nations [Israel’s friends], with his people: for he [God] will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.”

• *Deuteronomy 32:39, 41–43*

Future Event Announcements

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA:

On Sunday, September 15, 2013, producer/director Ken Klein (DVD: *Jerusalem and the Lost Temple of the Jews*) will give a presentation at two morning services at a prophecy conference in Anaheim, California. His topic will be the true location of the Jerusalem Temples, the site of Jesus’ death on the tree of crucifixion, and other biblical information familiar to you who follow the ASK website and the research of Dr. Ernest Martin. The times for the services will be 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. at the Cornerstone Church, [4905 E. La Palma Ave.](#), Anaheim CA 92807. Later that day there will be a free showing of the DVD *Jerusalem and the Lost Temples of the Jews*. I expect to attend, God willing, but I will not lecture. I will, however, be available to meet with friends of ASK. Dr. Martin’s books will be available for sale, in particular *Secrets of Golgotha* and *The Temples That Jerusalem Forgot*, as well as copies of the DVD *Jerusalem and the Lost Temples*. Check back at the [A.S.K. Events](#) webpage for later updates.

BEAVERTON, OREGON:

On September 29, 2013, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. I will present on the topic, “Who Are the Nephilim?” There has been much controversy and misinformation about this subject presented on literally millions of websites. I will present my biblical understanding on who or what the Nephilim are. My Powerpoint presentation will be at the Beaverton City Library, [12375 SW 5th Street](#), Beaverton, OR 97005. Phone: (503) 644-2197 (if you need verbal directions). This lecture is organized by the Strange Events Institute of Portland, in cooperation with Oregon MUFON. The views presented will be mine, and not those of either organization. I greatly appreciate their allowing me to give this lecture. The lecture is free.

Thank You for Your Support

Nahum’s name means consolation or comfort in Hebrew. You provide consolation to ASK by helping us deliver sound, in depth, biblical teaching for decades. It is biblical teaching you will not find elsewhere. We thank God for your financial help and we thank you for your contributions to ASK. By doing so, you show your approval of what we do (even when you may disagree on certain points). In return we continue to provide teaching without regard to denomination, sect, or creed, or hierarchy of men.

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³ God changed His treatment of later generations as shown in Ezekiel 18:20:

“The soul that sins, it [only] shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”