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Dear Associates and Friends,

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Prophecy in general is the subject of this month's article: "[Modern Prophecy: 1977, 2016](#)." It deals with varied information about prophecy and its complexity, by Dr. Ernest Martin and by me.

I recently spoke at a prophecy conference in Colorado Springs. I gave a PowerPoint presentation based on Dr. Martin's information from his article "[The Temple Symbolism in Genesis](#)." I created the presentation to introduce the importance of the Temple to the plan of God and its symbolism for you and me and our relationship with God and Christ in the resurrection. It gave a "setup" for presentations by Bob Cornuke on the location of the Temple over the Gihon Springs and the site of the crucifixion on the Mount of Olives, researched and published by Dr. Martin. As usual I was invited onstage to help with questions and answers.

"Trends" in Evangelical Prophecy

Judging from the presentations and the books being sold by presenters beside myself, there were certain trends that were noticeable. Some of them were even biblical. Lessons learned from the conference:

First, most all presenters believe we are "in" the End Time now. In fact, the idea that "we must be" in the End Time was expressed several times. That canard has been talked about since the early 1970s. We are not yet in the End Time. That time will be a period when many bad events will happen, overlapping each other. As I have noted before, the period of the End Time will be unmistakable. It will be like the difference in a fireworks show between the regular sequence of fireworks and the finale with air and ground fireworks. The End Time "finale" will be unmistakable, recognizable by all Christians (and most Jews), the world will wonder what is happening as the finale events will be ten times (or more) greater in destruction and size than evil events going on now. And the End Time will be deadly for millions of people.

Second, there was no mention of a united Europe being the revived Roman Empire that would become the beast power ruled by the antichrist. Apparently that idea has gone away, so far as evangelical prophetic thinking is concerned. (It is still being adhered to by some law-keeping Christian groups.)

Third, several authors are acknowledging the reality of the prophecy of Psalm 83, identifying them as the 10 nations at the end time.¹ However, because they believe we are in the End Time, they think the attack against Israel of the Psalm 83 nations will happen soon — very soon. They do not realize that first comes peace, cooperation, and prosperity. When that condition result, Israel will break down its walls with its neighbors so that it will be "**the land of unwalled villages**" when Israel is attacked in as described (Ezekiel 38, particularly verse 11). The ten nations are discussed in several prophecies, as Dr. Martin writes:

"... but it is pinpointed in detail in Psalm 83 — a Psalm describing a political confederacy of ten small nations around Israel on the eastern seaboard of the Mediterranean. When this new political arrangement becomes evident, peace and prosperity will come to the Middle East. It will last a set period of time."

• "[The Prophesied State of Palestine](#)"

We must be watchful, however, for the moment when Christ returns (Matthew 24:42–43 25:13; Mark 13:33–

¹ I wonder where they first learned that? Dr. Martin first wrote about the nations of Psalm 83 and the creation of an independent Palestinian state in 1975.

37; Luke 21:36; 1 Thessalonians 5:6; Revelation 16:15), so we can be ready.

Fourth, no one seems to understand that Israel will become extremely prosperous, much more so than at present, particularly after the conversion to Christianity of many Jews and Israelites within the land of Israel (Zechariah chapters 11–12), nor is there an understanding that a civil war will break out in Israel between north and south factions over recognition of Christ as Messiah and Savior (Zechariah 11:14, 12:10, 13:7–9).

Fifth, all presenters seemed to believe that the population of the world will be implanted with chips to control their buying and selling as in Revelation 13:15–17. This will not happen. The reference to “buying and selling” is dealt with in Dr. Martin’s article, “[Discovering the Mark of the Beast](#).” When prophetic teachers begin to say that the observance of the Law of Moses is the Mark, remember where you first learned about that concept (Exodus 13:9; Deuteronomy 6:8, 11:18). We either let the Bible interpret the Bible, or we make up our own fables (2 Peter 1:16; 1 Timothy 1:4, 4:7; 2 Timothy 4:4; Titus 1:14) which were disapproved of by Peter and Paul.

Sixth, of course a pretribulation rapture is still expected by most speakers at this conference. They believe it will be for the church (properly termed the *ekklesia*). I think they will continue to have that expectation for decades to come and they and their followers will wait in vain. The resurrection of the saints will occur at the same time Christ returns to earth to stay, the same event when He puts His feet on the Mount of Olives when it splits in two (Zechariah 14:4). He will not return before that time.

Seventh, there is still belief that the next Temple to be built in Jerusalem is prefabricated so it can be constructed quickly. A quick construction is impossible. Only authorized Levites and Aaronic priests can work on the cutting of the stones. Only a few years ago was a Sanhedrin convened (whether legitimate or not, that is up to the Jewish religious administration), and they or a similar body would make such decisions. I do believe that many of the implements (shovels, rakes, candlesticks, firepans, basins, etc.) that have been made can be used. We are told that the two human “candlesticks” will be in proximity to the next Temple (Zechariah 4:11–14 and Revelation 11:3 and following).

I was gratified to note that several presenters, but still a minority as far as I could judge (I did not speak to all), accept that the Jerusalem Jewish Temples were constructed above and west of the Gihon Spring and not on the Haram esh-Sharif, the alleged Temple Mount.

Eighth, several of the presentations I attended on a specific prophecy did not take into account a sufficiently wide range of other prophecies that have a connection to the prophecy they are explaining. One cannot read Daniel without considering the Book of Revelation, which itself is intricately linked to (and comments upon) many older prophecies. Likewise, you cannot study verses in the Book of Revelation without understanding the many references and allusions to other prophecies. I will explain further in the article.

Thank You

None of us know as much about prophecy as we should, and certainly not as much as we want to know. We constantly strive to grow in grace so we can expand and grow our knowledge (2 Peter 3:18). ASK strives to broaden your prophetic understanding by giving plain speaking explanations about prophecies. It is important to remind myself that the farmer or shopkeeper in biblical times understood the words used to describe prophecies or doctrines. Special or a “theological” meaning inserted into texts to support a doctrine that is not plainly stated in Scripture is always suspect.

We need your continued support to supply the information you need to make informed decisions in your lives, and so you can pray effectively on behalf of others. Thank you for your sustained backing for us to provide biblical insights. God bless you all.

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