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Dear Associates and Friends,

March 2020

“[Israel and Judah: 37. Hezekiah and God’s Salvation](#)” is this month’s article. It is Part 2, continuing the biblical narrative of the oppressed conquered Kingdom of Judah, the besieged King Hezekiah, the prophet Isaiah, and the people locked in the city of Jerusalem. It follows from the November 2019 article, “[Israel and Judah: 36. King Hezekiah and Assyria](#),” which was Part 1.

Cast of Characters:

The cast is the same as in the previous article:

YHWH. Creator and controller of all in heaven and earth. YHWH influences individuals, kingdoms, countries, and peoples to work “**all things after the counsel of his own will**” (Ephesians 1:11). In spite of the idolatry of the people of Judah, God again intervenes to rescue His chosen people. Will they change their ways? Do not disparage God. If you do, things will not end well.

Hezekiah. King of Judah and heroic reformer. Son and heir of Ahaz. He leads the defense of Jerusalem by insuring the water supply is provided to those in the city while denying water to the Assyrians. He strengthens the defenses of Jerusalem and encourages the people within the walls against a persuasive Assyrian leader trying to convince the people to rebel against Hezekiah.

Sennacherib, King of Assyria. The power of this king is diminished by the power of YHWH. He is forced to accept the judgments of YHWH upon a powerful segment of the Assyrian army. God’s judgments upon him are not directly witnessed by him, but they affect him greatly until his own prophesied death promised and predicted by YHWH.

Rab-shakeh. A title, not a name. This high official is sent from Sennacherib to Jerusalem with a message to King Hezekiah, to Isaiah, to the people — and to YHWH. Sennacherib’s message offended God’s majesty, His power, and suggested that He could not defend His people Judah. The arguments of the *Rab-shakeh* are persuasive except they deny YHWH and His power to rescue His people. The *rab-shakeh* insults YHWH in public. God is not mocked (Galatians 6:7). God gave the people of Jerusalem the will to resist the temptation to revolt and wait for YHWH’s salvation.

The Assyrian Army. The Assyrian army, along with the armies of vassal kingdoms of Assyria, quickly overran the Kingdom of Judah, conquering all its cities except the capital of Jerusalem. The entire Kingdom of Judah is looted, thousands killed, and enslaved.

The People of Jerusalem. Encouraged by King Hezekiah, the people of Jerusalem are told to look to YHWH and trust in Him for their salvation. This wise counsel came to Hezekiah, seemingly without prompting from the prophets Isaiah or Micah.

Death of Professor George Wesley Buchanan

I received news that a friend of ASK, Bible scholar George Wesley Buchanan, Ph.D., Litt.D., D.S.L., Professor Emeritus of New Testament at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. (1960–1990), died peacefully in November 2019 at age 97. Among his 20 books and over 100 articles and conference papers, he researched the Gihon Spring location for the Israelite Temples in Jerusalem that uncovered new

findings agreeing with Dr. Ernest Martin's original research. I was present when Professor Buchanan and Dr. Martin discussed promoting the Gihon Temple and debating those that opposed the evidence. Dr. Martin's death in January 2002 precluded that from happening.

Professor Buchanan and I spoke together on two occasions. The first was in April 2003 ("[Temple Lecture Success in Dundee, Scotland](#)") teaming up to give evidence of the Gihon Temple location that was well received by the Muslim audience. In 2007, we presented to the Near East Archaeology Society in San Diego. Professor Buchanan spoke on the Gihon Temples and I spoke on the location of King David's Tomb. Two of Professor Buchanan's Temple articles are on the ASK website: "[The Tower of Siloam](#)" and "[In Search of King Solomon's Temple](#)."

Professor Buchanan examined biblical texts in light of other Scriptures and secular writings, called "intertextual criticism." Readers are able to make their own conclusions from clear evidence. His four commentaries on Daniel, Matthew, Hebrews, and Revelation are models of how Bible commentaries should be organized. The latest editions of those four commentaries each include details of his Gihon Temple evidence.

Two Free Videos Online

Two conference videos have been added to the ASK video page. The first is my lecture, "[The Temple Symbolism in Genesis](#)" at the June 2016, Pikes Peak 4th Prophecy Summit. The second is my October 2019 presentation of "[Universal Salvation Teaching in the Roman Catholic Hierarchy](#)" at the "Gospel of Relentless Love Conference" at The Sanctuary in Denver, Colorado.

A Reminder, When Purchasing from ASK ...

When you make a book or DVD purchase from ASK it is important that you click ***only ONCE*** (please!) when you complete the order. Be patient. You will be notified when your order is received.

Thank You and Thank God with Us

We are honored that you read Dr. Martin's books, these Newsletters, the articles, the commentaries, listen to the audios, and view the videos that are free on the ASK website. We are also gratified that you purchase the books, articles, audio CDs, and DVDs. Some of you have been following the work and research of Dr. Ernest Martin (as I have), since 1974, and some from even before that time. We at ASK are grateful for each of you.

Each of us has an epic story to tell of how God revealed His truths to us and how our hearts were opened to accept Christ as our Savior. Every aspect of our salvation has been orchestrated from God through Christ.

Each of us should be (and will be) grateful for the stresses of life we have gone through before and after we have learned the truths of God. As difficult as our lives have been (and will be more difficult as we age) we can have a full expectation to be unimaginably thrilled as we are raised to glory when Christ returns — as God has promised you and me (1 Corinthians 2:9). In our experience that moment will be the instant (in our realization) after we die, even if decades have gone by between our death and our glorious resurrection.

Such knowledge of God, Christ, and Their plan of salvation for humanity has not come easily. Once understood, life is still a struggle, but with a small nugget in our minds that we are loved and are waiting to be with our Father, Elder Brother, and with each other when we are resurrected from the dead. For "**God has revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God**" (1 Corinthians 2:10).

We thank you all for the support you continue to provide for ASK. While we trust in God, you are the means through which He acts to continue operations. We pray that God will bless you for helping others.

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