

MEN WHO PREDICT THE FUTURE

By Keith Greer

"When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." {Deuteronomy 18:22}

"And the LORD said to me, the prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart. Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in My name, whom I did not send, and who say, 'Sword and famine shall not be in this land. By sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed!'" {Jeremiah 14:14,15}

Men predicting events is nothing new. During the Persian Gulf War, many were telling us "the end is near"! {Seems like I heard that during Viet Nam also!} Yet, the event most men like to predict, "final judgment", the Lord's return to earth — so they teach and believe.

Bang-Ik Ha of the Taberah World Mission, years ago declared the "rapture" would occur October 28th, 1992. They told us, "this date is quite biblical and reliable". Well, it passed and we survived! Again, man was wrong! I read in one of the newspapers that many were seeking Bang-Ik Ha life. Why? Because they thought the end was near and they got rid of all their earthly belongings. So much for trusting man's words instead of God's!

Mr. Harold Camping predicted TWICE this year that the world was ending. First, on May 21. After the day passed we were told he "reexamined and adjusted his figures — based on prophecies of the Bible" and the new date was October 21. Again he was wrong but I "prophesy" he is not done in his predicting of the "end."

Such "prophets" are nothing more than liars! Christ clearly taught, "But that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son but the Father alone." {Matthew 24:36} We can also read, "For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night." {I Thessalonians 5:2} "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness." {2 Peter 3:9-11} Peter explains the need to "always be prepared".

Why are men so fascinated about setting the date for the end of time? Can you see God's wisdom for not letting us know when the end will come? If we knew, many would wait until the "very end" to get "right with God". Living life to our desires, then give God what little time we have left! Who can believe it!

Yet, by watching people in the world, and brethren, you would be led to believe they "know when" He is coming. So many live life at a frantic pace, with only time for themselves and no care or thought about their spiritual life, or where they will spend eternity!

"And as it is appointed for man to die once, but after this the judgment. {Hebrews 9:27} Even if men knew when time will end, they know not how long they will live on earth! Death is no respecter of persons and happens to the young as well as the old. Time is one of God's precious gifts to allow men the opportunity to prepare for the day we face Him in judgment, 2 Corinthians 5:10."It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." {Hebrews 10:31} God I fear – not men! ***