End - continued

living saints (us today) in that passage. This passage in no way tells us that we can predict the end of time.

What Does the Bible Say?

So, if we cannot predict the second coming of Jesus and the end of the world, what does the Bible say about when these things will take place? Well, first of all, only God knows the end of time. Even Jesus admitted that (Matthew 24:36; Mark 13:32-33; Acts 17:31). If God only knows, then surely it is vain for us to speculate.

Additionally, the end of time will come as a thief in the night (Matthew 24:43-44; Luke 12:39-40; I Thessalonians 5:2,4; 2 Peter 3:10). A thief does not announce his presence and Jesus will not announce when he is coming again. It will take many by surprise, so we have to be ready.

Friends, we are told in the Scriptures <u>how</u> Jesus is coming and we are told <u>why</u> he is coming. But, we are not told <u>when</u> he is coming! Let us spend our days preparing, not predicting! Are you ready for Jesus to return? If not, get ready! If so, then you can look forward to the blessings of his return.

- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- If you truly believe the Bible, then you will sincerely strive to obey the Bible.
- It is better to walk alone than to walk with the company of evil-doers.
- It is good to hear a sermon and even better to see a sermon.
- When people do not have more sorrow for their sins, then they will experience more sorrow because of their sins.

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THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - Is Jesus coming again? Yes, Jesus is coming again (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:2)!

Is the world going to come to an end? Yes, the world as we know it will come to an end (2 Peter 3:7,10; Revelation 21:1)!

But, do we know when the Lord will come again and do we know when the world will end? Can we predict that time? No, we cannot make this prediction even though many have tried.

There was a renewed interest in date-setting and the end of the world with the movie "2012". This movie tried to say that the world was coming to and end in 2012. Since the ancient Indian Mayan calendar did not have a date past 2012, it was assumed by some that the world would come to an end at that time. Obviously it did not!

Many false predictions and false prophecies have been made down through time. Even Moses warned about false prophets in Deuteronomy 18 and Peter warned of the same in 2 Peter 2. We still have date setters today who look at current events and try to predict the end of time.

Date Setters and End-Time Predictors

The following men have tried to predict the end of time and all have failed making them false prophets. The date in parenthesis is the date they set for the end of time.

- Montanus (in the 2nd century)
- Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 1000)
- Joachin of Fiore (A.D. 1200—1260)
- Behemians (Feb. 10-14, 1420)
- Martin Luther (within 100 years)
- Hans Hut (1528)
- Melchior Hoffmann (1533)
- Sir Isaac Newton (1715)
- John Wesley (1836)
- William Miller (1843 1844)
- Charles Taze Russell (1874, 1914)
- Joseph Rutherford (1914, 1918)
- Billy Graham (1952, 1953)
- Herbert W. Armstrong (Jan. 7, 1972)
- Jehovah's Witnesses (1975)
- Willie Day Smith (April I, 1980)
- Hal Lindsey (1988)
- Edgar Whisenant (1988)
- Pat Robertson (1989)
- Hal Lindsey (1995)
- Hollywood movie-makers (2012)

What About Matthew 24?

What about Matthew 24, doesn't it

teach that we can know when the world will end? There is no room here for an extensive study of Matthew 24, but let me say this about the basic structure of the chapter. In Matthew 24:3-35, Jesus is teaching about <u>the end</u> <u>of Jerusalem</u>. Jesus says "flee" (v. 16), "those days" (vv. 19,22,29), "you know" (vv. 32-33), "this generation" (v. 34), and "all these things" (v. 34). Concerning the end of Jerusalem, Jesus said that the people of his generation <u>would</u> <u>know</u> when that event was about to take place.

However, in Matthew 24:36-51, Jesus is teaching about <u>the end of time</u>. Jesus says "took them all away" (v.39), "that day" (v. 36), "know not" (vv. 36,42,44), and "thief". Concerning the end of time, Jesus says that people <u>will</u> <u>not know</u> when that event takes place.

Things Not Mentioned in Revelation 20:1-7

Another scripture that people often reference to say that we can predict the end of time is Revelation 20. However, read that passages carefully. You will not find a second coming of Christ, a reign of Christ on the earth, a literal throne in Jerusalem, a bodily resurrection of dead saints, or a group of