

A Word from the Author

What in the world is going on? Europe sees almost weekly attacks by home-radicalized Islamic extremists, turmoil in the Middle East is in the news nightly, and Russia and Iran are up to something in Syria. North Korea is testing intercontinental rockets, while Africa is a breeding ground of war, famine, and disease. World War III is threatening to explode in the Ukraine, Crimea, or China. Meanwhile, America is deeply divided in a great many opposite mindsets philosophically, financial equity, socially, racially, and politically. Random school shootings and death caused by the opioid crisis appear almost daily. In addition, there is a measurable upturn for earthquakes and looming volcanic eruptions around the Pacific ring of fire in frequency and intensity from Indonesia to Alaska. In a September 2013 article in the magazine *The Christian Post*, it reports “4 out of 10 Americans believe we are living in the “end times” published the following report, quote, “A recent poll has found that 41 percent of American adults believe the end times have arrived. The percentage is even higher among certain Christian groups, according to the press release. More than three-quarters of Evangelicals (77 percent) and more than half of Protestants (54 percent) agree that, quote “the world is currently living in the 'end times' as described by prophecies in the Bible. Most Catholics take a different view of the world's current state, with 73 percent of them saying the end times have not arrived, though 45 percent of practicing Catholics say they have” end quote. I am one of them. I wish you could know the sense of security and liberating spirit that can only be found at the Throne of God Almighty. Not by happenstance or coincidence, but by His divine design. If there was ever a time when the world needs Jesus to return so God’s end game can begin, it’s now.

My passing interest in Bible prophecy became a passionate hunger when I realized that the imminent return of Christ could be in my lifetime, as did the early church fathers. Albert Einstein is credited with the following quotation, “If you can’t explain it (any subject) simply, you don’t understand it well enough.” I have put in many hours of research and study. I drew on the wisdom and teachings of the current best and most well-known Bible prophecy teachers. Satan wants us to stay quiet, don’t rock the boat. Jesus wants us to share and spread the good news of His story. It began when He came as a baby, continued throughout His ministry, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. The good news is His story doesn’t end there. The Bible says He will return, but it will get worse before it gets better. The Bible is very clear on what will happen, who it affects, a timeline from beginning to end where Jesus returns as the conquering King Messiah. The only thing that is not given is a start date. There are those who proclaim to have special instructions from God to set dates or spread fear that the world will end soon. They are demonstrably wrong and biblically ignorant. They lend credence to the false belief that prophecy cannot be known. Certainly, if we can split the atom or map the human genome, we can read and understand what is plainly written in God’s word. When Jesus does come, He will make wrongs right, He will bring health and prosperity, and finally He will bring true complete peace. How is that anything other than hopeful?

This intent of this book is to simply put in order what the Bible says about God’s Master Plan in an easy to read narrative. It is not meant to disparage or judge the reader. That role belongs to the Holy Spirit to bring conviction and urging in the right direction, but ultimately it is the responsibly of the individual to choose. Also, it is meant to awaken a spirit of joy that those of us who study Bible prophecy enjoy. Imagine how you will live your life today if you believed that Jesus could come back tomorrow. Truly, Jesus’ return is a question of WHEN, not IF. As modern-day disciples, it is incumbent upon us to present the whole council of God, not to pick and choose only those topics we like a cafeteria buffet. Prophecy should give us an attitude of expectancy, not complacency. It is my hope that you might find a glimmer of hope and take the conscious, necessary steps towards an eternal life in heaven. If the Bible is correct, and I believe it is, time is short. Never before in history

have all the elements of prophecy converged at the same time like they have in recent years. Remember this world is not our home. I hope you will find peace of mind, whether it be pre- or post-trumpet sound.

E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come!

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