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TWO DANGEROUS PRESUMPTIONS REGARDING SECOND-COMING PROPHECY

By Duane V. Maxey

2 Peter 3:3-4 "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days SCOFFERS,
walking after their own lusts, 4 And SAYING, WHERE IS THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING? for
since the fathers fell asleep, ALL THINGS CONTINUE AS THEY WERE FROM THE
BEGINNING OF THE CREATION."

Deuteronomy 18:22 "WHEN A PROPHET SPEAKETH in the name of the Lord, IF THE
THING FOLLOW NOT, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but
THE PROPHET HATH SPOKEN IT PRESUMPTUOUSLY: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

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INTRODUCTION

The Internet is now awash with prophecies and skepticism about prophecy. Today is
December 8, 1999. Only 23 days remain until that momentous time when 12:00 p.m. December 31,
1999 shall pass and the world shall see a new second, a new minute, a new hour, a new month, a
new year, a new decade, a new century, and a NEW MILLENNIUM with the arrival of Y2K --
YEAR 2000.

The Internet -- the WWW (World Wide Web) -- is awash with warnings of what shall
come with the dawn of the 3rd Millennium, and the dark, doomsday-type predictions of some
apparently go far beyond the problems arising from the Y2K Millennium-Bug, and predict the
Apocalypse with all things pertaining thereto. At the same time, the Internet is also flooded with a
number of Web Pages containing the writings of those who are skeptics of Deity, skeptics of
Christianity, and skeptics of Second Coming Prophecy.

Twenty centuries shall have passed in the Christian era, 2000 years, and at the dawn of
Century 21 and the 3rd Millennium, perhaps as never before, many will be strongly tempted to

gravitate toward one of TWO DANGEROUS PRESUMPTIONS REGARDING SECOND COMING PROPHECY.

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THE PRESUMPTION THAT SECOND COMING PROPHECY IS A MYTH

The Internet is freighted with the Web Pages of those who think all things are now rocking on just as they have since the creation -- those who proclaim in print that all who teach and believe Second Coming Prophecy are dead-wrong doomsayers and ignorant, gullible believers who shall eternally be proven wrong. The Web Sites are easy to find of those who doubt, who question, who deny, and who mock the Biblical Prophecies of Christ's Second Coming to this world. One of the many statements being published on the Internet is, to the effect, that Jesus proved himself to be a false prophet by stating to his disciples in Matthew 16:28: "...there shall be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom." The skeptic who authored this paragraph goes on to say: "Since the life expectancy in those days was little over 30 years, Jesus predicted his second coming sometime during the 1st century CE. It didn't happen."

Unless this bold unbeliever repents of, and renounces, his proud misinterpretation of Jesus' statement in Matthew 16:28, he will quail in indescribable fear and dread on Judgment Day before the One Whose word he doubted and Whose character he maligned in the above sentence! Within the lifetime of some who stood with Jesus that day, the day of Pentecost fully came, and they witnessed the Son of Man coming in his kingdom spiritually. Let there be no doubt about it -- it was JESUS Who came on Pentecost -- Who inaugurated His spiritual Kingdom visibly and powerfully in that momentous event!

In the verses preceding John 16:7-15, Jesus had been instructing the disciples about His coming to them in the Person of the Comforter. Thus, in John 16:16 Jesus told the disciples: "A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father." In the next verse, His disciples puzzled over His statement that again, a little while, they would see Jesus: "Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me..?"

Jesus was using spiritual language, and He was telling them that He had been WITH them bodily as their Divine Comforter, and that soon they would see Him again spiritually when He became their Comforter, spiritually IN them at Pentecost. However, their "seeing" Him then was not altogether a spiritual vision, for they also heard Him with physical ears in the great and mighty wind, and saw Him with physical eyes in the cloven tongues of fire.

In support of the above interpretation of Jesus' statements in John 16 and Matthew 16, Please consider the following: John 16:18-22 is taken up with this question of the disciples and Jesus' explanation to them of its meaning. Now notice something: at the close of verse 22 Jesus

again says: "but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

When Jesus thus told the disciples, "I will see you again," at which time they would also see Him again, WAS HE REFERRING TO THEIR MEETING AT THE SECOND COMING? -- NO, NOT AT ALL! The time at which Jesus was to see the disciples again, and they to see Him again, was at Pentecost -- at the time they were to see Him coming spiritually and powerfully into His Kingdom. Further, the time of their mutual meeting was to be a time in which prayer was still necessary. In the next verse Jesus said: "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you." Since all prayer will have been answered at the time of Christ's Second Coming, the time that the disciples were to see Jesus again, was that spiritual time at Pentecost when they would be empowered to petition the Father with more effectiveness than ever before!

Obviously then, when Jesus spoke of his disciples seeing Him again in Matthew 16 and John 16, He referred to a time during their earthly lifetime -- a time when they would see Him coming into His spiritual Kingdom, a time when they would see Him better than they had ever seen Him before, and a time when as never before their prayers would avail. That time, I say, was Pentecost.

So, Mr. Skeptic, look out! You have boldly, but erroneously interpreted Jesus' statement in Matthew 16:28 when he said: "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom." Some of those standing there DID SEE HIM COMING IN HIS KINGDOM AT PENTECOST -- "a little while, and ye shall see me" was genuinely fulfilled "in that day" -- the Day of Pentecost!

Proverbs 20:3 tells us that "every fool will be meddling," and some of those fools are those who think themselves capable of interpreting Second Coming Prophecy whose eyes are totally blind spiritually, and whose minds are reprobate to the truth! Let me borrow some words from 2 Chr. 35:21 and make a little comparison: Those who meddle with Second Coming prophecy in the attempt to prove Jesus wrong are meddling with GOD! Locked within the vault of Divine concealment, as it were, lies every God-inspired, Second Coming prophecy, and upon its door, impenetrable to mocking skeptics, is inscribed its warning: "Forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not."

God is IN the inspired prophet, and WITH the inspired prophecy. Fools cannot unlock its true meaning, but they can, and often do, meddle with its hidden meaning, misinterpreting it to their own damnation. The fool who accuses Jesus of being a false prophet by his statement in Matthew 16:28 dwells both in dark delusion and in danger of hell fire!

But Jesus' statement of Matthew 16:28 may have been fulfilled only 6 days after He made it, for in the next two verses of Matthew we read: "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light." (Matthew 17:1-2) This too, might have been the fulfillment of Jesus' statement.

Whatever the correct explanation of Jesus' prophecy was, be sure of this, **IT TOOK PLACE WITHIN THE LIVES OF SOME WHO STOOD THERE WITH HIM THE DAY HE MADE IT.** There is less danger to a boy on a tree-limb reaching out to a high-voltage line to untangle his kite than there is to a fool who presumes to know more about the correct interpretation of Second Coming Prophecy than does JESUS, "for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." He knew what he meant in the statement of Matthew 16:28, and it was fulfilled precisely according to its true interpretation during the lifetime of the "some" who stood in His Divine presence that day.

The same presumer also branded the apostle Paul deluded when he wrote: "Paul of Tarsus believed that Jesus would return and usher in a rapture during the lifetime of persons who were living in the middle of the 1st century."

Along with a total lack of spiritual discernment, whoever the author of these bold accusations against Jesus and Paul is, he or she is also obviously deficient in the knowledge of the Scriptures. Nowhere did Paul ever assert that Jesus would certainly come in his lifetime! When Paul wrote such things as: "then we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord," he wrote in the present tense only in the sense that he believed that Jesus "might" return in his lifetime, not in the sense that of a certainty He would return then. This is Paul's true meaning in all such similar statements.

On the other hand, the presumptuous skeptic completely overlooks Paul's warning in 2 Thessalonians 2:2-3: "That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." The fact is, Paul taught the "possibility" of Christ's soon return, not "the absolute certainty" of Christ's return in his lifetime, and they are in gross error of his true teachings who say otherwise!

But again, "every fool will be meddling." Through the prophet Zechariah, God declared: "And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it." (Zech. 12:3)

Hear this, all ye, who with blinded eyes and reprobate minds, burden yourselves with the attempt to brand Jesus as a false prophet: -- In that Day of all DAYS when HE RETURNS AS HE PROMISED, unless you have disavowed your deluded misinterpretations of Second Coming prophecy, YOU WILL "BE CUT IN PIECES" BY HIS JUST INDIGNATION, having blindly "stumbled at that Stumblingstone" over which you shall plunge into the eternal Lake of Fire! Heaven and earth shall pass away, and your proud misinterpretation of Jesus' statements shall pass away, but the absolute verity of His words shall abide forever!

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All true Christians wisely avoid the first type of presumption, that of doubting or denying the truth of Christ's Second Coming, for they know that, all skepticism to the contrary notwithstanding, heaven and earth SHALL pass away, but Christ's words SHALL NOT PASS AWAY and JESUS SHALL RETURN! God-haters, Christ-rejecters, proud skeptics, and all of their ilk, in awe-struck fear shall flee from the face of Him that "every eye shall see" as He comes to judge the world. They will rue the day they ever began to spoof the fact of Christ's Return, and dumbfounded by His fearful Revelation, they will plead with the very rocks, crying out to them, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb!" No, there will be no skeptics about the truth of Second Coming Prophecy then!

But there is another form of presumption I would like to treat upon in this section of my article: -- the presumption of those who set dates for Christ's Second Coming.

Will Rogers once said that it isn't "what people don't know that's the problem; it's what they know for sure that just isn't so!"

The true Biblical position on the interpretation of Second Coming Prophecy is not: (a) That Christians know that His Second Coming will be delayed beyond now, or (b) That Christians know that His Return is imminent. No, it is not certainty about either of these possibilities. It is uncertainty as to which shall be the case.

I believe that God has so constructed and so worded Second Coming Prophecy in His Word that no man can certainly perceive and set the date. So hidden is the knowledge of that day, that Jesus said: "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." (Mark 13:32) And, to the prying disciples just before His ascension, He said: "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." (Acts 1:7)

Nonetheless, scores of professed Christians down through the centuries have disregarded Jesus' statements and have presumed to set the date of Christ's Return. And, their FAILED SECOND COMING PROPHECIES HAVE BOTH FED SKEPTICISM in the minds of doubters and unbelievers, and have BROUGHT A REPROACH UPON THE CHURCH OF GOD!

In many cases, there is nearly as much carnal ego, if not fully as much carnal ego, involved in presuming to set the date of Christ's Return as there is in denying that it will occur! But even if it is brought forth by the purest of motives, a false prediction by a professed Christian of Christ's Return on a stated date always brings a reproach on the Church of God and upon Christ when it is seen to be in error by an onlooking world.

It is presumptuous for a student of prophecy to set a date for the Return of Christ. Deuteronomy 18:22 clearly states that "WHEN A PROPHET SPEAKETH... IF THE THING FOLLOW NOT... THE PROPHET HATH SPOKEN IT PRESUMPTUOUSLY..."

Furthermore, WHEN A SECOND-COMING DATE-SETTER PRESUMES TO KNOW AND PUBLISH THE PRECISE TIME OF CHRIST'S RETURN -- year, month, week, day, or hour

-- HE OR SHE COMES UNDER A DIVINE DEATH SENTENCE for so doing: "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die." (Deuteronomy 18:20)

God does not consider it of little importance when date-setting prophets, presuming to speak for Him, are repeatedly proven to be false prophets! Why? First: because He did not tell them to make the false prediction, and Second: Because EVERY FALSE DATE SET FOR CHRIST'S SECOND COMING ENCOURAGES MORE SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE TRUTH OF HIS SECOND COMING!!!

Those prophecy-hobbyists who have a hunch, go exploring in the Book, and then fancy that they have discovered the exact date of Christ's Return could scarcely bring less reproach on the cause of God by "playing the horses" or by "playing the lottery" than they bring upon the Church by their false interpretations and predictions! A man who bets on horses or lotteries only hopes his hunch will pay off, but the ego of Second Coming date-setters expands beyond a stated hunch or hope -- they sometimes avow an air-tight certainty why Christ must come on the date they have supposedly discovered!

When asked to state the exact time of Christ's Return, a genuinely humble Christian should reply with this sentiment: "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it." (Psalms 139:6) But alas! False Prophet Date-Setters will not "condescend to men of such low estate." Continually puffed and expanded by their own carnal ego, Second Coming Date-Setters have a hunch that enlarges to an "I think so," then to an "I know so," and then to the bloated persuasion that they are duty-bound to announce their discovery to the whole world!

Are you tempted to publish to the whole universe that Christ will return in the year 2000? or maybe 2004? or some other date close to the dawn of the 3rd Millennium? Here is some good advice: "Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." (Romans 12:16) You must admit that if one professes to know the date of the Second Coming, he claims some pretty high-flown knowledge! But, the fact is, his or her professed knowledge is nothing more than "heady, highminded" speculation, and is certainly not humble and heaven-sent, for He Who has withheld this knowledge from the angels and from the Son of Man (Christ in His Humanity) would have to esteem you more highly than they to tell you a secret that is withheld from them: "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." (Mark 13:32)

There have probably been cases in which the mistaken date-setter was sincere, but in the eyes of a gainsaying world it matters not what the motive of a professed Christian is. When his or her prediction is proven wrong, it still reinforces their sadly mistaken notion that ALL Second Coming Prophecy is wrong, and that none of it shall be fulfilled.

If a Christian will not take a drink because he does not want to do that which may lead another to become a drunkard, then neither should he set dates for Christ's Return, lest it lead some doubter to believe that Christ will not Return, and that all Second Coming Prophecy is at best only wishful thinking. He or she who must answer for a wrong influence in the former, must also answer for a wrong influence in the latter as well. Both wrongdoings come under Divine condemnation,

and neither is considered a small matter! And, the more the mistaken date-setter spreads his false prediction, the more he or she will have to answer for it at the Judgment.

The story is told of a man who rented an opera house in a small Pennsylvania town -- rented it perhaps about one month in advance, but for one night only. A month or so before his scheduled use of the theater auditorium, he posted a big sign on a prominent billboard in the town -- a sign that read in huge letters: "He Is Coming"! Seeing the huge announcement, no doubt local people began to wonder: "Who might this be?" It sounded as if someone of importance, someone of great interest, was coming to town, but who was it? and when was he coming?

Then, just a week before the scheduled night, the stranger who had rented the opera house replaced his original sign with one that read: "He Will Be At The Opera House On October 31!"

"Oh! now we know the date, but WHO is coming?" The mystery of it all probably excited their interest even more as the day approached.

Then, on October 30th the one who rented the opera house replaced the second sign with one that read: "He Is Here!" And by this time some might have paid a day's wages to get inside that theater, if for nothing more than to discover who this important visitor was!

Finally, on the morning of October 31st, the third sign was replaced with a fourth, reading: "He Will Be At The Opera House Tonight At 8:30!" By this time, perhaps some who felt slightly ill, or who had important things to do, or who could not afford to pay a nickel for admittance, were still fully decided to get into the theater that night, regardless!

So, the stranger who had rented the opera house sold tickets at the box office at \$1 per person -- perhaps a handsome fee at that time -- and the place was packed to capacity.

The crowd waited in the darkened theater -- waited for the mysterious visitor to come on stage -- waited anxious to have their curiosity satisfied -- but it was not -- at least not as they had presumed and desired. When the lights were turned up, there sitting on the stage for all to see was a fifth sign, reading: "He Is Gone!"

And I presume the "con artist" who had taken their money was also "gone"!

NOW, let me ask you a question: If another charlatan had come to town a month later and tried to stage the same sort of fraudulent hoax, HOW MANY WHO WERE TAKEN IN THE FIRST TIME WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THAT "HE IS COMING" THE SECOND TIME? -- Answer: NONE EXCEPT THE MOST NAIVE IMBECILES!

NOW, let me make the application: Satan is shrewd. He knows that Jesus is Coming Again to this sin-benighted world. He can't stop that, and he knows it. However, he has hit upon a method that will cause many to disbelieve that "He is Coming!" -- the devil has gone about through the centuries to inspire one after another to announce: "Jesus is Coming... on this date, that date, the other date, yet another date... etc., etc." He realizes that the more false dates that he gets professed Christians to set and announce, the

smaller will be the number of people who believe that there ever shall be a time that Christ Returns!

The most sinister part of the whole Satanic scheme is this: he is getting professed Christians to do the job! He is getting the Church to "shoot itself in the foot" over and over again! Meantime, "He is gone!" with every soul he can steal from God's flock and every soul he has managed to keep out of the flock! And for Christians to allow themselves to be thus used of the devil is more than pathetic, -- it is tragic!

With regard to his Second Coming, Jesus told Christians to "Watch" -- watch, not because they shall know the day and hour, not because they know His Return is imminent or because they know it will be delayed -- but "Watch" because they know none of these things! Therefore, it follows that He did not commission any human herald to announce what he or she does not know of a certainty! -- and those who presume and speak differently about the matter fall under His condemnation, not His smile. It is one thing to admonish His flock to be prepared, for they know not the day nor the hour of Christ's Return, but -- it is quite another thing to admonish His flock to be prepared for a specific date in which He shall come again!!! -- and too many have failed to make that distinction.

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THE END

AN ADDENDUM

FAILED SECOND COMING PROPHECIES THAT HAVE FOSTERED AND FED SKEPTICISM

Perhaps none of the following material will be published with the above article on the CD. Nevertheless, in the email publication, I present below material that I took from Web Sites on the Internet. I do not vouch for the total truthfulness nor accuracy of the statements. I only present them pretty much as I found them. They are, at the least, evidence of how skeptical some have become because of the many failed, Second Coming Prophecies. I do not claim that all of the predictions were made by professed Christians, but many, if not most of the false dates were so made. And, not all of the failed prophecies listed pertain to the Second Coming, but regardless, when Christians prophecy of things that do not come to pass, no matter what the supposed event or occurrence, it brings a reproach on the cause of Christ.

One more time -- I do not vouch for the total truthfulness nor accuracy of the dates presented below. I simply present them as indicative of how many false prophecies have been made, as samples of how widespread is the current skepticism about Christ's Return, and as the sort of evidence that is being presented by a number of Second Coming Skeptics to bolster their doubts and denials of Jesus' Second Advent. If the reader detects any inaccuracy or falsehood in the material below, I would consider it a favor if you let me know.

A Final Word of Caution: As you peruse the material, beware of imbibing the spirit of cynicism from the skeptic who wrote it. -- DVM

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ITEM #1 FROM A WEB SITE, ENTITLED:
'END OF THE WORLD' PROPHECIES FROM 1701 - 1970

"Prophecies of doom are nothing new." -- Edward Teller

1705 The End, according to some Camisard prophets. (Kyle p.70)

1706 The End, according to some Camisard prophets. (Kyle p.70)

1708 The End, according to some Camisard prophets. (Kyle p.70)

1716 Cotton Mather's end-of-the-world prediction #2. (Abanes p.338)

Apr. 5, 1719 The return of a comet was supposed to wipe out the Earth, said Jacques Bernoulli, progenitor of the mathematical Bernoulli family. (Randi p.240-241)

1734 Doomsday was to come between 1700 and 1734, predicted 15th century Cardinal Nicolas of Cusa. (Weber p.82, McIver #73)

1736 Cotton Mather's end-of-the-world prediction #3. (Abanes p.338)

Oct 13, 1736 William Whitson predicted that London would meet its doom by flood on this day, prompting many Londoners to gather in boats on the Thames. (Randi)

1757 Angels supposedly informed mystic Emanuel Swedenborg that the world would end in 1757. Few took him seriously. Ah, the 18th century, the Age of Reason! (Randi p.241)

Apr 5, 1761 Religious extremist William Bell claimed the world would be destroyed by earthquake on this day. Since there had been an earthquake on February 8 and another on March 8, he reasoned that the world must end in another 28 days' time! Again, Londoners gathered in boats on the Thames or headed for the hills. When his prediction didn't come true, he was promptly thrown into Bedlam, London's notorious nuthouse. (Randi p.241)

Feb 28, 1763 Devout Methodist George Bell foresaw the end of the world on this date. (Weber p.102)

May 19, 1780 On this day in New England the skies mysteriously turned dark for several hours in the afternoon, causing people to believe that a biblical prophecy had come true and Judgement Day had arrived. In reality, the darkness was caused by smoke from large scale forest fires to the west. (Abanes p.217)

1789 The coming of the Antichrist, according to 14th century Cardinal Pierre d'Ailly. (Weber p.59)

1790 The Second Coming, according to Irish orator Francis Dobbs. (Schwartz p.181)

1792 The end of the world according to the Shakers. (Abanes p.338)

1794 * The end of the world according to the Shakers. (Abanes p.338) * Charles Wesley, brother of Methodist Church founder John Wesley, predicted Doomsday would be in 1794. (Source: Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance)

1795 The Millennium would begin between 1793 and 1795, claimed retired English sailor Richard Brothers, who called himself "God's Almighty Nephew." He was convinced that he would lead the ten lost tribes of Israel, and once said that God told him he would become king of England. He was eventually committed to an insane asylum. (Kyle p.73, McIver #301)

Nov 19, 1795 While campaigning for Richard Brothers' release, Nathaniel Brassey Halhead proclaimed that the world would end on Nov 19. (McIver #310)

1801 Pierre Turrel's doomsday calculation #3 (See 1537). (Randi p. 239)

1805 Destruction of the world by earthquake in 1805, followed by an age of everlasting peace when God will be known by all, as foretold by 17th century Presbyterian minister Christopher Love. He eventually lost his head, literally. (Schwartz p.101)

1814 Pierre Turrel's doomsday calculation #4 (See 1537). (Randi p. 239)

Dec 25, 1814 Jesus was to be re-born on Christmas Day, according to the 64-year-old virgin prophet Joanna Southcott, who claimed to be pregnant with the Christ child. Witnesses claimed that she did indeed appear pregnant. She died on Christmas Day, and a subsequent autopsy proved that she was not pregnant after all. (Skinner p.109)

Oct 14, 1820 Southcott follower John Turner claimed the world would come to an end on this day. After this prophecy failed, John Wroe took over leadership of the cult. (Randi)

1832 The beginning of the Millennium, according to John Dilks. (Weber p.176)

1836 Methodist Church founder John Wesley foresaw the Millennium beginning in 1836, the same year that the Beast of Revelation was to rise from the sea. (McIver #269)

1843 Harriet Livermore's Parousia prediction #1. (McIver #699)

Apr 28, 1843 Although this date was not officially endorsed by the Millerite leadership, it was a popular belief among William Miller's followers that the Second Coming would take place on this day. (Festinger p.16)

Dec 31, 1843 Many Millerites expected Jesus to return at the end of 1843. (Festinger p.16)

Mar 21, 1844 William Miller, leader of the so-called Millerite movement, predicted through careful calculation that Christ would return sometime between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844. He gathered a following of thousands of devotees. After the failure of Jesus to show up during this window, the cult experienced a crisis of faith and in the confusion began reinterpreting the prophecy and aggressively proselytizing. (Gould p.49, Festinger p.16-17)

Oct 22, 1844 Rev. Samuel S. Snow, an influential Millerite, predicted the Second Coming on this day. The date was soon accepted by Miller himself. On that day, the Millerites gathered on a hilltop to await the coming of Jesus. After the inevitable no-show, the event became known as the "Great Disappointment." (Gould p.49, Festinger p.17)

1845 The Second Coming according to the Second Adventists, a group that formed from the remaining hardcore members of Miller's cult. The Second Adventists were the forerunners of the Seventh Day Adventists (Kyle p.91)

1846 Another Second Coming according to the Second Adventists. (Kyle p.91)

1847 Harriet Livermore's Parousia prediction #2. (McIver #699)

Aug 7, 1847 "Father" George Rapp, a German ascetic who founded a sect known as the Harmonists (aka the Rappites) and established a utopian commune in Economy, Pennsylvania, was convinced that Jesus would return before his death. Even on his deathbed he refused to give up hope for Christ's return, saying "If I did not know that the dear Lord meant I should present you all to him, I should think my last moment's come." It turned out that his last moment had indeed come, yet Jesus failed to show up. Rapp died on August 7, 1847. (Cohen p.23, Thompson p.283, Encyclopedia Britannica)

1849 Yet another Second Coming according to the Second Adventists. (Kyle p.91)

1851 You guessed it! Still another Second Coming according to the Second Adventists. (Kyle p.91)

1856 The Crimean War (1853-56) was seen by some as the Battle of Armageddon. After all, Russia had plans to wrest control of Palestine from the Ottoman Empire. Perhaps it was this war that triggered the popularity of the "Russia invades Israel" scenario so popular among modern prophecy teachers. (McIver #437)

1862 The end of 6000 years since Creation, and thus the end of the world, according to John Cumming of the Scottish National Church. (Abanes p.283)

1863 Southcott follower John Wroe, who in 1823 tried (and failed) to walk on water and underwent a public circumcision, calculated that the Millennium would begin in 1863. (Skinner p.109)

1867 The Anglican minister Michael Paget Baxter was an ardent date setter, a veritable Charles Taylor of the 19th century. In one of his earliest publications he predicted the End for 1861-1867. (McIver #348)

1868 In another publication Michael Baxter claimed the Battle of Armageddon would take place this year. (Abanes p.338, McIver #349)

1869 Another End according to Michael Baxter. (McIver #350)

Jun 28, 1870 The end of the world as per Irvin Moore's book *The Final Destiny of Man*, to be followed by Christ's millennial reign on Earth. He predicted that during this year, France would fall, and Jerusalem would become the capital of the world. (McIver #746)

1872 Michael Baxter predicted another Armageddon in 1871-72 or thereabouts. (McIver #351)

1874 * The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. This was to become the first in a long string of failed doomsday prophecies by members of this group. (Gould p.50, Kyle p.93) * The Parousia according to the newly formed Seventh Day Adventists, a group founded by former Millerites. (Abanes p.339)

1878 The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Kyle p.93) 1880 Thomas Rawson Birks in his book *First Elements of Sacred Prophecy* determined that the end of the world would be in 1880 by employing the time-honored Great Week theory. (McIver #371)

1881 * The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Kyle p.93) * The end of the world according to some pyramidologists. (Randi) * 16th century prophetess Mother Shipton is said to have written the couplet: "The world to an end shall come In eighteen hundred and eighty one." In 1873, it was revealed that the couplet was a forgery by Charles Hindley, who published Mother Shipton's prophecies in 1862. This did not stop people from expecting the end in 1881, however. (Schwartz p.122, Randi)

1890 Northern Paiute leader Wovoka predicted the Millennium beginning in 1890. This prediction came from a trance he experienced during a solar eclipse in 1889. Wovoka was a practitioner of the Ghost Dance cult, a bizarre hybrid of apocalyptic Christianity and American Indian mysticism. (Gould p.56-57, p.69)

1891 In 1835 Joseph Smith, founder of Mormonism, foresaw the Second Coming taking place in 56 years' time, or about 1891. (Source: www.exmormon.org/prophet.htm)

1895 The Millennium, according to Reverend Robert Reid of Erie, Pennsylvania. (Weber p.176)

1896 Michael Baxter (he's baaaack!) wrote a book entitled *The End of This Age About the End of This Century* in which predicted the Rapture taking place in 1896. According to Rev.

Baxter, 144,000 true Christians were supposed to be summoned to Heaven during this year. (Thompson p.121)

1900 * Father Pierre Lachèze foresaw Doomsday occurring in 1900, eight years after the Temple in Jerusalem was to be rebuilt. (Weber p.136) * Followers of Brazilian ascetic Antonio Conselheiro expected the end to come by the year 1900. (Thompson p.125-126)

1901 * A sect calling itself the Catholic Apostolic Church claimed that Jesus would return by the time the last of its 12 founding members died. The last member died in 1901. (Boyer p.87) * Rev. Michael Baxter foresaw the end of the world in 1901 in his book *The End of This Age About the End of This Century*. (Thompson p.121)

Apr 23, 1908 Once again, it's Michael Baxter. In his book *Future Wonders of Prophecy*, the Rapture was to take place on March 12, 1903 between 2pm and 3pm, and Armageddon was to take place on this day, which is after the Tribulation. (McIver #353)

Oct 1908 Pennsylvanian grocery store owner Lee T. Spangler claimed that the world would meet a fiery end during this month. (Abanes p.339)

1910 The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Kyle p.93)

May 18, 1910 Many people believed the arrival of Halley's Comet would spell the end of the world. Some thought that cyanide gas from the comet's tail would poison the Earth's atmosphere. Con artists took advantage of these fears by selling "comet pills" to make people immune to the toxins. (Weber p.196-198, Abanes p.339)

1911 19th century Scottish astronomer and pyramidologist Charles Piazzi Smyth concluded from his research on the dimensions of the Great Pyramid of Giza that the Second Coming would occur between 1892 and 1911. (Cohen p.94)

Oct 1, 1914 The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. In fact, they viewed World War I as the Battle of Armageddon. (Skinner p.102)

1915 The beginning of the Millennium according to John Chilembwe, fundamentalist leader of a rebellion in Nyasaland (present-day Malawi). (Gould p.54-55, p.69)

1918 The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Kyle p.93)

Dec 17, 1919 According to meteorologist Albert Porta, a conjunction of six planets on this date would cause a magnetic current to "pierce the sun, cause great explosions of flaming gas, and eventually engulf the Earth." Panic erupted in many countries around the world because of this prediction, and some even committed suicide. (Abanes p.60-61)

1925 The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Kyle p.93)

Feb 13, 1925 According to Margaret Rowan, the angel Gabriel appeared before her in a vision and told her that the world would end at midnight on this date, which happened to be Friday the 13th. (Abanes p.45)

Spring 1928 J.B. Dimbleby calculated that the Millennium would begin in the spring of 1928, with the Rapture and Second coming taking place between 1889 and 1928. But the true end of the world, he claimed, wouldn't take place until around the year 3000. (McIver #495)

1934 Final apocalyptic battle was to begin, claimed Chicago preacher Nathan Cohen Beskin in 1931. (Abanes p.280)

Sep 1935 In 1931, Wilbur Glen Voliva announced that "the world is going to go 'puff' and disappear in September, 1935." (Abanes p.287)

1936 * Herbert W. Armstrong, founder of the www.wcg.org Worldwide Church of God, told members of his church that the Rapture was to take place in 1936, and that only they would be saved. After the prophecy failed, he changed the date three more times. (Shaw p.99) * End of the world according to some pyramidologists. (Randi)

1938 Gus McKey claimed in a pamphlet that the 6000th year since Creation would come between 1931 and 1938, signifying the end of the world. (Abanes p.283)

1941 * The end of the world according to the Jehovah's Witnesses. (Shaw p.72) * The end of the world according to Leonard Dale-Harrison. (Kyle p.111)

1943 Herbert W. Armstrong's Rapture prediction #2. (Shaw p.99)

Sep 21, 1945 In 1938 a minister named Long had a vision of a mysterious hand writing the number 1945 and a voice saying the world would be destroyed at 5:33pm on September 21. His prophecy failed, naturally. (Source: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/7220/falsos.htm> Portuguese article)

1947 In 1889, John Ballou Newbrough (aka "America's Greatest Prophet") foresaw the destruction of all nations and the beginning of post-apocalyptic anarchy in 1947. I guess he wasn't such a great prophet after all. Newbrough was the founder of the Oahspe cult. (Randi p.243)

1950 The end of the world, as per Henry Adams. (Mann p.x)

Jan 9, 1953 The end of the world, according to Agnes Carlson, the founder of a Canadian cult called the Sons of Light. (Source: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/7220/falsos.htm> Portuguese article)

Aug 1953 Pyramidologist David Davidson, in his book *The Great Pyramid, Its Divine Message*, wrote that the Millennium would begin sometime during this month. (Source: article by <http://answers.org/CultsAndReligions/pyramid.html> John Baskette)

Dec 21, 1954 The world was to be destroyed by terrible flooding on this date, claimed Dorothy Martin (a.k.a. Marian Keech), leader of a UFO cult called Brotherhood of the Seven Rays (a.k.a. The Seekers). Among the members of this cult were George Hunt Williamson and the aptly named Charles Laughead. This case became the subject of <http://www.freeminds.org/psych/propfail.htm> Leon Festinger's book When Prophecy Fails, the classic, ground-breaking case study of cognitive dissonance and the effect that failed prophecy has on "true believers". (Festinger, Heard p.46-48, McIver #1949)

Apr 23, 1957 According to Mihran Ask, a pastor from California, "Sometime between April 16 and 23, 1957, Armageddon will sweep the world! Millions of persons will perish in its flames and the land will be scorched." (Watchtower, Oct 15, 1958, p.613)

1958 David A. Latimer, in his book Opening of the Seven Seals and the Half Hour of Silence, predicted that the Second Coming would take place in 1956 or 1958, right after the Battle of Armageddon. (McIver #1501)

Apr 22, 1959 Victor Houteff, founder of the Davidians -- an offshoot of the Seventh Day Adventists -- prophesied that the End would be coming soon, but he never set a date. After his death, however, his widow Florence prophesied that the Rapture would take place on April 22, 1959. Hundreds of faithful gathered at Mount Carmel outside Waco to await the big moment, but it was not to be. (Thompson p.289)

1960 Pyramidologist Charles Piazzi Smyth (see the 1911 entry) claimed that the Millennium would begin no later than 1960. (Source: article by <http://answers.org/CultsAndReligions/pyramid.html> John Baskette)

Feb 4, 1962 A planetary alignment on this day was to bring destruction to the world. Incidentally, the Antichrist was supposed to have been born the following day, according to pop psychic/astrologer Jeane Dixon. (Abanes p.340)

1966 Between 1965 and 1966, an apocalyptic battle was to occur, resulting in the fall of the United States, claimed the Nation of Islam. (Kyle p.162)

1967 * The establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven, according to Rev. Sun Myung Moon. (Kyle p.148) * A young Jim Jones, who later became guru of the KoolAid cult People's Temple, had visions that a nuclear holocaust was to take place in 1967. (Weber p.214) Aug 9, 1969 Second Coming of Christ, according to George Williams, leader of the Morrisites, a 19th century branch of Mormonism. (Robbins p.77)

Nov 22, 1969 The Day of Judgement, according to Robin McPherson, who supposedly channeled an alien named Ox-Ho. (Shaw p.154)

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ITEM #2 FROM THE INTERNET: 113 FAILED END-OF-THE-WORLD PREDICTIONS

Some Christians have made predictions which involve several events that they believe are related: the second coming of Jesus, the war of Armageddon, the arrival on earth of the Antichrist, the Tribulation, the Rapture, some horrendous natural disaster, etc. It is worth noting that all of the following predictions have failed. We expect that predictions being made today about our future will also fail.

About 30 CE: The Christian Gospels record many predictions by Jesus of Nazareth that God's Kingdom would arrive within a very short period, or was actually in the process of arriving. Jesus is recorded as saying in Matthew 16:28: "...there shall be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom." Since the life expectancy in those days was little over 30 years, Jesus predicted his second coming sometime during the 1st century CE. It didn't happen.

About 60 CE: Paul of Tarsus believed that Jesus would return and usher in a rapture during the lifetime of persons who were living in the middle of the 1st century.

About 90 CE: Saint Clement 1 predicted that the world end would occur at any moment.

2nd Century CE: Prophets and Prophetesses of the Montanist movement predicted that Jesus would return sometime during their lifetime and establish the New Jerusalem in the city of Pepuza in Asia Minor.

365 CE: A man by the name of Hilary of Poitiers, announced that the end would happen that year. It didn't.

375 to 400 CE: Saint Martin of Tours, a student of Hilary, was convinced that the end would happen sometime before 400 CE.

500 CE: This was the first year-with-a-nice-round-number-panic. The antipope Hippolytus and an earlier Christian academic Sextus Julius Africanus had predicted Armageddon at about this year.

968 CE: An eclipse was interpreted as a prelude to the end of the world by the army of the German emperor Otto III.

992: Good Friday coincided with the Feast of the Annunciation; this had long been believed to be the event that would bring forth the Antichrist, and thus the end-times events foretold in the book of Revelation. Records from Germany report that a new sun rose in the north and that as many as 3 suns and 3 moons were fighting.

1000-JAN-1: Many Christians in Europe had predicted the end of the world on this date. Some had given their possessions to the Church in anticipation of the end. Fortunately, the level of education was so low that many citizens were unaware of the year; they did not know enough to be afraid. Unfortunately, when Jesus did not appear, the church did not return the gifts. Serious criticism of the Church followed. The Church reacted by exterminating some heretics.

1000-MAY: The body of Charlemagne was disinterred on Pentecost. A legend had arisen that an emperor would rise from his sleep to fight the Antichrist.

1005-1006: A terrible famine throughout Europe was seen as a sign of the closeness of the end.

1033: Some believed this to be the 1000th anniversary of the death and resurrection of Jesus. His second coming was anticipated. Jesus' actual date of execution is unknown, but is believed to be in the range of 30 to 33 CE.

1147: Gerard of Poehlde decided that the millennium had actually started in 306 CE during Constantine's reign. Thus, the world end would happen in 1306 CE.

1179: John of Toledo predicted the end of the world during 1186. This estimate was based on the alignment of many planets.

1205: Joachim of Fiore predicted in 1190 that the Antichrist was already in the world, and that King Richard of England would defeat him. The Millennium would then begin, sometime before 1205.

1284: Pope Innocent III computed this date by adding 666 years onto the date the Islam was founded.

1346 and later: The black plague spread across Europe, killing one third of the population. This was seen as the prelude to an immediate end of the world. Unfortunately, the Christians had previously killed a many of the cats, fearing that they might be familiars of Witches. The fewer the cats, the more the rats. It was the rat fleas that spread the black plague.

1496: This was approximately 1000 years after the birth of Jesus. Some mystics in the 15th century predicted that the millennium would begin during this year.

1524: Many astrologers predicted the imminent end of the world due to a world wide flood. They obviously had not read the Genesis story of the rainbow.

1533: Melchior Hoffman predicted that Jesus' return would happen in 1533 and that the New Jerusalem would be established in Strasbourg, Germany. He was arrested and died in a Strasbourg jail.

1669: The Old Believers in Russia believed that the end of the world would occur in this year. 20 thousand burned themselves to death from 1669 to 1690 to protect themselves from the Antichrist.

1689: Benjamin Keach, a 17th century Baptist, predicted the end of the world for this year.

1736: British theologian and mathematician William Whitson predicted a great flood similar to Noah's for OCT-13 of this year.

1792: This was the date of the end of the world calculated by some believers in the Shaker movement.

1794: Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, thought Doomsday would be in this year.

1830: Margaret McDonald, a Christian prophetess, predicted that Robert Owen would be the Antichrist. Owen helped found New Harmony, IN.

1832: Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon movement, heard a voice and interpreted it as implying that if he lived to the age of 85, Jesus would return. This would be the year 1890. Unfortunately, by that year, Smith had been dead for almost a half century.

1843-MAR-21: William Miller, founder of the Millerite movement, predicted that Jesus would come on this date.

1844-OCT-22: When Jesus did not return, Miller predicted this new date. In an event which is now called "The Great Disappointment," many Christians sold their property and possessions, quit their jobs and prepared themselves for the second coming. Nothing happened; the day came and went without incident.

1914 was one of the more important estimates of the start of the war of Armageddon by the Jehovah's Witnesses (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society). They computed 1914 from prophecy in the book of Daniel, Chapter 4. The writings referred to "seven times". The WTS interpreted each "time" as equal to 360 days, giving a total of 2520 days. This was further interpreted as representing 2520 years, measured from the starting date of 607 BCE. This gave 1914 as the target date.

1914, 1918, 1920, 1925, 1941, 1975 and 1994, etc. were other dates that the Watchtower Society or its members predicted. 1975 looked likely as it was computed as the 6000th anniversary of the creation of Adam in the Garden of Eden in 4026 BCE. They interpreted Psalms 90:10 as defining the length of a generation to be 80 years. Since 1914 plus 80 equals 1994, they predicted Armageddon would occur around that year. This prediction came from the grass-roots level; the Watchtower Society did not officially proclaim it. The latest estimate is 6000 years after the creation of Eve, for which no date can be determined with any accuracy. The Jehovah's Witnesses are no longer setting dates, but expect the end of the world, as we know it, at any time.

1919: Meteorologist Albert Porta predicted that the conjunction of 6 planets would generate a magnetic current that would cause the sun to explode and engulf the earth on DEC-17.

1936: Herbert W Armstrong, founder of the Worldwide Church of God, predicted that the Day of the Lord would happen sometime in 1936. When the prediction failed, he made a new estimate: 1975.

1948: During this year, the state of Israel was founded. Some Christians believed that this event was the final prerequisite for the second coming of Jesus. Various end of the world predictions were made in the range 1888 to 2048.

1953-AUG: David Davidson wrote a book titled "The Great Pyramid, Its Divine Message". In it, he predicted that the world would end in 1953-AUG.

1957-APR: The Watchtower magazine quoted a pastor from California, Mihran Ask, as saying in 1957-JAN that "Sometime between April 16 and 23, 1957, Armageddon will sweep the world! Millions of persons will perish in its flames and the land will be scorched."

1959: The Branch Davidians of Waco TX believed that they would be killed, resurrected and transferred to heaven by APR-22.

1960: Piazzi Smyth, a past astronomer royal of Scotland, wrote a book circa 1860 titled "Our Inheritance in the Great Pyramid." It was responsible for spreading the belief in pyramidology throughout the world. This is the belief that secrets are hidden in the dimensions of the great pyramids. He concluded from his research that the millennium would start before the end of 1960 CE.

1967: During the six day war, the Israeli army captured all of Jerusalem. Many conservative Christians believed that the rapture would occur quickly. However, the final Biblical prerequisite for the second coming is that the Jews resume ritual animal sacrifices in the temple at Jerusalem. That never happened.

1970's: The late Moses David (formerly David Berg) was the founder of the Christian religious group, The Children of God. He predicted that a comet would hit the earth, probably in the mid 1970's and destroy all life in the United States. One source indicated that he believed it would happen in 1973.

1974: Charles Meade, a pastor in Daleville, IN, predicted that the end of the world will happen during his lifetime. He was born circa 1927, so the end will probably come early in the 21st century.

1978: Chuck Smith, Pastor of Calvary Chapel in Cost Mesa CA predicted the rapture in 1981.

1981: Teleminister Arnold Murray taught an anti-Trinitarian belief about God, and Christian Identity. Back in the 1970's, he predicted that the Antichrist would appear before 1981.

Rev. Sun Myung Moon, founder of the Unification Church predicted that the Kingdom of Heaven would be established in this year.

1982: Pat Robertson predicted a few years previously that the world would end in the fall of 1982.

1986: Moses David of The Children of God faith group predicted that the Battle of Armageddon would take place in 1986. Russia would defeat Israel and the United States. A worldwide Communist dictatorship would be established. In 1993, Christ would return to earth.

1988: Hal Lindsey predicted in his book "The Late, Great Planet Earth" that the Rapture was coming in 1988 - one generation or 40 years after the creation of the state of Israel. This failed prophecy did not appear to damage his reputation. He continues to write books of prophecy which sell very well indeed.

Alfred Schmielewsky, a psychic whose stage name was "super-psychic A.S. Narayana," predicted in 1986 that the world's greatest natural disaster would hit Montreal in 1988. Sadly, his psychic abilities failed him on 1999-APR-11 when he answered the door of his home only to be shot dead by a gunman.

1988-OCT-11: Edgar Whisenaut, a NASA scientist, had published the book "88 Reasons why the Rapture will Occur in 1988." It sold over 4 million copies.

About 1990: Peter Ruckman concluded from his analysis of the Bible that the rapture would come within a few years of 1990.

Early 1990's: In 1992, David Koresh led the Students of the Seven Seals (a.k.a. Branch Davidian) group in Waco Texas. He changed the name of their commune from Mt. Carmel to Ranch Apocalypse, because of his belief that the final all-encompassing battle of Armageddon mentioned in the Bible would start at the Branch Davidian compound. They had calculated that the end would occur in 1995. After a 51-day standoff, on 1993-APR-10, 76 members died as a result of a deliberately set fire.

1991: Mother Shipton, a 16th century mystic predicted the end of the world: "...The world to an end shall come; in nineteen hundred and ninety-one."

1992-OCT-28: Lee Jang Rim, a Korean Christian pastor, taught that the Rapture would occur on this date. It didn't happen; many of his followers committed suicide.

1993: Benny Hinn, an Assemblies of God pastor from Florida predicted that the rapture would come in 1993. He also said that God would destroy all homosexuals by 1995 at the latest.

1993-NOV-11: The 1993-JUL-20 issue of the Weekly World News contained an article titled "Doomsday Asteroids." Top scientists allegedly wrote a top-secret document which revealed that M-167, a known asteroid, would hit the earth on NOV-11 and perhaps end all life on earth. The M series of astronomical objects were catalogued by Messier: M-1 is the crab nebula; M-31 is the Andromeda galaxy; M-45 are the Pleiades. There is no M object with a number higher than M-110.

1994, approximately: There have been continual reports that Jesus and Mary have been appearing in Conyers, GA on the 13th of every month to deliver a message to Nancy Fowler, a homemaker and nurse. Over 1 million pilgrims have visited her prayer site. On 1994-FEB-6, Jesus

is recorded as saying: "Conflicts will turn into wars....Then so will the earth tremble in many places. The earth will divide. The earth will divide and take away your riches. Some of you will die suddenly. You will have no warning...The clock continues to tick. The hour is rapidly approaching when one disaster after another will befall you. There will be fighting everywhere. There will be famine and polluted water in many places." No specific dates were given for these occurrences. 7

1994-SEP: Harold Camping, president of Family Radio predicted on his radio programs that the end of the world would happen during this month.

Sometime in 1996: The book "The Return of Jupiter: End of the world in the light of the Bible" Dorrance Publishing, Pittsburgh PA predicted a disaster starting in the Pacific Ocean: "A terrible earthquake is going to break the oceanic earth crust under the Pacific Ocean by the year 1996 AD"

1996-OCT-23: Since 1658, many Christians have accepted the calculations of James Ussher, an Irish archbishop, who estimated that the first day of creation occurred on 4004-OCT-23 BCE. This would make the time interval between the creation of the world and a common estimate of the birth of Christ to be precisely 4000 years. Some people believe that Ussher fudged the data to make it come out neatly. He also estimated that the end of the world would occur exactly 6000 years later, in the fall of 1996. This is based on the concept of the "millennial week": that each of the 6 days of creation mentioned in Genesis is linked to a 1000 year time span in the life of the earth. On the 7th millennial day, 1996-OCT-23, Ussher expected that life as we know it will cease.

1997-MAR-8: The Vortex of the Star of David religious sect of Luskville, Quebec was quoted as predicting the end of the world on Saturday, MAR-8. A father, Jean Leon Marcoux, was interviewed; he was worried because his children will be visiting their mother at the sect's commune on that weekend. He approached the Quebec police but was unable to get them to take any action. A spokesperson for the sect stated that they do not follow a doomsday scenario.

1997-APR-10: Dan Millar, of Surrey, BC, Canada and Bob Wadsworth of the Biblical Astronomy newsletter are two religious researchers. They followed the age-old tradition of looking for signs in the heavens for the arrival of the Antichrist, second coming of Christ, etc. Ancient prophecies told of heavenly events and even a cross in the sky in advance of momentous developments. Millar and Wadsworth predicted the arrival of the Antichrist on APR-10. Dan suggested that we watch news from the Vatican and from Jerusalem on that day, because he expected some sort of coup by the Antichrist. He was expected to come to power in the Vatican as Pope Peter II.

One heavenly indicator was the intersection by two comets of the star Algol in the constellation Perseus. Comets Hyakutake and Hale-Bopp intersected the star on the same date (APR-11) on two adjacent years (Hyakutake in 1996 and Hale-Bopp in 1997). Plotting the two comets' trajectories over the period APR-1 to APR-30 on the two years forms an almost perfect cross. They intersected between the eyes of the Medusa head that Perseus is holding in his left hand. "Algol" means "Demon Star" in Arabic. The head is known as Rosh Satan (the head of

Satan) in Hebrew. There was one further heavenly sign: on the evening of APR-10, there will be a lunar occultation of the star Aldebaran in the constellation Taurus.

1997-OCT-20: A Jewish group, called the Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement were expected to attempt to place the cornerstone of a new temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. This is a small piece of real estate that is the most sacred spot in the world to Jews, and one of the most sacred to Muslims. The Rapture Ready home page has predicted that the "Tribulation" would be triggered by that event. Previous attempts had failed either because of riots, or police action. There was one report that they were going to try to airlift the stone by helicopter this time. On OCT-20, several thousand police officers were deployed throughout Jerusalem; they successfully prevented access to the Temple Mount.

1997-NOV-27: The Sacerdotal Knights of National Security report that "A space alien captured at a UFO landing site in eastern Missouri cracked under interrogation by the CIA and admitted that an extraterrestrial army will attack Earth on November 27 with the express purpose of stripping our planet of every natural resource they can find a use for -- and making slaves of every man, woman and child in the world!"

1997: Superdave the Wonderchemist 9 takes the magic number 1331 and adds it to 666 the "Number of the Beast" from the Book of Revelation to get the year of the arrival of the Antichrist and the end of the world. Why is 1331 a magic number?

1331 is the same backwards as forwards.

It is 11 raised to the 3rd power

It displays the unlucky number 13 when read in either direction.

it is the fourth row in Pascal's Triangle:

1
1 1 1
2 1 1
3 3 1 1
4 6 4 1 etc.

1997-DEC-31: The 1997-JUL-29 issue of the Weekly World News reported that the biggest end of the world scare since the Cuban missile crisis was circulating through Washington. President Clinton called a secret meeting with leading Bible scholars for the week of JUL-27. A confidential Pentagon memo sparked the scare; it predicts a worldwide cataclysm of unprecedented proportions. Earthquake activity is on a rise and will peak at year-end; the earth's crust is shifting ominously.

Sometime in late 1997 or early 1998: The 1997-JUL-29 issue of the Weekly World News carried a statement by a spokesperson of the International Association of Psychics. 92% of their 120,000 members have had the same "end time" vision. Spokesperson Madame Vredeau predicted:

A rise in religious belief. Prophets and saints will appear and lead the faithful to safety

The oceans will shrink. Deserts expand. Crops will fail; there will be massive starvation

Widespread emotional and mental collapse; increase in crime and violence

Changing weather patterns; basic laws of nature will be disrupted

Satanic demons will appear in broad daylight. War, pestilence, a worldwide plague will spread.

Mankind will disappear around the year 2001 CE.

1998-FEB-26: Edgar Casey predicted that the earth would have a new pole during the winter of 1997-1998. Since the earth spins like a gyroscope, this would take an enormous amount of energy to achieve. That amount of energy would cause a massive disruption to the oceans and the earth's crust. That could, in turn, cause very serious, worldwide tidal waves, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

1998-MAR-31: About 150 followers of a Taiwanese Christian-Buddhist spiritual sect, God's Salvation Church, moved into Garland TX (a suburb in northern Dallas) to await God's arrival. They expected that on MAR-25, God would broadcast a commercial on Channel 18 in Garland. He would then be reincarnated into a man on MAR-31 at 10:00 AM, local time. They anticipated a crowd of about one million who want to be touched by God. Their leader, Hoh-Ming Chen, selected Garland because it sounds like "God land". News reports from Taiwan indicated that the group plans to commit mass suicide if God does not appear. These appear to be unfounded.

1998-MAY-31: Evengelist Marilyn Agee predicted that the rapture would happen on this day, Pentecost. This, she believes, would trigger the various events listed in the book of Revelation, including the war of Armageddon.

1998-JUL-5 The Church of the Subgenius predicts that on "X Day", the end of the world will occur. At 7 AM, "the Men from Planet X, or XISTS, will arrive on Earth, close a deal with "Bob," rupture the card-carrying Ordained SubGenii up to the Escape Vessels of the Sex Goddesses, and destroy the remaining population of Earth, VERY VERY SLOWLY." Bob is J.R. Dobbs, leader and High Epopt of the Church of the SubGenius, Living Avatar of Slack, the Saint of Sales. He was responsible for founding the Church on a shifting, sandy beach of hypocrisy." Since X day did not materialize, they say: "we're still here -- a little shaken, perhaps, and re-evaluating the interpretation of PreScripture..." Further study indicated that we have been given a reprieve. The artifact on which the date was written was accidentally inverted; the end of the world will really happen in 8661 CE!

1998-SEP: Two Christian pilgrims from an American Fundamentalist group were detained in Israel's Ben Gurion airport. They had allegedly planned to attack the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, which is the site of Islam's third holiest shrine. Their goal appears to have been to precipitate a massive religious conflict which would escalate into Armageddon. Their group advocates the construction of the Third Temple on the location now occupied by the Al Aqsa mosque. Their goal appears to have been not Biblically based. Verses in the book of Revelation imply that Jesus' return will only occur after ritual animal killing is reinstated at this location.

1998-OCT-10 Concerned Christians is a destructive, doomsday cult of 30 to 60 adults and children, led by Monte Kim Miller. Miller was an anti-cult activist in the 1980's. He predicted that an unspecified disaster would wipe Denver CO off the map on OCT-10. He predicted his own death in 1999-DEC and his resurrection three days later. The Denver apocalypse didn't happen. They left Denver near the end of September and relocated to Jerusalem. Many Christians believe that when Jesus returns, he will descend from the sky and make landfall on the Mount of Olives, near Jerusalem. 10 Israeli police arrested members of the group and deported them. The Israelis seem to be motivated by fear that the group may commit mass suicide.

1998-OCT: The House of Yahweh, AbileneÖ predicted that an end-of-world scenario will start during 1998-OCT. By mid-2001, they predict that 80% of the world's population will have been killed as a result of nuclear warfare.

1998-NOV: Natalia de Lemeny - Makedonova has written a book titled "Eternal Laws - New Mankind - Spiritual Transformation" She predicts that the "Son of Creator - Immanuel - the ruler of the millennial empire, announced in the Bible, will be born in Slovakia in November...His birth will be accompanied by a star which will shine in the sky and will be visible in the whole world. This event will also be announced by other unearthly phenomena in the sky." A purification of the earth will begin at his birth; it may be either "catastrophic or symbolic." 11

1998-DEC-12: A survivalist from Arkansas spammed a warning to some mailing lists. He predicted that in the early morning hours, a massive nuclear war will begin in the U.S. Food will be wiped out; water will be contaminated; 75 million will die immediately; even more will die later. He recommends to "Get strong in your spiritual life, get out of large cities and away from military sites and military storage facilities and get prepared to survive."

Sometime in 1998:

Centro is a very active religious organization, largely centered in the Philippines. They predict that the world will come to an end in 1998. They recommend that their followers retreat to safe places.

The famous psychic Edgar Cayce predicted that a secret, underground chamber would be discovered between the paws of the Great Sphinx. Inside, there will be documents revealing the history of Atlantis. This revelation will trigger the Second Coming of Christ. This prediction is rather interesting, because two recent independent studies have revealed that there is in fact an underground structure just where Cayce said it would be.

Fr. Sefano Gobbi, a Roman Catholic visionary, predicted on 1989-JUN-17 that the end of the world, the final judgment and the dawning of the Marian Reign of Peace would unfold in 1998.

1999: A movie released in 1999-NOV pointed out that if you take the number 1999 and invert it, you get 666 plus a spare digit 1. "666" is the number associated with the Antichrist in the Biblical book of Revelation.

1999-JAN: According to the 1997-JUN-24 issue of Sun Magazine Pope John XXIII predicted in 1962 that visitors from outer space will arrive in chariots of flaming steel and will share their advanced knowledge with humanity. Our life span will be increased to 150 years or longer. Most diseases will be wiped out.

1999-JAN/FEB: Between JAN-20 and FEB-4, an asteroid measuring 20 miles in diameter and traveling about 20,000 miles/hour was predicted to earth. At that speed and probable mass, it would totally disrupt all life processes on earth. Dr. Morris Plummer said that a photo was leaked to him by "highly placed friends" within NASA. The photo allegedly contains markings in the shape of a Satanic face.

1999-FEB-23: In 1997-NOV, evangelist Dan Bohler predicted that the Clinton Administration would fall on or about this date. He predicted that there would be tanks driving up and down the main streets in every American city, and that there would be bombs going off in Washington DC. Although not quite as disastrous an event that other predictions, it still would be quite distressing to the American people.

1999-MAR: The Students of the Seven Seals (Branch Davidians) teach that disaster will strike the earth in the form of warfare, earthquakes, blacked skies and other horrors. On AUG-6, David Koresh will return to earth. He will raise the dead, judge humans, and start over in Jerusalem. None of this happened.

1999-MAR: Roman Catholic visionary called by the pen name Robert Hartman predicted that "the Miracle" would happen before the year 2000, in a month that contains two full moons. The last opportunity for this to happen was 1999-MAR, when a full moon occurred on the 2nd and 31st. By including the prophecies of other visionaries, 1999-MAR-11 appeared to be a prime date for the Miracle.

1999-APR-3: Ed. Dames, president of PsyTech predicted that solar flares would strike the earth during the Easter weekend (APR-3 and 4 in the West). Persons who were living in caves or under the earth might survive. The rest of the world's population would be killed. He predicted that space aliens would arrive about 2012 to rescue the few survivors. Ed., his family and employees spent the weekend hiding out inside a lava tube in Hawaii. Solar activity was high in early 1999; it varies over an 11 year cycle.

1999-APR: On 1999-MAR-18, J. Adams, Webmaster of the "Spirit of Truth" web page made a prediction: When the Dow Jones Industrial Average reaches the magic 10,000 point, a surprise world war will be triggered, followed by the utter destruction of America and the

Western powers. The index has been over 10,000 for some weeks now, and there is no indication of a surprise attack.

1999-APR/MAY: Various Roman Catholic apocalypticists during the 1990's have predicted a great Miracle, final judgment and the dawning of the Marian Reign of Peace, starting on APR-8, APR-15 or MAY-13.

1999-MAY-8: An Evangelical Christian from New Brunswick, Canada, Terry Peterson, had a vision in 1989. It involved terrible destruction caused by a continent-wide earthquake. The epicenter will be in California, as the entire state plunges "into the ocean as God's punishment for the 'immoral' state's sins." He also reports massive devastation on the east coast of North America. Unfortunately, God only revealed to him a partial date: MAY 8, 199?. He believes that the earthquake will occur between 11 PM on MAY 7 and one hour before dawn on MAY-8, Eastern time.

1999-MAY-21/22: Evangelist Marilyn Agee predicts that the rapture will happen on this day, Pentecost. Earlier, she predicted that it would happen on the Pentecost of 1998. The rapture, she believed, would trigger the various events listed in the book of Revelation, including the war of Armageddon.

1999-MAY-23: M.J. Agee writes in the Bible Prophecy Corner that because Noah had a 7 day warning that the flood was going to begin, perhaps we today will receive a 7 months warning of the rapture. He notes that the Wye Memorandum peace agreement was signed on 1998-OCT-23 by representatives of Israel and Palestine. This is 7 months prior to Pentecost on 1999-MAY-23 as celebrated by the Orthodox churches.

1999-MAY: Bryan Elder, an Arkansas hydraulics specialist, was quoted in Time magazine (1999-JAN-18) as predicting that an alignment of the planets will burn up the earth sometime during this month.

1999-JUL-3: Some British "Nostradamologists" predicted a world catastrophic event during the evening of JUL-3. Two TV channels in the UK followed the "events" as they unfold. The 1st channel of Italian TV started a special at 11:15 PM. According to CESNUR, the program on RAI will be "devoted both to Nostradamus and to the real risks of violence caused by millenarian movements such as Heaven's Gate or the Order of the Solar Temple." (CESNUR is an Italian group which studies new religious movements and the anti-cult movement.) At 2 PM ET on JUL-3, a poll of readers of the Electronic Telegraph (an online newspaper from the UK) indicated that 18% believed that the apocalypse is coming later that day; 24% said it will come "soon," and 58% said "never."

1999-JUL-7 at 7:00 GMT: Eileen Lakes predicted that the planets of the solar system would be arranged in a "Grand Cross" configuration at that time. Inter-planetary magnetism would then cause the earth's poles to suddenly shift by exactly 90 degrees. She believes that this event happens every 12,000 years. "Large earthquakes, tidal waves, volcano explosions, a downpour, a large flood, etc. will occur all over the world." The shifting of the earth's magnetic field would cause many people to become temporarily mad. A new arctic area would cover Brazil, Liberia,

Ghana, etc. Presumably the mid-Atlantic ocean would freeze. Similarly, a new Antarctic area would form around the Hawaiian Islands. See: <http://www.win.ne.jp/~eileen/gdcross1.shtml>

1999-JUL: Nostradamus predicted that a great king of terror will come from the skies. This has been interpreted by some as referring to a nuclear missile strike:

"The year 1999, seven months, From the sky will come a great King of Terror: To bring back to life the great King of the Mongols, Before and after Mars to reign by good luck."

A recent poll in Japan showed that 20% of the adult population believe in the King of Terror prediction.

1999-JUL: God's Salvation Church in Taiwan teaches that Jesus will come to earth in a spaceship during the middle of a nuclear war. Members of the church will climb aboard the spaceship at Lake Street Beach in Miller, IN and be saved. The rest of us can expect a less joyful experience.

1999-JUL-26: Author Akio Cho of Japan has predicted on the basis of the writing of Nostradamus that the world will end at 5 PM (presumably Tokyo time). That will be Monday morning, JUL-26 at 4 AM Eastern Time. On this date, the distance between the earth and the planet Neptune will be at a minimum.

1999-AUG-6: According to the latest interpretation of Biblical prophecy by some followers of the Branch Davidian sect, 5 months of major torment will begin as the sixth seal is fulfilled. They believed that David Koresh would return on this day with 200 million horsemen and slaughter most humans on earth. Ken Newport, an academic who studies the group believed that, prior to this date, the group would manipulate events in order to trigger a disaster similar to the Waco inferno. He believed that their goal is for about 40 of their members to be dead in preparation for Koresh's return. 22 Fortunately, he was wrong.

1999-AUG-11: According to the 1997-MAY-27 issue of Sun Magazine, the Anti-Christ is alive today and living in the Middle East. On AUG-11, the time of an eclipse of the sun, they predicted that he would make himself known to the world. "It will be the ultimate war." Many were expected to perish; their souls would travel to Heaven or Hell, depending upon which side that they supported during the conflict. Prophet Matthew Dumbrell of Britain expected the world to end at 12:50 PM on that day.

1999-AUG-11 etc.: The WWW site CALENdeRsignr lists a number of astronomical events that will happen as the millennium closes. There has always been an association between such alignments and momentous events in the mind of the public. Starting in late 1999, the following will be observed:

1999-AUG-11: total solar eclipse about noon; visible from Europe, the Far East and India.

2000-JAN-21: total lunar eclipse; visible in Europe and US

2000-APR: Triple planetary conjunction involving Mars, Jupiter & Saturn

2000-MAY: "Great Conjunction" of Jupiter and Saturn. This also occurred in 7 BCE and is thought by some to be the star that some of the Gospels mentioned as leading the three wise men to Jesus.

1999-AUG-11 to 18: Thomas Chase 11 predicted that something "big could hit" between these two dates and cause 5 years of chaos on earth. This could have taken the form of a nuclear conflict or even an asteroid hitting earth.

1999-AUG-18: The late TV psychic Charles Criswell King predicted that "If you and I meet each other on the street that fateful day, Aug. 18, 1999, and we chat about what we will do on the morrow, we will open our mouths to speak and no words will come out, for we have no future...you and I will suddenly run out of time!"

1999-AUG-24: Valerie James wrote in The European Magazine in 1996 that "The configuration of planets which predicted the coming of Christ will once again appear on Aug 24, 1999." We assume that she predicted that Jesus' second coming would happen shortly after that date.

1997-1999-SEP Russian scientist Vladimir Sobolyovhas of the Rerikh Academy had analyzed prophecies made by Russian saints, by Nostradamus etc. 1 He announced his conclusions in 1997-SEP: that the earth's axis will suddenly tilt about 30 degrees sometime during the next two years. This would have submerged the Scandinavian countries and Britain under water, in what was termed the Armageddon Flood. Siberia would have been spared. He expected that aliens will intervene and lead the world into the fourth dimension. Right now, these aliens are on earth, but in hiding. Sobolyovhas said: "If we completely believed in them, we would get lazy. So they are clever. They stay hidden in the fourth dimension and only show themselves from time to time."

1999-SEP: Stefan Paulus author of "Nostradamus 1999," (Llewellyn, 1999) announced that he has decoded the final prophecies of Nostradamus. In 1999-SEP, a meteor was to hit earth, causing immense tidal waves, earthquakes, hurricanes, clouds of dust and sea salt, bad weather, political unrest, and famine. The Anti-Christ, an Islamic dictator, was to declare war on Western countries. In 2002 CE, World War III will begin. By the year 2030, only one third of the world's population will remain alive.

1999-SEP: Shoko Asahara, leader of the Aum Shinri Kyo destructive cult, predicted that Armageddon will happen during this month.

1999-SEP-9: This is a date represented by 9/9/99. "9999" has been used in some computer programs to terminate programs. Thomas Chase 11 predicted that this version of the Y2K bug would cause a worldwide electrical failure. This would cause worldwide disaster and chaos. This, and a more serious manifestation of the Y2K bug at year end will trigger a world economic depression, and bring on the Antichrist.

1999-SEP-11: Philip Berg of the Kabbalah Learning Center has predicted that a great ball of fire will hit earth on this day. However, if enough individuals enlighten and purify themselves with Berg's teachings, the disaster may be eliminated.

1999-OCT-10: "The Prophet" predicted 12 that the Jerusalem Temple would be rebuilt before this date, and that ritual killing of animals would have resumed within this Third Temple. The ritual sacrificing was to be abolished on OCT-10. This would have triggered the "abomination of desolation," and the rapture, as mentioned in the Biblical books of Daniel and Revelation. On OCT-11, we received an Email from The Prophet saying that he has retracted the prediction of the rapture and the abomination. He is out of the prophecy business.

1999-OCT: A Japanese writer, Toshio Hiji, has interpreted Nostradamus quatrains as predicting that there will be an U.S. announcement concerning an alien attack on 1999-OCT. The aliens will be led by Satan but will be fought by human armies and "good angels."

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1. John Whalen, "Apocalypse When?," at: <http://www.sfweekly.com/extra/apocalypse.html>
2. Dr. Ed. Yardeni, Center for Cybereconomics, at <http://www.yardeni.com/cyber.html>
3. S.J. Gould, "Questioning the Millennium: A Rationalist's Guide to a Precisely Arbitrary Countdown.", Harmony Books, (1997) You can read a review and perhaps buy this book from amazon.com online bookstore
4. M.R. LeGault, "Worried about the year 2000? Nature doesn't care.", The Globe and Mail newspaper, Toronto ON, 1997-NOV-15. A review of S.J. Gould's book.
5. The Center for Millennial Studies deals with the coming conclusion of the current millennium at the end of the year 2001:
 1. Their home page is at: <http://www.mille.org/>
 2. They have a list of Millennial Sites at: <http://www.mille.org/sites.html>
 3. They have an essay on the year 1000 CE called "The Year 1000: Apocalyptic Year Extraordinaire, or A Year Like Any Other?" at: <http://www.mille.org/1000-pg.html>
6. The Watchtower magazine, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, 1958-OCT-15, P. 613
7. Appearances of Jesus and Mary in Conyers, GA, are described at: <http://www.conyers.org/conyers.html>
8. Global TV network newscast, 1997-MAR-4

9. "Superdave the Wonderchemist's" estimate is at:
<http://www.math.gatech.edu/~jkatz/Religions/Numerics/1997.html>

10. Christopher Walker, "Doomsday cults are converging on Jerusalem," The Times of London, 1998-OCT-22.

11. "White Dove - Prophecy about the End of the World," at:
<http://www.biela-holubica.sk/>

12. Kevin Creed, "Celestial Rock is 20 Miles Wide...", Weekly World News, 1998-APR-21, Page 9.

13. Conspiracy Watch 2000 Web Ring links together many Web sites "that deals with UFOs, Conspiracies, and/or other paranormal activities..." See:
<http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Cavern/9757/>

14. The Rapture Ready web site has a listing of world events that the Webmaster believes are related to the rapture, arrival of the Antichrist, etc. See:
<http://www.novia.net/~todd/rap16.html>

15. CALENdeRsignr "Countdown to Millennium" discusses various events about the year 2000. See: <http://web.vip.at/calendersign/>

16. If you want to know how many years/months/days/hours/minutes/seconds are left until the year 2000 CE, try: http://www.syracuse.com/cgi-bin/COUNT_DOWN?2000,1,1,0,0,0 (link may be defunct)

17. The End Times Information Center has a Web page at: <http://www.lawtonok.net/etic/>

18. "Apparitions: appearances of Jesus and the Virgin Mary" at:
<http://www.concentric.net/~stambros/app.html>

19. The Millennium Watch Institute has collected prophetic texts associated with the millenium since 1992. The collection is stored in therare book collection of the Deidrich-Van Pelt Library Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

20. The Pacific Way Foundation promotes the concept that "...disaster doesn't need to occur IF we take action" in advance. See: <http://www.pacificway.org/index.htm>

21. "It's the end of the world as we know it...again" is a light-hearted site that discusses the end of the world. It has many links to similar sites. See:
<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Oracle/9941/index.html>

22. Paul Vallely, "The second coming of the curse of David Koresh," The Independent, 1999-MAY-21

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ITEM #3 FROM THE INTERNET: KNOWING THE DAY AND THE HOUR

One logical question all Christians should ask themselves is, "When is Jesus Christ going to return?" When I read my Bible, I run across words like, "For ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." (Mat 25:13) I also read, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." (Mat 24:42) I understood Him as meaning, "You're not going to know until I come for you."

Other people throughout history have read the same words of Jesus and have come up with different interpretations of what He intended. They've somehow managed to get around all restrictions against precise date setting. On a number of occasions, by doing so, they created pure havoc. The following is a list of some past failed dates and some dates yet to come.

53 AD Even before all the books of the Bible were written, there was talk that Christ's return had already taken place. The Thessalonians panicked on Paul, when they heard a rumor that the day of the Lord was at hand, and they had missed the rapture.

500 A Roman priest and theologian in the second and third centuries, predicted Christ would return in A.D. 500, based on the dimensions of Noah's ark.

1000 This year goes down as one of the most pronounced states of hysteria over the return of Christ. All members of society seemed affected by the prediction that Jesus was coming back at the start of the new millennium. There really weren't any of the events required by the Bible transpiring at that time. The magical number 1000 was primarily the sole reason for the expectation. During concluding months of 999 AD, everyone was on their best behavior; worldly goods were sold and given to the poor, swarms of pilgrims headed east to meet the Lord at Jerusalem, buildings went unrepaired, crops were left unplanted, and criminals were set free from jails. The year 999 AD turned into 1000 AD and nothing happened.

1033 This year was sighted as the beginning of the millennium because it marked 1000 years since Christ's crucifixion.

1186 The "Letter of Toledo" warned everyone to hide in the caves and mountains. The world would be destroyed and only a few would be spared.

1420 The Taborites of Czechoslovakia predicted every city would be annihilated by fire. Only five mountain strongholds would be saved.

1524-1526 Muntzer, a leader of German peasants, announced that the return of Christ was near. After he and his men destroyed the high and mighty, the Lord would return. This belief led to an uneven battle with government troops where he was strategically out-numbered. Muntzer claimed to have a vision from God where the Lord promised that He would catch the cannon balls of the enemy in the sleeves of His cloak. The vision turned out to be false when Muntzer and his followers were mowed down by cannon fire.

1534 A repeat of the Muntzer affair occurred a few years late. This time Jan Matthys took over the city of Munster. The City was to be the only one spared destruction. The inhabitants of Munster, chased out by Matthys and his men, regrouped and lay siege to the city. Within a year everyone in the city was dead.

1650-1660 The Fifth Monarchy Men looked for Jesus to establish a theocracy. They took up arms and tried to seize England by force. The movement died when the British monarchy was restored in 1660.

1666 To the citizens of London, 1666 was not a banner year. A bubonic plague outbreak killed 100,000 and the Great Fire of London struck the same year. The world seemed at an end to most Londoners. The fact that the year ended with the Beast's number (666), didn't help matters either.

1809 Mary Bateman, who specialized in fortune telling, had a magic chicken that laid eggs with end time messages on them. One message said that Christ was coming. The uproar she created ended when she was caught forcing an egg into the hen's oviduct by an unannounced visitor. Mary later was hanged for poisoning a wealthy client.

1814 Spiritualist Joanna Southcott made the startling claim that she, by virgin birth, would produce the second Jesus Christ. Her abdomen began to swell and so did the crowds of people around her. The time for the birth came and passed - she died soon after. An autopsy revealed it had been a false pregnancy.

1836 John Wesley wrote that "the time, times and half a time" of Revelation 12:14 were 1058-1836, "when Christ should come" (apud A. M. Morris, *The Prophecies Unveiled*, p. 361)

1843-1844 William Miller was the founder of an end-times movement that was so prominent it received its own name-- Millerism. From his studies of the Bible, Miller determined that the second coming would happen sometime between 1843-1844. A spectacular meteor shower in 1833 gave the movement a good push forward. The build up of anticipation continued until March 21, 1844, when Miller's one year time table ran out. Some followers set another date of Oct 22, 1844. This too failed, collapsing the movement. One follower described the days after the failed predictions, "The world made merry over the old Prophet's predicament. The taunts and jeers of the 'scoffers' were well-nigh unbearable."

1859 Rev Thomas Parker, a Massachusetts Minister, looked for the millennium to start about 1859.

1881 Someone called Mother Shipton 400 years earlier claimed the world would end in 1881. A controversy hangs over the Shipton writings, as to whether or not publishers doctored the text. If the date was wrong, should it matter anyway?

1910 The revisit of Haley's comet was, for many, an indication of the Lord's second coming. The earth actually passed through the gaseous tail of the comet. One enterprising man sold comet pills to people for protection against the effects of the toxic gases.

1914 Charles Russell, after being exposed to the teachings of William Miller, founded his own organization - the Jehovah's Witnesses. In 1914 Russell predicted the return of Jesus Christ.

1918 In 1918, new math didn't help the Jehovah's Witnesses from striking out again.

1925 The Witnesses had no better luck in 1925. They already possessed the title of most wrong predictions. They would expand upon it in the years to come.

1967 When the city of Jerusalem was reclaimed by the Jews in 1967, prophecy watchers declared that the "Time of the Gentiles" had come to an end.

1970 The True Light Church of Christ made its claim to fame by incorrectly forecasting the return of Jesus. A number of church members had quit their livelihoods ahead of the promised advent.

1973 A comet that turned out to be a visual disappointment, nonetheless, compelled one preacher to announce that it would be a sign of the Lord's return.

1975 The Jehovah's Witnesses were back at it in 1975. The failure of the forecast did not affect the growth of the movement. The Watchtower magazine, a major Witness periodical, has over 13 million subscribers.

1977 We all remember the killer bee scare of the late 70's. One prophecy prognosticator linked the bees to Rev 9:3-12. After twenty years of progression and the bees are still in Texas, I'm beginning to think of them as the killer snails.

1981 Lindsey boldly declared that "The Rapture" would occur before Dec. 31, 1981, based on Christian prophesy, astronomy and a dash of ecological fatalism. He pegged the date to Jesus' promised to return to Earth a generation after Israel's rebirth. He also made references to the "Jupiter Effect," a planetary alignment that occurs every 179 years, that would supposedly lead to earthquakes and nuclear plant meltdowns.

1982 It was all going to end in 1982, when the planets lined up and created magnetic forces that would bring Armageddon to the earth.

1982 A group called the Tara Centers placed full-page advertisements in many major newspapers for the weekend of April 24-25, 1982, announced: "The Christ is Now Here!" and predicted that he was to make himself known "within the next two months." After the date passed, they said that the delay was only because the "consciousness of the human race was not quite right..." Boy, all these years and we're still not ready.

1984 The Jehovah's Witnesses made sure in 1984 that no one else would be able to top their record of most wrong doomsday predictions. The Witnesses record is currently holding at nine. The years are: 1874, 1878, 1881, 1910, 1914, 1918, 1925, 1975, and 1984. Lately, the JW's are claiming they're out of the prediction business, but it's hard to teach an old dog new tricks. They'll be back.

1987 The Harmonic Convergence planned for Aug. 16-17, 1987, and several New Age events were to occur at that time. The second coming of the serpent god of peace and the Hopi dance awakening were two examples.

1988 The book "88 Reasons Why the Rapture is in 1988" came out only a few months before the event was to take place. What little time the book had, it used effectively. By the time Sept 11-13 rolled around, whole churches were caught up in the excitement the book generated. I personally had friends who were measuring themselves for wings. In the dorm where we lived, my friends were also openly confronting all of the unsaved. It became my job to defuse to situations. In one case, an accosted sinner was contemplating dispensary action against my now distant friends. Finally, the days of destiny dawned and then set. No Jesus. The environment was not the same as Miller's 1844 failure. To my surprise, the taunting by the unsaved was very brief. I took it that people have very little understanding of the Bible, so they had nothing to taunt my friends with. I made one other interesting observation. The time for the rapture was a 3 day window from Sept 11 to the 13 - my friends had given up hope on the morning of 12. I pointed out that they still had 2 days left, but they had been spooked nonetheless.

1989 After the passing of the deadline in 88 Reason's, the author, Edgar Whisenaut, came out with a new book called "89 Reasons why the Rapture is in 1989." This book sold only a fraction of his prior release.

1991 A local group in Australia predicted Jesus would return through the Sydney Harbor at 9:00 am on 31st March, 1991.

1991 Nation of Islam Leader Louis Farrakhan proclaimed the Gulf War would to be "the War of Armageddon ... the final War."

1991 Menachem Schneerson, a Russian born rabbi, called for the Messiah to come by Sept 9, 1991, the start of the Jewish New Year.

1992 A Korean group called Mission For The Coming Days had the Korea Church a buzz in the fall of 1992. They foresaw Oct 28, 1992 as the time for the Rapture. Numerology was the basis for the date. Several camera shots that left ghostly images on pictures was thought to be a supernatural confirmation of the date.

1993 If the year 2000 is the end of the 6000 year cycle, then the rapture must take place in 1993, because you would need 7 years of the tribulation. This was the thinking of a number of prophecy writers.

1994 In the book "1994 the Year of Destiny" F. M. Riley foretold of God's plan to rapture His people. The name of his ministry is The Last Call and he operates out of Missouri.

1994 Pastor John Hinkle of Christ Church Los Angeles caused quite a stir when he announced he had received a vision for God that warned of apocalyptic event on June 9th, 1994. Hinkle, quoting God, said, "On Thursday June the 9th, I will rip the evil out of this world." At the time, I knew Hinkle's vision didn't match up with scripture. From a proper reading of Bible prophecy, the only thing that God could possibly rip from the earth would be the Christian Church, and I don't think God would refer to the Church as "evil." Some people tried to reinterpret the Hinkle's unscriptural vision to mean that God would rip evil out of our hearts when he raptured us. Well, the date came and went with no heart surgery or rapture.

1994 Harold Camping in his book "Are You Ready?" predicted the Lord's return in Sept 1994. The book was full of numerology that added up to 1994 as the date of Christ's return.

1994 After promising themselves they would not make any more end time predictions, the Jehovah's Witnesses fell off the wagon and proclaimed 1994 as the conclusion of an 80 year generation - the year 1914 was the starting point.

1996 This had a special month, according to one author. He foresaw the month of Sept as the time for our Lord's return. The Church Age will last 2000 years from the time of Christ's birth in 4 BC.

1996 California psychic Sheldon Nidle predicted the end would come when 16 million space ships converged upon the Earth on Dec. 17, 1996, along with a host of angels.

Nidle explained the passing of the date by claiming the angles placed us in a holographic projection to preserve us and give us a second chance.

1997 In regard to 1997, I've received several e-mail messages that pointed to a date when Jesus will return for his church. Two of the more widely known time frames was Monte Judah's FEB/MAR tribulation start and a May 14 rapture which was based on numerology and the Psalms.

1997 When Rabin and Arafat signed their peace pact on the White House lawn on Sept 13, 1993, some saw the events as the begin of tribulation. With signing of the peace agreement Daniel's 1260 day countdown was underway. By Adding 1260 days to Sept, 1993; you get Feb 24, 1997.

1997 Stan Johnson of the Prophecy Club saw a 90 percent chance that the tribulation would start Sept 12, 1997. He bases his conclusion on several end-time signs. The date of September 12 was chosen by Johnson because it will be Jesus' 2000th birthday and it will also be the day of atonement, although not what is currently the Jewish Day of Atonement. Further supporting evidence came from Romanian pastor Dumitru Duduman. In several heavenly visions, Dumitru claimed to have seen the book of life. In one of his earlier visions, there were several pages yet to be completed. In his last vision he noticed the book of life only had one page left. Doing some

rough calculating, Johnson and friends figured the latest time frame for the completion of the book of life would have to be September 1997.

1998 Numerology: Because 666 times three equals 1998 some people point to this year as being a prophetically significant year. I had someone call me long distance just so they could pass on to me this earth shattering news.

1998 A Taiwanese cult operating out of Garland Texas predicted Christ would return on Mar 31 of 1998. The group's leader, Heng-ming Chen, announced God would return, and then invite the cult members aboard a UFO.

The group abandoned their second coming prediction when a precursor event failed to take place. The cult's leader said God would appear on every channel 18 of every TV in the world. Maybe God realized at the last minute, the Playboy Network was channel 18 on several cable systems, and he didn't want to have Christians watching a porn channel.

1998 On Apr. 30, 1998 - when Israel will be age 50 - The tribulation was to start. The reasoning for this date has to do with God's age requirement for the priesthood, which is between 30-50.

1998 Marilyn Agee in her book "The End of the Age" has her sights set on May 31, 1998. This date will conclude the 6000 year cycle from the time of Adam. Agee looks for the Rapture to take place on Pentecost also known as the feast of weeks. Another indicator is the fact that the Holy Spirit did not descend upon the church until 50 days from Christ's resurrection before descending on the Church. Israel was born in 1948, add the 50 days and you come up with 1998. If this prophecy fails, numerology will mark itself as one of the most unreliable methods of foretelling and yet the most repeated.

After her May 31 rapture date failed, Agee, lacking the ability to face up to her error, continued her date setting by using various scripture references to pointing to June 7, 14, 21 and about 10 other dates.

1999 Well, you can't call Marilyn Agee a quitter. After bombing out badly several times in 1998, Marilyn has set a new date for the rapture, May 21 or 22, 1999. When May 21-22 fails, I fully expect more dates to quickly follow.

1999 TV newscaster-turned-psyhic Charles Criswell King said in 1968 that the world as we know it will cease to exist on August 18, 1999.

1999 Philip Berg, a rabbi at the Kabbalah Learning Center, New York has proclaimed that the End might arrive on Sept. 11, 1999, when "a ball of fire will descend . . . destroying almost all of mankind, all vegetation, all forms of life."

2000 Numerology: If you divide 2000 by 3, you will get the devil's number 666.66666666666667.

2000 The names of the people and organizations that have called for the return of Christ, at the turn of the century, is too long to be listed here. I would say that if there is day that Christ cannot come back on, it must be Jan 1, 2000. To come at an unknown time means an unknown time. I think Jan 2, 2000 would be a more likely day for Him to call His Church home - right after the big let down.

2000 On May 5, 2000, all the planets are supposed to be in alignment. This will cause the earth to suffer earthquakes, volcanic eruption, and various other nasty stuff. A similar alignment occurred in 1982 and nothing happened. People fail to realize that the other 9 planets only exert a very tiny gravitation pull on the earth. If you were to add up the gravitational force from the rest of the planets, the total would be only amount to fraction of the tug the moon has on the earth.

2000-2001 Dr. Dale SumburEru looks for March 22, 1997, to be "the date when all the dramatic events leading through the tribulation to the return of Christ should begin" The actual date of Christ's return could be somewhere between July 2000 and Mar 2001. Dr. SumburEru is more general about the time of the Christ's second coming than most writers. He states, "The day the Lord returns is currently unknown because He said [Jesus] these days are cut short and it is not yet clear by how much and in what manner they are cut short. If the above assumptions are not correct, my margin of error would be in weeks, or perhaps months."

2001 Because there was no year 0, the true millennium will not start until Jan 1, 2001. Most prophetic watchers still have their sights set on 2000. If the date passes uneventful, I'm sure they'll realize their error and refocus on this year.

2004 This date for Jesus' return is based upon Psalmology, numerology, the biblical 360 days per year, Jewish holidays, and "Biblical astronomy." To figure out this date you'll need a calculator, a slide rule, and plenty of scratch paper.

2012 New Age writers cite Mayan and Aztec calendars which predict the end of the age on Dec 21, 2012.

An untold number of people have tried to predict the Lord's return by using elaborate time tables. Most date setters do not realize mankind has not kept an unwavering record of time. Anyone wanting to chart for example 100 BC to 2000 AD would have contend with the fact 46 BC was 445 days long, there was no year 0 BC, and in 1582 we switched from Julian Years (360 days) to Gregorian (365 days). Because most prognosticators are not aware of all these errors, from the get go their math is already off by several years.

I believe we will never know the exact day of Christ's return for His Church. Not only because the Bible spells it out plainly, but because it's God's nature to act independently from man's thinking. If He returned on a date that someone had figured out, that person would deprive God of His triumph. When it comes to His glory, God doesn't share the spotlight with anyone.

The return of Jesus Christ for His Church will easily be the most important event in history. The glory of heaven contrasted with our life on earth is like comparing the job of running a hot dog stand with the job of President of the United States.

Finally, when it comes to knowing the general time frame of Christ's return for His church, the word of God is more generous. Jesus forewarned us of a number of events that will take place. When we see the predicted events coming together, we can conclude that time is short. Most of the prophecies will take place during the tribulation. Any forewarning of their arrival would make the rapture all the more likely, because it occurs at the start of the 7 year tribulation period.

* * *

ITEM #4 FROM THE INTERNET: MOTHER SHIPTON'S PROPHECY

Are these the End Times?

A Woman's Uncanny Prophecy (500 Years Old)

A witch? A satanist? Possessed? Gifted? Used of God? Whatever you say, the evidence certainly suggests Mother Shipton was the closest thing to a prophetess that England had for many generations. Of her life we know some, not much. Mother Shipton, sometimes called "the Yorkshire Sybil" was reputedly born Ursula Sontheil (or Southill) in 1488 in Norfolk, England (supposedly in the cave of Knaresborough), and died in 1561. Her mother Agatha was well known for her exceptional powers. Ursula, too, exhibited prophetic and psychic abilities from an early age. At 24, married to one Toby Shipton, she eventually became known as Mother Shipton. Many of her visions came true within her own lifetime and in subsequent centuries. I first learned of her through an old time holy roller preacher, Bishop Whitlock, in Lewiston, California. But with all the Y2K hoopla, her fame seems enigmatically to be spreading. These rare verses from Mother Shipton seem to have prophetic indications for our times, and while open to interpretation, they show this woman to have been uncannily prescient.

"This was given to Laurent under the Tree in Athens, Georgia by Tim Mills in October, 1944. From an article in the Banner-Herald, Athens, GA Monday, May 23, 1938:

We are in receipt of an alleged prophecy written five hundred years ago by Mother Shipton and vouched for by J.H. Phillips, of Ashdown, Arkansas.

Many of the prophecies have come true and on the suggestion of the owner of the copy of the prophecy, we are giving space to its publication."

A Prophecy from half a millenium ago -

So timely it's almost spooky

Some people seem to believe the prophetic age passed with the Apostles. Here is a prophecy written 500 years ago by a woman. Read and see if you can suggest how she could have improved it if she had written it this month. Before reading it, please undertake to transport yourself back across five centuries and live when there were no steamships, no steam railways, no

sewing machines, no cook stoves, no radios, no automobiles, no flying machines, no submarines, and none of the many other inventions so common today.

Now, you back there, sitting alone in your quaint old fashioned dwelling, READ this poem AND SEE if you do not think she had a real vision of the future happenings of the world.

Mother Shipton was born in Norfolk England and died in Clifton, Yorkshire, 1449. Thus you see she died 43 years before Columbus discovered America. - J.H. Phillips, Ashdown AR.

Mother Shipton Prophecy (Poem)

[Archaic spelling has been modernized]

A carriage without horse shall go;
Disasters fill the world with woe.
In London, Primrose Hill shall be,
Its centre hold a Bishop's See.
Around the world men's thoughts shall fly
Quick as the twinkling of an eye
And waters shall great wonders do,
How strange, and yet it shall come true.

Then upside down the world shall be,
And gold found at the root of tree;
Through towering hill proud men shall ride,
No horse nor ass move at his side.
Beneath the waters men shall walk;
Shall ride, shall sleep and even talk.
And in the air men shall be seen,
In white and black and even green.
A great man then shall come and go,
For prophecy declares it so.

In water iron then shall float
As easy as a wooden boat,
Gold shall be found in stream or stone,
In land that is as yet unknown.
Water and fire shall wonders do,
And England shall admit a Jew.

The Jew that once was held in scorn,
Shall of a Christian then be born. [borne?]
A house of glass shall come to pass
In ENGLAND - but alas!
A war will follow with the work,
Where dwells the pagan and the Turk.

The states will lock in fiercest strife
And seek to take each other's life.
When North shall thus divide South
The eagle build in lion's mouth.
Then tax and blood and cruel war
Shall come to every humble door.

Three times shall lovely sunny France
Be lead to play a lovely dance,
Before the people shall be free.
The tyrant rulers shall she see.
Three rulers in succession be,
Each sprang from different dynasty.

Then, when fiercest fight is done
England and France shall be as one.
The British olive next shall twine
In marriage with the German vine.
Men walk beneath and over streams
Fulfilled shall be our strangest dreams.

All England's sons that plough the land -
Shall oft be seen with Book in hand.
The poor shall then True Wisdom know
And waters, wind, where corn did grow.
Great houses stand in farflung vale,
All covered o'er with snow and hail.

And now a word in uncouth rhyme
Of what shall be in future time,
For in the wondrous far off days,
The women shall adopt a craze
To dress like men and trousers wear
And cut off their lovely locks of hair.

They'll ride astride with brazen brow
As witches on a broomstick now
Then love shall die and marriage cease,
And nations wane as babies decrease,
The wives shall fondle cats and dogs
And men live much the same as hogs.

In nineteen-hundred twentysix
Build houses light of straw and sticks,

And roaring monsters with man atop

Do seem to eat the verdant crop.
And men shall fly as birds do now,
And give away the horse and plough.
When pictures live with movements free,
When boats like fishes swim the sea,
When men like birds shall scour the sky
Then half the world, blood drenched shall die.

For then shall mighty war be planned
and fire and sword sweep the land.
But those who live the century through
In fear and trembling this will do;
Flee to the mountains and the dens
To bog and forest and wild fens
For storms shall rage and oceans roar,
when Gabriel stands on sea and shore
And when he blows his horn
Old worlds shall die and new be born.

* * *

ITEM #5 FROM THE INTERNET: MOTHER SHIPTON'S FINAL PROPHECY

Mother Shipton's Last Prophecy and Nostradamus' King Of Terror - A comparative study.

This document analyses Mother Shipton prophecies (the so called Last Prophecies) and draws some parallels with the King Of Terror Quatrain X.72 prediction.

Some question the authenticity of these verses. They were published in Nexus magazine 1995. The source claimed that thirty years ago she had painstakingly transcribed them and managed to smuggle them out of the Mitchell Library, Sydney (now the State Library of New South Wales). The originals were kept in a locked room, along with many other volumes of prophetic writings deemed unsuitable for viewing by the general public. Nexus comment that this was the first time they believed the translation was made available to the public. However, my copy of Charles Berlitz 'Doomsday 1999' published in 1981 has the second paragraph of the Last Prophecy. Some claim the verses were forged by Charles Hindley in 1881, but even if so the events described seem remarkably accurate.

see <http://www.m-m.org/~jz/shipton.html> for more about Mother Shipton and the full set of prophecies.

THE LAST PROPHECY

"In nineteen hundred and twenty-six
build houses light of straw and sticks.
For then shall mighty wars be planned

and fire and swords shall sweep the land."

A straightforward start. 1926 and the build up to the Second World war - note the reference to wars 'planned'. Hitler's failed uprising (putsch) of 1924 led to a short period of imprisonment where he wrote Mein Kampf. After his release he proceeded to rebuild his party in 1925.

"When pictures seem alive with movements free,
when boats like fishes swim beneath the sea.
When men like birds shall scour the sky.
Then half the world, deep drenched in blood shall die."

Evidently lines 1 to 3 describe the wonders of television, submarines and airplane travel. The former, of course, only becoming widespread in the second half of the twentieth century. These achievements are then indicators for an event which will come to pass - described in gory terms in line 4.

"For those who live the century through
in fear and trembling this shall do.
Flee to the mountains and the dens
to bog and forest and wild fens."

In lines 1 and 2 Mother Shipton is saying the event will occur BEFORE the end of the century, and this will lead to great fear and trembling. If the prediction is accurate then, something must occur this year. Is there a connection with Nostradamus' 1999 prediction?

"For storms will rage and oceans roar
when Gabriel stands on sea and shore,
and as he blows his wondrous horn
old worlds die and new be born."

A reference to Revelations perhaps? Recall what occurs when the second angel sounds his trumpet [Rev 8:8-9].

"A fiery dragon will cross the sky
six times before the earth shall die.
Mankind will tremble and frightened be
for the six heralds in this prophecy."

Line 1: fiery dragon - clearly a poetic description of a comet. In line 2 she seems to contradict herself by discussing the death of the earth. It must be a figure of speech, since in the previous paragraph, she talks of 'new worlds being born' - perhaps a 'cyclic' death then. Is the mention of six comets a literal number? This may refer to the passing of the most famous periodic comet: Halley's comet (orbital cycle approximately 76 years). Mother Shipton died in 1561, with the comet passing in 1530 during her lifetime. It has returned six times since:

1606 1682 1758 1834 1910 1986 - Most recent passing of Halley's

Or perhaps she refers to the number of so called Great Comets that will be seen in the 20th century (or after 1926)? This is difficult to judge - one astronomical site reckons Hale Bopp as the 8th of the century, although a list is lacking. What is certain is that two of the Greatest comets (and brightest) in the 20th century appeared in 1996 and then in 1997 after a period of relative inactivity (Halley's comet was disappointing in 1985) following Comet west in 1976.

Halley's comet 1985 Hyakutake 1996 Hale Bopp 1997

Also, would Shoemaker-Levy9 be counted? Probably not, since it was not bright from the earth. In any case, the important point is given in line 4: a comet will herald in the prophecy and again notice the fear of mankind!

"For seven days and seven nights
man will watch this awesome sight.
The tides will rise beyond their ken.
To bite away the shores and then
the mountains will begin to roar
and earthquakes split the plain to shore."

Line 1-2: So we have a comet which appears to put on a celestial show for 7 days. An amazing correspondence with quatrain II.41 ('The great star will burn for seven days and the cloud will make the sun appear double').

Line 3-6: Flooding, earthquakes and disaster. Agrees with many quatrains presented in 1999 FAQ.

"And flooding waters rushing in,
will flood the lands with such a din
that mankind cowers in muddy fen
and snarls about his fellow men."

Line 1:2 The close passage causes tidal waves and flooding (effects of secondary body/bodies?)

"He bares his teeth and fights and kills
and secrets food in secret hill
and ugly in his fear, he lies
to kill marauders, thieves and spies."
"Man flees in terror from the floods
and kills, and rapes and lies in blood
and spilling blood by mankind's hand
will stain and bitter many lands."

These verses would seem to describe the resulting barbarity and warfare.

"And when the dragon's tail is gone
man forgets and smiles and carries on.
To apply himself - too late, too late
for mankind has earned deserved fate."

A verse which seems to indicate a period of time passing. Once the troubles described in the preceding verses are resolved (after years, decades or even centuries?) civilisation is rebuilt. But it appears man has not learnt his lesson:

"His masked smile, his false grandeur,
will serve the gods their anger stir
and they will send the dragon back
to light the sky - his tail will crack.
Upon the earth and rend the earth
and man shall flee, king, lord and serf."

The comet returns...

"But slowly they are routed out
to seek diminishing water spout
and men will die of thirst before
the oceans rise to mount to the shore.
And lands will crack and rend anew
do you think it strange, it will come true."

Here we see the lack of fresh water described as one of the main problems. Again we have tsunami and earthquake described.

"And in some far - off distant land
some men - oh such a tiny band
will have to leave their solid mount
and span the earth, those few to count."

Some survivors seem to have the technology to live for a time in safety...

"Who survives this (unreadable) and then
begin the human race again.
But not on land already there,
but on ocean beds, stark, dry and bare."

This seems to indicate the rising of new lands from the ocean...

"Not every soul on earth will die,
as the dragon's tail goes sweeping by,
not every land on earth will sink,

but these will wallow in stench and stink,
of rotting bodies of beast and man,
of vegetation crisped on land."
"But the land that rises from the sea
will be dry and clean and soft and free.
Of mankinds dirt and therefore be,
the source of man's new dynasty.
and those that live will ever fear
the dragon's tail for many year
but time erases memory
You think it strange. but it will be."

The verse confirms the source of the new land.

"And before the race is built anew,
a silver serpent comes to view
and spew out men of like unknown
to mingle with the earth now grown
cold from its heat and these men can
enlighten the minds of future man
to intermingle and show them how
to live and love and thus endow.
the children with the second sight.
a natural thing so that they might
grow graceful, humble and when they do
the golden age will start anew."

Seemingly a description of interaction between mankind and alien visitors, who bring the knowledge of new mental and spiritual technologies.

"The dragon's tail is but a sign
for mankind's fall and man's decline.
and before this prophecy is done
I shall be burned at the stake, at 1
My body cinged and my soul set free
You think I utter blasphemy
your wrong. These things have come to me
this prophecy will come to be."

This section was kept apart from the other and it appears to have been written together yet was in a separate jar.

What is the timeline in this case? It would appear to run in parallel...

"The signs will be there for all to read
When man shall do most heinous deed

Man will ruin kinder lives
By taking them as to their wives."
"And murder foul and brutal deed
When man will only think of greed.
And man shall walk as if asleep
He does not look - he many not peep
And iron men the tail shall do
And iron cart and carriage too."

A general description of man's inhumanity. Note the description of iron 'cart and carriage' though - dates the prediction to the 20th century.

"The kings shall false promise make
And talk just for talkings sake
And nations plan horrific war
The like as never seen before
And taxes rise and lively down
And nations wear perpetual frown."

Line 3/4 is the most telling - nuclear warfare?

"Yet greater sign there be to see
As man nears latter century
Three sleeping mountains gather breath
And spew out mud, and ice and death.
And earthquakes swallow town and town,
In lands as yet to me unknown."

Line 2: Seems to indicate a similar time period to the century described in the previous sequence. Now she details some signs:

Line 3/4:

Three volcanoes are described. Since the previous verses describe just before the end of the 20th century it would seem useful to examine (say) the 90's for volcanic activity. Consider:

1997 Monserrat 1996 and 1998 Grimsvotn

Note the reference to ice. The Grímsvötn subglacial volcano (Vatnajökull ice cap in Central Iceland) eruption penetrated through the Grímsvötn subglacial caldera lake and its ice shelf in 1998. On the initial day of the eruption, a continuous eruption plume extended to elevation of 10 km. On that day, the eruption plume could be seen from large distances. The eruption occurred 10 km south of the 1996 eruption in Vatnajökull that caused a catastrophic outburst flood from the Vatnajökull glacier.

1999 Etna?

Scientists estimate a major eruption of Etna is imminent - probably within 6 months or less (the last major eruption was in 1928 when two villages were almost completely buried by a flow of lava).

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/world/europe/newsid_283000/283279.stm

Line 5/6 - massive earthquake are also predicted.

"And christian one fights christian two
And nations sigh, yet nothing do
And yellow men great power gain
From mighty bear with whom they've lain."

Line 1: could describe many conflicts in the 20th century, where religious motivation has not been such a key factor in wars (e.g. 2nd world war or most recently in Kosovo).

Line 3/4: More recently, the strategic positioning between Russia and China.

"These mighty tyrants will fail to do
They fail to split the world in two.
But from their acts a danger bred
An age - leaving many dead.
And physics find no remedy
For this is worse than leprosy."

Lines 3-6 seem to indicate biological/ nuclear weaponry.

"Oh many signs for all to see
The truth of this true prophecy."

* * * * *

END OF THE ADDENDUM