

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Feb. 20, 2011



## QUESTIONS FROM THE BACK OF MY BUSINESS CARD PART 3:

### WHEN WILL THE WORLD COME TO AN END?



by Clifton Angel

About one billion, two hundred and thirty million (1,230,000,000)! That is the number of results yielded when the above question was typed into the *Google* search engine. The number of *theoretical* answers to the above question probably nearly matches the search result number. It is saddening that so many have been misled by the fantastical false prophets of history and today.

According to [www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm](http://www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm), for which I cannot vouch completely, over 220 end-time predictions have been recorded within the last 2000 years. I encourage you to visit the link and research some of these for yourselves, but especially notice the number of predictions for the years 1000 and 2000. I remember back to the ripe old age of fourteen, when the new millennium craze was just that--a craze. Y2K! Y2K! It was spread across the globe and permeated through the media. All of the computers were supposed to crash, leaving everyone without electricity and the management of the necessities of life, which would lead to chaos, mayhem, and essentially the end of the world. People were stocking up on food and water. What happened? As I sang the new year in with fellow Christians of all ages, all of the sudden...everything still functioned.

Once again, the predictions were wrong, and the year 2000 was just another number on the counter, like the number 1999. I remember purposely making a big deal out of my Jeep's odometer when it read 111,111, only to point out to a friend of mine that it's not a big deal. It has to pass 111,111 in order to get to 111,112, or eventually the 300,000+ mile

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).*

## VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

5:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & Pew Packers on 1st & 3rd Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

[emailus@coldwatercofc.com](mailto:emailus@coldwatercofc.com)

### ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

### DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

mark that I am desiring. However, mysticism and superstition in numbers is a continuous fad among mankind.

One well-known person that joined in the Y2K madness was a man by the name of Hal Lindsey. He was and is well-known because the year 2000 was not his first prediction. He originally “prophesied” that 1988 was the year of the end of the world, which meant that the “rapture” was to come in 1981. The “rapture” did not take *him* in 1981, and the earth remains now 23 years after the “end of the world”. His next “end of the world” prediction was 2007, making 2000 the year in which the “rapture was to come”. Both years have come and gone, and yet people still listen to this blaspheming false prophet. It is astounding to me that Hal Lindsey still has followers after his many false predictions. Notice this brief information provided by *Wikipedia*:

In *The Late, Great Planet Earth*, Lindsey wrote that he had concluded, since there was no apparent mention of the United States of America in the books of Daniel or Revelation, that the USA would no longer be a major player on the geo-political stage by the time the tribulations of the end times arrived. Lindsey also interpreted from Revelation and prophetic texts that the European Economic Community, which preceded the European Union, was destined (according to Biblical prophecy) to become a "United States of Europe", with ten members, which in turn he says is destined to become a "Revived Roman Empire" ruled by the Antichrist. The European Union currently has 27 members.

A later book, bearing the title *The 1980s: Countdown to Armageddon*, implied that the battle of Armageddon would take place in the not too distant future, stating "the decade of the 1980s could very well be the last decade of history as we know it"[7] and that the U.S. could be "destroyed by a surprise Soviet nuclear attack." [8] The book strongly suggests that the 1980s would see the biblical events of tribulation and end times come to pass.

*Planet Earth - 2000 A.D.*, published in the early 1990s, states that Christians should not plan to still be on earth by the year 2000.

Today, the craze primarily surrounds the year 2012. The “evidence” resides in the “Mayan calendar”. Ronald Weinland boldly states that the end is coming on May 21, 2012, while others claim, based on the Mayan calendar, that the last day is December 21 or 23, 2012, depending upon which article you read on the subject. Furthermore, in 2010, a movie based upon the aforementioned prediction was released with the title *2012*, in which the producers depicted their idea of the end of the world.

Dear friends, we have got to stop looking to Hollywood and start looking to Heaven! We must stop listening to the false prophets and start listening to the Father! We need to decrease our study of Bible “scholars” and increase our study of the Bible! Jesus said, *Heaven and earth shall*

*pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only* (Matt. 24:35, 36). The Apostle Peter wrote: *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.* The same was affirmed by the Apostle Paul: *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.* How often does a thief give the victim the exact date and time that he plans to burglarize him?

Some may say: “Ok, we cannot know the exact time of His return, but it must be soon because of the *wars and rumours of wars* (Matt. 24:6), the *famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes* (24:7), and *the false prophets* (24:11), and the *false Christs* (24:24), and the other ‘signs’ in Matthew 24 that are indicative of what is happening today!” Such a statement is a clear misunderstanding of the context of Matthew 24:1-34, and the fact that verses 35 and following are a different context. A careful study of Matthew 24:1-34 and the history shortly following the years after these prophecies will confirm that the things found therein said by Jesus were referencing the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in A.D. 70. While I cannot completely vouch for his entire website ([www.padfield.com](http://www.padfield.com)), David Padfield has prepared great material from historical documents that are great possibilities in explaining and showing the fulfillment of many of the things mentioned in Matthew 24:1-34. Flavius Josephus’ historical writings have been very helpful in the understanding of many things surrounding, preceding, and following the life of Christ and the establishment of the church; however, Padfield includes other historical writings as well.

WHEN WILL THE WORLD COME TO AN END? When the Father tells the Son, “It is finished”. *Of that day and hour knoweth no man* (Matt. 24:36). But when Jesus does return, those that have lived their lives in obedience to God will have the assurance of knowing, *so shall we ever be with the Lord* (1 Thess. 4:17).

## Sermon Review

### TO WHOM DOES YOUR HEART BELONG?

- I. TO YOUR SELF?
- II. TO YOUR SPOUSE?
- III. TO YOUR SAVIOR?

### BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART

(Matthew 5:7)

- I. THE RECEIVING.
- II. THE REPENTING.
- III. THE REDEEMING.
- IV. THE RESERVING.

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Jane Sowell**--doing much better.

**Terry Bland**--having some eye problems last Sunday, but is doing much better.

**Wiley & Betty Tuggle.**

**Caleb & Elizabeth Baker**--Caleb is battling a kidney stone and has an appt. Feb. 22; Elizabeth's last followup is scheduled for Feb. 24 in AR.

**Andy Ratliff**--allergy problems.

**Tim II, Rachel, & Titus Wilkes**--Tim, Rachel & Titus need our prayers as they get started and seek support for their full-time mission work, which is overseen by Coldwater.

**Tim & Lynn Wilkes** We are thankful that they are back in Mississippi with us for two weeks! They will be going back in about a week to Hawaii to finish the FOM classes.

## Family & Friends

**Amy Meredith**--gave birth at 22 weeks; the baby died. Let us keep Amy and her family in our prayers.

**Brandon Finley**--attempted suicide. He is in TICU at Med in Memphis, Room #9. Jason hopes to visit soon.

**Clay Collums**--Terry's brother, has had to go back for more radiation treatment.

**Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

**Doyce "Doc" Hunt**--Jared Browns grandfather.

**Brianna Edwards**

**Joe Culbreath**--several serious health issues; good to see him visiting with us recently.

**James Angel**--His cancer is in remission. He may still have a tumor.

**Ann Embrey; Dunn Family; Steve Angel; Dave Leonard, Sr.**

**Let us not forget to pray for the works being done through Fishers of Men, Far East Missions, and the Open Door Ministry.**

## **February Birthdays**

Jackson Staten	2/11
Sydney Thompson	2/11
Terry Bland	2/12
Ashby Johnson	2/13
Eric Jackson	2/14
Tyler Holmes	2/16
Cathy Thompson	2/21
Betty Tuggle	2/25

## Get Involved!

**Fellowship Meal & Early Service**  
Today, Feb. 20. PM Service at 1pm.

**Grief Seminar @ Independence**  
February 19 & 20 - Keith Mosher, Sr.

**Sunday Night for the Savior**  
March 6 after PM service.

**Bible Bowl: March 12, 10:30AM**  
At Looxahoma building.  
Study Matthew 16-18.

**Forest Hill Annual Youth Day: March 26**  
Theme: Shine Jesus Shine, 9AM.

**45<sup>th</sup> MSOP Lectureship: March 27-31**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, February 20

#### *Morning*

Prayer Before Class	Jeffrey Ferrell
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeremy Moore
Assist	Johnny Bayless
Adam Sowell	Shane Staten
Tim Wilkes, Sr.	Clifton Angel
Opening Prayer	Ron Johnson
Sermon	
Closing Prayer	

#### *Evening*

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeremy Moore
Johnny Bayless	
Caleb Baker	
Closing Prayer	

### Wednesday, February 23

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Jim Jackson
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jerry Davis