

## 2012

# An Article Concerning The End of Time

By Jerry E. Emerson

Is the world really going to end in 2012? If not, what are some things that we can look for that will let us know that we are actually getting even close to the end?

These are very pertinent questions to ask in light of a new movie called 2012 and the heightened interest about the end times the blockbuster has spurred. First of all, let me go ahead and let the pressure off: is the world really going to end, as we know it, in the year 2012? Absolutely, positively, without a doubt--NO! There, you can breathe easy now and stop worrying and wondering if you should sell everything and move to a safer place. Is anything bad going to happen in 2012? Listen, there are bad things happening now, earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, war, senseless killings, you name it and the list goes on, and, bad things will increase until Christ returns to the earth to take over.

Now, I said “no” previously, but I think it would be a good idea for me to tell you why I said “no” and to give you some insight I have gained that could give you confidence for the future. First of all, let me briefly reference an important ideology that most western conservative Christians hold to, even if they don’t really realize it.

For quite some time the Lord has been revealing things to me concerning what I call the-end-of-the-end times. Let me clarify--we have actually been in the end times ever since the birth of the Church at Pentecost. So when I say “end times” I am speaking in terms of the time period that is close to the return of Christ, which by the way no man knows the hour or the day, BUT, we can be discerners of the times and recognize the period or season of the Lords return.

With that in mind, let’s talk about this ideology. There is this idea in the hearts and minds of most conservative Christians that before anything really bad happens on the earth there will be a rapture or “catching away” of the saints. Brothers and sisters, let me just go ahead and say, this is a false ideology that is neither in the heart or mind of God. It would be very difficult for me to look in the eyes of an African woman whose baby just died in her arms due to famine and say, “Sorry for your loss, but you know before anything bad happens we are going to be raptured.” I know that had a little sting to it, but I want to wake you up. It is not my purpose to discuss what many call “the rapture” here because that is not my focus right now. What I am wanting you to see, regardless of what you believe about the rapture right now, is that you must put away any notion that we are going escape before anything bad happens. This cannot be found anywhere in scripture and this kind of ideology will only set you up to become angry at God when bad things increase and Christ doesn’t return when you expect him.

Secondly, there is this ideology that everything is ready and Christ could return at any moment. This is also a false ideology. Everything is not ready, and I will share below some of the things that we can begin to look for. Let me also share that the ideologies that I am discussing I once believed myself, mainly due to films I have seen on the rapture and preaching that I grew up with concerning the end times. But the closer I come in relationship with the Lord and the more He reveals His heart and His word to me, I have come to understand that these ideologies are not from Him. “So why are you

bringing all this up, you really just messed up my day,” you might say. God is raising up men and women in this day and hour, who know God, know His word, who are hearing His voice, and who are discerners of the times. So in essence I am preparing you for what is to come. Hopefully, by doing so not only will you be better prepared to face the future, but you will become a more faithful witness whose eyes are set upon Jesus and one who will not fall away when trouble in the earth increases. Once your heart is firmly established you will be much more open and receptive when discussing the rapture from a perspective that might be different from the one you have now, especially if you come from a conservative background as I have. Furthermore if you are walking very close to the Lord and listening to His voice I would not be a bit surprised if the Lord has not already been speaking to you about this.

Now on to my second question, “what are some things that we can look for that will let us know that we are actually getting even close to the end?” Actually there are many things, but I am only going to focus upon a few. First of all, you will know that we are getting closer when 24-hour prayer ministries are established all over the earth. I don’t want it to seem like the ones in major cities are more important than others but a good indication will be when these ministries, even multiple ones, are established in every major city in the earth. This is very important to God. God, in His sovereign plan, has chosen to include us in what He is about to do so night and day prayer is critical to His end time strategies and plans. (Isaiah 62; 52). Remember this is God we are talking about and He does not operate according to the strategies and plans of man.

Secondly, we will know the end is closer when we see the emergence of Greater Works that Jesus mentions in John 14:12, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”** Some would argue and say; “We have seen greater works with Billy Graham’s ministry and with ministries like John G. Lake as well as many others.” No, I would have to say that those are only tokens compared to what we are going to see in the future, mainly because I am sensing that the anointing for Greater Works has not been released yet. I believe there is a Greater Works anointing that is going to come upon individuals in which God has placed a desire to believe Him for Greater Works. Right now I believe there are relatively few in the whole of the body of Christ who are actually seeking and believing God to use them to do Greater Works. The fact that God is now in this hour placing this on their hearts is a good indication that what I am saying is true.

Thirdly, in connection with greater works, we are going to see one of the greatest revivals in the history of man and there will never be another one like it. I believe it will be greater than the ministry of Jesus when He was on the earth, it will be greater than the first and second great awakenings, it will be greater than the 1904 revival, and it will be greater than any recorded revival in history. I am basing this belief upon what I sense the Lord has been saying to me personally and upon Amos chapter nine. In Amos chapter nine verse eleven and verse thirteen we find a couple of very interesting things. First of all, we see this thing about the Tabernacle of David. Now that is very interesting. Notice that he didn’t say that God was going to raise up a worship movement, which by the way David’s tabernacle included. He did say though that He would raise up the Tabernacle of David. While David’s Tabernacle certainly included worship that was not all that was there. Notice also that He didn’t say the Tabernacle of Moses. Moses was the one who

built the tabernacle according to God's instruction but it is the Tabernacle of David that we see in this passage. There is a very good reason for that and I suggest that you go back and study the tabernacle of David and what it included, the two main elements in combination being that of worship and prayer, and not only worship and prayer, but continual worship and prayer. Secondly, in this same chapter he makes mention of a great revival in farmer terms. If you were to ask a farmer about the passage concerning the harvest, he or she would tell you "that is a great, great, massive harvest." Many in the body right now believe it will be around 1 billion souls that will enter the Kingdom in a relatively short amount of time.

These are only a few things that the Lord has been showing me. There are many more that could be stated and the Lord may be showing you some things about the future so I encourage you to continue to go deeper in God establishing your heart in His presence, go deep in His word, read the book of Revelation every week for the next ten years of your life, do not fear, set your heart upon Him, gaze upon Him, allow His love overflow in your heart, do not be discouraged when the "end" does not come when you expect and you will be a faithful witness, prepared to face anything in the future including death for His names sake.

Will the world, as we know it, end on December 21, 2012? Honestly, just like Y2K it will come and go just as any other day but it will be one day closer to the Lord's return.