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# BIBLE TALK

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This week the question is: **Is the world going to end on September 23, 2017?**

Today is September 18, 2017 as I record this message. Fox News has the following article dated September 15, 2017:

## **Biblical prophecy claims the world will end on Sept. 23,** **Christian numerologists claim**

**NOTE:** This is a misleading title. "Biblical prophecy" does not claim the world will end on September 23. A "numerologist" who says he's a "Christian" is making that claim – the Bible has nothing to do with the claim other than the Bible is being quoted out of context and is being misrepresented.

The article continues:

A Christian numerologist claims that the world will end next Saturday when a planet will, supposedly, collide with Earth.

According to Christian numerologist David Meade, verses in Luke 21:25 to 26 are the sign that recent events, such as the recent solar eclipse and Hurricane Harvey, are signs of the apocalypse.

Later the article says this:

Sept. 23 is a date that was pinpointed using codes from the Bible, as well as a "date marker" in the pyramids of Giza in Egypt.

Meade's views are not endorsed by Roman Catholic, Protestant or eastern Orthodox branches of Christianity.

<http://www.foxnews.com/science/2017/09/15/biblical-prophecy-claims-world-will-end-on-sept-23-christian-numerologists-claim.print.html> - accessed 9/17/17.

This is merely another example of people misusing scripture. The end of the world has been predicted so many times in the past and the world is still here. Each time the end is predicted the prognosticator claims he or she is accurately using scripture to make his or her prediction.

The question we're asking is simply this: **Does the Bible indicate when the world is going to end?** The answer is simply: No. The Bible says the following:

### **Mark 13:32**

<sup>32</sup> "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

None of the angels in heaven know when the world will end. If no angel knows, is it likely that a numerologist on earth could figure out something that even the angels don't know? Jesus went on to say that even He, in his earthly-state did not know. It is likely that the Lord in His present glorified state knows now, but in His earthly state He did not know. Is it likely that a numerologist could know something that the Lord Himself did not know? The mere question answers itself.

The time of the end is not revealed in the scriptures for a reason. God wants all people to live as if the world could end at any time. The Bible says this:

### **1 Thessalonians 5:2**

<sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.

### **2 Peter 3:10**

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, ...

A thief, of course, gives no warning beforehand. The thief comes when people are least expecting him. Because the Judgment Day comes "like a thief in the night," it behooves everyone to live as if today were the last day.

### **Mark 13:35-37**

<sup>35</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming--in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning--

<sup>36</sup> lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.

<sup>37</sup> And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

The Christian's duty is to be watchful and always ready for the Lord's second coming and the end of the world.

One lady spoke with me. She was very stressed out about the possibility that the world might end on September 23. Yet, what this lady has forgotten is that any of us could die today. Any of us could be killed in a car wreck today. Any of us could suffer some other kind of accident and die today. If that were to happen, for us that would be the end of the world – would it not? So we should all be watchful and ready so that, if the Lord should return today, or if we should die today by some accident, we would be ready to meet the Lord in judgment.

Listen to me carefully: The world could very well end on September 23, 2017, but **if it does end on that day, it will not be because the Bible made a prediction about that day**. There is no code in the Bible which, if deciphered correctly, will render the verdict that September 23, 2017 will be the end of the world.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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