

REAL**Truth**. REAL**Love**. REAL**Hope**.

A quarterly newsletter from Pastor Jeff Schreve and *From His Heart Ministries*

Summer 2016

How close are we to ***the end?***

By Jeff Schreve

Preachers have been talking about the end of the world for a long time. I've even seen some street preachers wearing large sandwich board signs that read THE END IS NEAR. But are they correct? Is the Lord's coming right around the corner?

In Matthew 24, Jesus gave us some very specific signs that clearly signal His return is near. These signs show us He *"is standing right at the door"* (James 5:9), meaning we desperately need to be ready for His return!

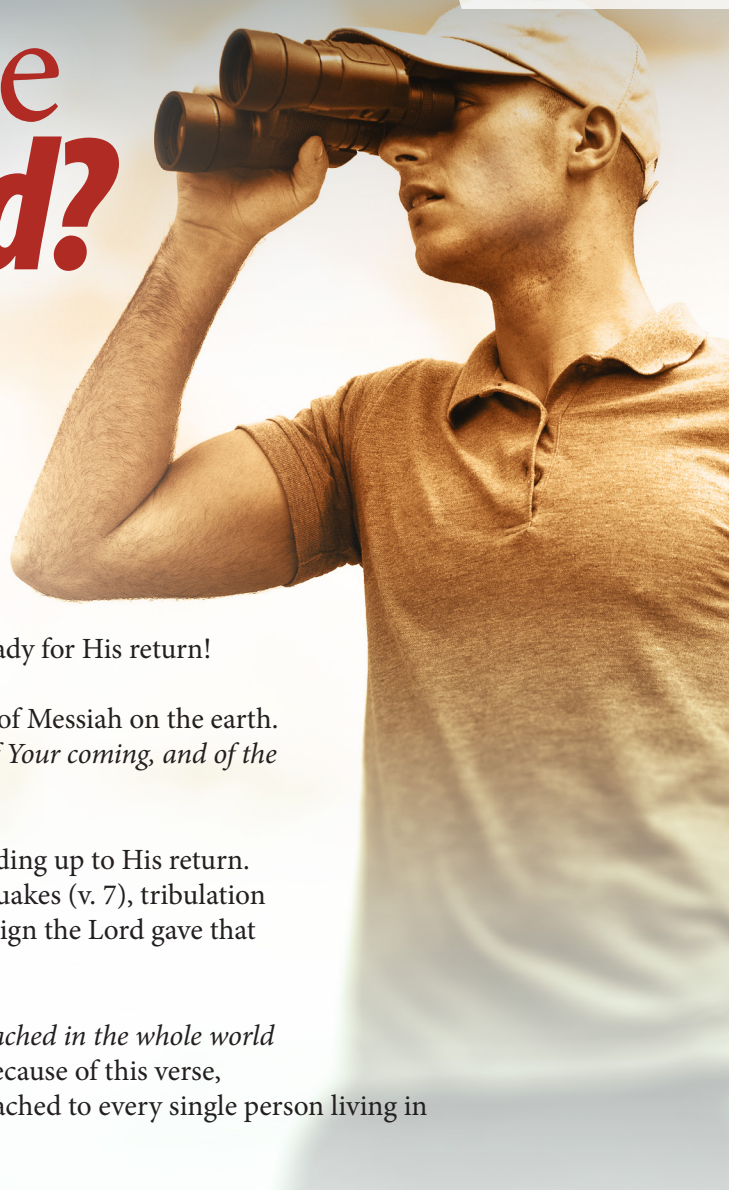
Like us, the disciples were interested in the end times and the reign of Messiah on the earth. They asked Jesus in Matthew 24:3, *"Tell us ... what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"*

Jesus responded by explaining all that would happen in the days leading up to His return. He talked about wars and rumors of wars (v. 6), famines and earthquakes (v. 7), tribulation (v. 9), and false prophets (v. 11), to name a few. But what's the final sign the Lord gave that would signal His second coming? *Global evangelism*.

Jesus said in Matthew 24:14, *"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."* Now, because of this verse, some people argue that Jesus can't come back until the gospel is preached to every single person living in every nook and cranny of the world.

But the Bible doesn't teach that every single person has to hear the gospel before Jesus can return. It simply teaches that the whole world, the whole inhabited earth, will have access to the preaching of the gospel before Jesus returns.

As you read the words on this page today, the gospel is being preached through radio, television, and the Internet to
(continued on p 2)



***Be ready
for Christ's
return!***

See page 3 for details ...

INSIDE >

- Q&A with Jeff, p. 2
- From Debbie's Heart, p. 3
- Your Gifts at Work! p. 4
- A Note to You from Jeff, p. 4

How close are we to the end? (continued from p 1)

places all over the world. Matthew 24:14 is being fulfilled right now!

Think about this. *From His Heart Ministries* is headquartered in Texarkana, Texas, a city of approximately 37,000 people. From this relatively small city, however, we are being used of God to broadcast into homes and communities all over America and around the world!

With the support of friends like you, God is allowing *From His Heart* to be included in the fulfillment of Matthew 24:14 ... and we praise the Lord for that great blessing!

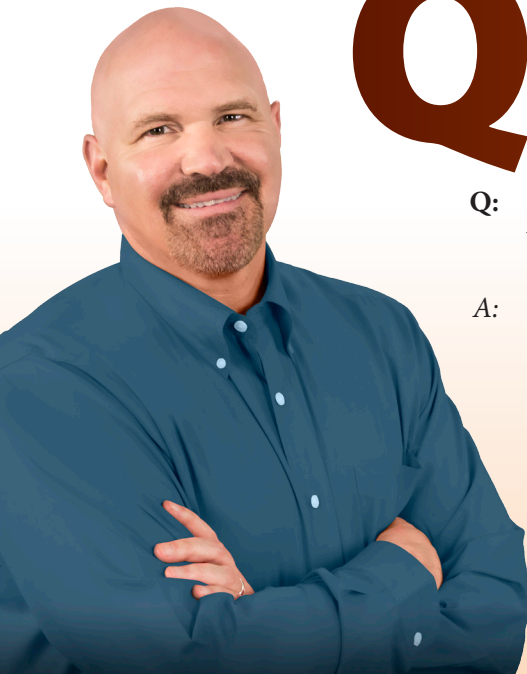
I received this email a while back from a Christian doctor working in a remote village in India. Her letter indicates that the gospel is indeed being preached to the remotest parts of the earth ...

Dear Pastor Jeff,

I live and work in a small rural area in a Christian mission hospital; and thanks to DTH TV, my husband and I, both doctors, listen to TBN whenever electricity is available in this small rural village. Today I was home while you spoke about the prodigal son, and the message touched me. We are sorry we cannot support you with money, but surely I pray that the Lord will enable you to go on preaching till His purpose for you is fulfilled. God bless you.

What did Jesus say would happen when we see the gospel being preached to all nations as a witness? He clearly said, “*Then the end will come*” (Matthew 24:14). And I believe that if you’ll take the time to survey the current landscape, you’ll conclude that we are seeing the signs of His soon return, and His coming is “*right at the door*” (James 5:9). The question is, are you ready?

Q&A WITH JEFF



Q: Jeff, do you think any of the strange weather and earthquakes we’ve seen in recent years are signs that Christ is returning soon?

A: *Who could forget the devastation we witnessed on December 26, 2004, when a massive earthquake off the coast of Indonesia produced a monster tsunami that took the lives of approximately 250,000 people? And then in March of 2011, another massive quake hit Japan, destroying the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant and creating serious radiation problems for that nation.*

The U.S. Geological Survey reports that earthquakes have increased every decade for the last 50 years (www.usgs.gov). Coincidence? I think not. And in addition to the physical destruction these earthquakes produce, they also create all kinds of economic disasters and set the stage for famine and pestilence. No doubt these natural disasters should get our attention—because they are a sign that we need to be ready for His coming (Matthew 24:7).

Q: What do I need to do to be ready for Christ’s return?

A: *Jesus willingly died an excruciating death on the cross some 2,000 years ago for all your sins and mine. He was buried ... but He rose from the dead on the third day! And He tells us that if we will come to Him in repentance, faith, and surrender, He will forgive us, cleanse us, and change our lives as He comes to live inside of us by His Holy Spirit. If you’ve done that, you’re ready! If you haven’t, you can do it today.*

Be ready for Christ's return!



Dear Friend,

Are we living in the end times? Well, if you listen closely, I believe you can hear the sounds of Christ's approaching footsteps. The signs of His second coming are all around us!

I want to share with you exactly what those signs are—and help you know for sure that you're ready for Christ's return—by sending you my end-times booklet, *How Near Is the End?* This resource is my gift to thank you for your donation to help *From His Heart* speak the truth in love to more and more people.

And if you're able to give a gift of \$50 or more, I'll also include my 9-message CD series, *Future Shock: What in the World Is Going On?*

Request these end-times resources on the enclosed reply card when you send your gift today. And thank you for your support to help share real hope from the heart of God with lost and hurting people all over the world!

Pastor Jeff

FROM DEBBIE'S HEART: Live ready for the return of Christ!

By Debbie Schreve

I am fascinated by the study of personality types. Most studies break down temperaments into four personality types: Choleric (lion), Sanguine (otter), Phlegmatic (golden retriever), and Melancholy (beaver). I fall under the category of Choleric/Sanguine. I'm structured and organized, but also outgoing and friendly. I consider myself to be on time only if I arrive 5 to 10 minutes early. I'm like the college student who starts working on her research paper the day it's assigned because I don't work well under pressure. I am a planner and feel very uncomfortable in a "wing it" situation.

If you have my personality type, then you can relate to the anxiety that ensues when you feel you're not ready for something. My motto: BE PREPARED!

This "be prepared" attitude is so necessary in our Christian lives. I don't imagine anyone would argue that we aren't living in the last days. God desires that we live godly lives so we can be ready for the second coming of Christ, which could be at any time. *"It is clear what sort of people you should be in holy conduct and godliness as you wait for and*

earnestly desire the coming of the day of God" (2 Peter 3:11-12 HCSB).

As believers we need to be seeking the Lord as never before and keeping a very short account of our sins, confessing and repenting (quickly) so we have a clean heart. We also need to be conducting our lives in a way that not only prepares us for His coming, but helps prepare those around us as they see our good works and that our lives glorify God.

Now is *not* the time to settle for a lukewarm relationship with the Lord. We need to seek Him as never before, obey Him, and follow Him with an unwavering commitment. We must pray for discernment and be sensitive to the still, quiet voice of the Holy Spirit living within us. We must *"abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming"* (1 John 2:28 NASB).

Be prepared. Be ready. *"Stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near"* (Luke 21:28 NIV).



A NOTE TO YOU FROM JEFF

Dear Friend,

When I listen to people talk about the end times, I hear many who are afraid. They're afraid of what the end of days will bring, and they're afraid of the prospect of facing judgment.



But if you're a born-again believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, you can live fearlessly in these last days. When Jesus talked about wars and rumors of wars, He said, *"See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place ..."* (Matthew 24:6).

You and I don't need to live in fear of wars, earthquakes, disasters, and economic chaos. We need to be wise and aware, but not afraid. The Lord wants us to live boldly and courageously in these last days.

I love what the Scripture says in Luke 21:28. Jesus said ...

"But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

God will take care of His children. As Adrian Rogers used to say (and I paraphrase), "The child of God does not have to walk around with 'headline hysteria.' Instead of becoming frightened and panicked when it looks like the world is coming apart at the seams, Christians can turn to each other and say, 'Praise the Lord, it's getting gloriously dark.'"

Jesus is on His way to rescue us. There is absolutely no need to fear for those of us who are firmly planted in Jesus Christ.

I hope this edition of our ministry newsletter has encouraged you about Christ's return. And I also hope you'll give me the chance to share much more when you request *How Near Is the End?* and *Future Shock*. They're my gifts to thank you for your generous support this month.

I am grateful for your prayers and support to help share the timeless truths of God's Word in these last days!

Love,

Your Gifts at Work!

Thank you for helping to make the following testimonies possible through your support of *From His Heart*!

"I love your ministry! I listen to you almost daily during the morning. I am a court investigator, and I drive around the county for interviews. I am always glad to hear your program come on, as it brings very practical teaching and insight that I take with me. Thanks for all that you do!"
—Danielle

"Wow! Thank you for the weekly encouragement emails! May God's love and grace continue to be with this ministry." —Erein

Find Encouragement in Our Online Community of Faith

Visit **fromhisheart.org** today and click on the Facebook and Twitter icons at the bottom of the homepage—and be encouraged by the online community of faith you'll discover!

