

PROPHETS & SAINTS FROM THE PAST Who Proclaimed in Faith the End was At Hand in Their Day

John the Baptist

John [the Baptist] said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to **flee from the coming wrath [the Day of the LORD]**... His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire," Luke 3:7, 17. "Repent ye: for the **kingdom of heaven is at hand**," Matthew 3:2

Jesus Preached His Imminent Reign

"From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the **kingdom of heaven is at hand**," Matthew 4:17. "These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The **kingdom of heaven is at hand**... And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but **he that endureth to the end shall be saved**. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, **Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come**," Matthew 10:5-7, 22-23.

The Disciples Anticipated Messiah's Quick Return & Their Eternal Home in Their Lifetimes

Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And **if I go** and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also**," John 14:2-3.

Followers of Jesus Anticipated Redemption in Their Day

"But we trusted that it had been he [Jesus] which should have **redeemed Israel**: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done," Luke 24:21.

Peter Thought He was Witnessing The Fulfillment of Joel and the Last Days

"But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And **it shall come to pass in the last days**, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned

into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come,” Acts 2:16-20.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation **ready to be revealed in the last time,**” 1 Peter 1:3-5.

“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was **manifest in these last times** for you,” 1 Peter 1:18-20.

“But **the end of all things is at hand**: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer... the **time is come** that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 1 Peter 4:7, 17.

“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness. **Looking for** and hasting **unto the coming of the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that **ye look for such things**, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless,” 2 Peter 3:11-14.

The Early Believers Believed Peter & Sold All They Had in Anticipation of Messiah’s Quick Return

“And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And **sold their possessions and goods**, and parted them to all men, as every man had need,” Acts 2:44-45.

Paul Declared Christ’s Return in His Day

“And that, **knowing the time**, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, **the day is at hand**: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light,” Romans 13:11-12.

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then **we which are alive** and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord,” 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

“Let your moderation be known unto all men. **The Lord is at hand,**” Philippians 4:5

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath **in these last days** spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds,” Hebrews 1:1-2.

“For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but **now once in the end of the world** hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself,” Hebrews 9:26.

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, **as ye see the day approaching,**” Hebrews 10:25.

“For yet **a little while**, and he that shall come will come, and **will not tarry,**” Hebrew 10:37.

James Warned the Rich They Were Living in the Last Days

“Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you. Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for **the coming of the Lord draweth nigh,**” James 5:1-8.

The Apostle John Believed with Confidence the Last Days were At Hand

“Little children, **it is the last time:** and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby **we know that it is the last time...** And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming,” 1 John 2:18, 28.

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus Reaffirmed His Rapid Return to John the Prophet

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which **must shortly come to pass;** and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John,” Revelation 1:1.

Behold, **I come quickly:** hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown,”

Revelation 3:11.

“And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which **must shortly** be done,” Revelation 22:6.

“Behold, **I come quickly**: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book,” Revelation 22:7.

“And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for **the time is at hand**,” Revelation 22:10.

And, behold, **I come quickly**; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be,” Revelation 22:12.

He which testifieth these things saith, **Surely I come quickly**. Amen. **Even so, come, Lord Jesus**,” Revelation 22:20.

Final Analysis: To proclaim the soon return of the Lord and Savior is to be in good company. If the inspiration of a prophet is to be determined by his ability to correctly interpret the timing of prophecy, then almost the whole of Scripture must be rejected as inaccurate, incorrect and uninspired.”

1 Corinthians 13:8-10 says, “Charity never faileth: but whether there be **prophecies, they shall fail**; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For **we know in part, and we prophesy in part**. But when that which is perfect [Christ] is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.”