Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

September 28, 2025

Another Failed Prediction

By Ken Weliever

{My articles will return but limiting my typing right now due to wrist pain –DT}

Today is September 25, 2025, and we're still here. So, are you. As well as our readers around the world.

So, why is this so remarkable? Because the "rapture" was predicted to occur either September 23 or 24.

A self-proclaimed pastor, Joshua Mhlakela, from South Africa, claimed in a YouTube Video that Jesus appeared to him in a dream and said He would come to take his church home during Rosh Hashanah, on either the 23rd or 24th of September.

The prediction went viral on social media, especially on TikTok. As a result, some people have apparently quit their jobs, sold possessions, and have been frantically warning people. The prediction has stirred debate as well as ridicule with the hashtag #RaptureTok.

Mhlakela's failed prediction is not the first and probably won't be the last. Here are just a few.

500 A.D. – A Roman theologian, Hippolytus of Rome (3rd c.), predicted Christ's return for this year.

1000 A.D. – Many in Europe believed the millennium marked the end of the age. Fear, pilgrimages, and fervent prayers were widespread throughout the region.

1260 A.D. – Joachim of Fiore, a medieval monk, predicted the end would come in this year.

1533 A.D. – Melchior Hoffman, a radical reformer, predicted Christ's return and the New Jerusalem in Strasbourg. Instead, chaos ensued.

1666 A.D. – The number "666" stirred fears in London that Christ would return this year, especially amid plague and fire.

1843–1844 A.D. – William Miller (U.S.) predicted Christ's return between March 1843 and October 1844. Thousands sold possessions to prepare. When it failed, it became known as the Great Disappointment.

1874, 1914, 1925, 1975 – Jehovah's Witnesses set multiple dates for Christ's coming or the end of the world. Each one failed, forcing reinterpretation.

1988 – Edgar Whisenant, a NASA engineer, published 88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be in 1988. Millions of copies were

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Meeting – each Friday October 3-24 at South Loop church of Christ in Taylor

Meeting – October 3-5 with Benjamin Lee in San Marcos

Meeting – October 5-8 with Devan Harber at Northwest in Austin

Meeting – October 12-15 with Jacob Hudgins in Cedar Park

(flyers are being sent via email. If you need one and didn't get it let me know)

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

distributed. The year came and went.

1994 – Harold Camping (Christian radio broadcaster) predicted Christ's return. When it failed, he later set another date.

2011 – Camping again predicted the rapture for May 21, 2011, and the final end of the world in October 2011. Both dates passed.

2000 (Y2K) – Some groups tied computer fears with end-times predictions. Nothing occurred.

2012 – Some connected the Mayan calendar "end" with Christ's return. This too passed without event.

All such prognosticators and self-styled prophets, as well as their gullible followers, would do well to heed the words of Jesus.

When the apostles asked Jesus what the signs of His coming would be, He responded in this way. "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming." Then he used the thief analogy to illustrate His point.

"But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into." (Matt 24:42-43).

The "signs" that these supposed visionaries point to are misapplied passages from the Book of Revelation and the Old Testament prophets. While space forbids an in-depth analysis of these claims on this blog, the plain statements of Jesus indicate that there are no signs that predict His Second Coming. In fact, Jesus said neither He nor the angels know when it will be. Only the Father knows (Mk. 13:36).

Furthermore, the "rapture" is not going to occur as some incorrectly claim. The Bible teaches that when Christ comes again, the world will end, the dead will be raised, judgment will occur, and the Kingdom will be delivered to the Father for all eternity (1 Thess. 4:11-18; 1Cor. 15:20-28; 2 Pet. 3:10-13).

It would be well to accept the fact that the Bible is silent on the exact date of Christ's return. And to heed the warning of Jesus. "Therefore, you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

In the meantime, let's be faithful, watchful, and ready. As C.S. Lewis reminds us in *Mere Christianity*, "Precisely because we cannot predict the moment, we must be ready at all moments. The thing is to be ready."

{used with permission from thepreachersword.com}

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is in a lot of pain.

Jimmy Stinnett is home.

Dianna Jarrett had emergency surgery and has been home recovering.

Jackson Smarr was taken to the ER with a blockage in his esophagus. He is ok and at home, waiting for a treatment plan.

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Marcia Neuhaus, Dorthy Steadman, Dinah Williams

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization – we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
Darrell@oakswestchurchofChrist.com

Elders

George Gresham
Darrell Trammel

Deacons

Jim Turner
Clay Hallmark

Contact Us

Address:
P.O. Box 675
Burnet, TX 78611
Call: (512) 756-4493
E-Mail:
oakswestchurch@gmail.com
Website:
oakswestchurchofchrist.com