

A MOON PIE IN THE FACE

By Roelf L. Ruffner

“And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not” (2 Peter 2:3).

From 1840 to 1844 a New York farmer named William Miller made a name for himself by predicting Jesus Christ would return somewhere between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844. He toured the country preaching his complicated false doctrine based ostensible on Bible chronology. Hundreds of thousands of humble, religious folk accepted his views. March 21, 1844 came and went without incident and Miller announced a new prediction of April 18, 1844 based on supposed new calculations using a Jewish calendar. When that day also passed uneventfully he set a another date of October 22, 1844. Many of his followers sold their farms, houses and belongings and gathered in groups wearing white robes and waited through the night of October 22nd and nothing happened! All were disappointed and supposedly Miller was as well.

For 2,000 years men have tried to set dates for the Lord’s Second Coming. They have always been wrong! Among modern false prophets are adherents to the false doctrine of premillennialism. This system of infidelity to God’s word has Jesus returning to this earth to set up a physical kingdom which He will reign over for one thousand years. Just prior to His coming many of these deluded folk believe that there will be a period of great tribulation on this earth. Most do not set a specific date for the Lord’s return but virtually every war, recession, famine, earthquake and natural phenomenon is interpreted, misusing the Bible, as a fulfillment of their doctrine.

A case in point was the religious hysteria over the lunar eclipse or “blood moon” of September 27(evening) –28 (early morning), 2015. This was one of four consecutive lunar eclipses beginning in April 2014 which coincided with certain Jewish feast days. Premillennialist/ Pentecostal false prophets such as Jonathan Kahn, John Hagee, David Jeremiah and Jim Bakker blasted out many dire warnings that terrible things were to happen on that day. Some wrote best seller books and sold DVDs claiming the Christ’s return would soon follow, falsely based on verses such as Acts 2:20 and Revelation 6:12.

We all know what happened. Nothing happened! The stock market did not collapse nor did World War III begin. These false prophets are now mum and their followers are making excuses. Unbelievers are laughing and fell their skepticism of the Bible and ALL which erroneously passes for Christianity justified.

The New Testament teaches that there will be no warning of Jesus' return. He will appear as a "thief in the night" – unexpectedly. "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (1 The. 5:2, 3). No "blood moon" warning and no one heralding His arrival beforehand. And He will not establish a physical kingdom because He already rules over a spiritual one – the church of Christ (Mat. 16:18, 19; John 3:3-5; Rom.14:17; Luke 17:21).

These false prophets should have the proverbial pie on their face. They should be shamed and denounced as anti-Biblical. Yet, sadly many of the devoted will blindly continue to follow them into the ditch (Mat. 15:14). We should not be among that number. "And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him" (Deut. 18:21.22).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Miller_\(preacher\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Miller_(preacher))

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