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The Hazardous Hermeneutics of Harold Camping The End of the Church or His End?

by G. Richard Fisher

“And the oracle of the Lord you shall mention no more. For every man’s word will be his oracle, for you have perverted the words of the Living God, the Lord of Hosts, our God” (Jeremiah 23:36).

Harold Camping is at it — again! One would have thought that his failed prediction of the return of Christ in 1994¹ would have shamed and silenced him.

Camping left himself very little wiggle room in his book titled *1994?*, when he stated:

“I will be surprised if we reach October 1, 1994. ... By God’s mercy there are a few months left. However, if this study is accurate, and I believe with all my heart that it is, there will be no extensions in time. There will be no time for second guessing. When September 6, 1994, arrives, no one else can become saved. The end has come.”²

Camping’s heart and his hermeneutics were dead wrong. He should have ended his foolishness then and



there. However, as another purveyor of false prophecy, the Watchtower Society has proved time and again,

some false prophets don’t know when to quit.

Back in 1993, after writing about Camping and stating that his premise for 1994 was unbiblical, PFO received from Camping’s followers stern warnings and predictions of dire judgment because we dared to question his hermeneutics, interpretations, and date-setting. PFO was called “judgmental” for even questioning Camping. When September 1994 came and went without incident, and Camping went on as if his false prophecies had never occurred, we heard no more from his avid devotees and were no longer promised God’s judgment. Camping slipped back, at least part way, into the woodwork.

That all changed this past September when Camping gathered his staff for a solemn meeting to announce
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