

The Exchange
Saturday, 25 October 2014



1. What is it about end time events that cause people such fascination?
2. Biblical prophecy was seldom fulfilled in the lifetime of those who received it and periods of fulfilment were short and infrequent when compared to the periods of expectation. Do you think that the world is going to end in our lifetimes? If so, how does that make you feel?
3. Is it ok for a Christian to be fearful or anxious about end time events?
4. To what extent does fear motivate your life? What are some ways to reduce the impact that fear has on choices and actions?
5. Can the fear of end time events serve as a catalyst for people seeking to learn more about God? Are churches ever guilty of preying on this insecurity in people, and is that permissible given the motivation in doing so?
6. Pascal's Wager is often used as an argument for why people should believe in God positing that all humans bet with their lives on whether to believe in God or not and that there is more potential gain in believing in God than not. How does logic like this hold up given the persecution that is predicted as part of end time events?
7. Is love for, and trust in God, something that can be had immediately or is it something that needs to be developed over time? Does this differ between people?
8. What are some things that we are tempted to worship other than God? How can we know if we are, and how can we protect ourselves from this sometimes subtle form of idolatry?
9. Is there a place for compromise when it comes to matters of faith? If so, in what way and under what circumstances? What things, if any, can or should be compromised?
10. Are there still prophets today?
11. What is the purpose of prophecy? Is it to provide knowledge of the future, similar to that which history gives us of the past, ahead of time? If so, is prophecy intended to change our behaviours, inform us of the inevitable or both?
12. To what extent is prophecy intended to be understood by those it is disclosed to? What examples are there in the Bible of people benefiting from, or understanding, prophecy in advance? What examples are there of people not, and in these cases was it a failing of the people, or due to some other factor?
13. By its very nature, prophecy is mysterious. Are there dangers in focusing on the minutia of prophecy and overlooking the message? How should we interact with prophecy?
14. How should Christians best prepare for end times, given what the Bible tells us about them?