



[Subscribe to Fortune](#) [Register](#) [Log In](#) [CNN](#)

Enter symbol or keyword [Search](#)

- [Home](#)
  - [Video](#)
  - [Business News](#)
  - [Markets](#)
  - [Term Sheet](#)
  - [Economy](#)
  - [Tech](#)
  - [Personal Finance](#)
  - [Small Business](#)
  - [Twitter](#)
  - [Like](#)
  - [22K](#)
- [Federal Reserve](#) | [Jobs](#) | [International](#) | [The Buzz](#) | [Tablet View](#)

# Doomsday church: Still open for business

544 comments

By Annalyn Censky @CNNMoney May 19, 2011: 3:23 PM ET



PHOTO: SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

Recommend

9,881 people recommend this. Be the first of your friends.

NEW YORK (CNNMoney) -- By now, you've probably heard of the religious group that's predicting the end of the world starts this weekend.

Harold Camping and his devoted followers claim a massive earthquake will mark the second coming of Jesus, or so-called Judgment Day on Saturday, May 21, ushering in a five month period of catastrophes before the world comes to a complete end in October.

### Sponsored Links

#### Penny Stock Jumping 3000%

Sign up to the #1 voted penny stock newsletter for free today!

#### SHOCKING: Apple iPad for \$24.87

TODAY ONLY: Auction site to give away 1,000 iPads for \$24.87!

[Buy a link here](#)



FROM: FAMILYRADIO.COM

At the center of it all, Camping's organization, Family Radio, is perfectly happy to take your money -- and in fact, received \$80 million in contributions between 2005 and 2009. Camping founded Family Radio, a nonprofit Christian radio network based in Oakland, Calif. with about 65 stations across the country, in 1958.

But not even all of his own employees are convinced that the world is ending on Saturday.

In fact, many still plan on showing up at work on Monday.

"I don't believe in any of this stuff that's going on, and I plan on being

here next week," a receptionist at their Oakland headquarters told CNNMoney.

A program producer in Illinois told us, "We're going to continue doing what we're doing."

According to their most [recent IRS filings](#), Family Radio is almost entirely funded by donations, and brought in \$18 million in contributions in 2009 alone.

### Take a look at Family Radio's IRS filings

According to those financial documents, accountants put the total worth of Family Radio (referred to as Family Stations on its official forms) at \$72

## Most Popular

Doomsday church: Still open for business	544
Trump's 'university' targeted by NY regulators	27
Arnold, you better have a prenup!	44
Confronting the coming American worker shortage	38
Gas stations: We're the gouging victims	359

## How's the Economy

Latest Report	Next Update
<a href="#">Inflation (CPI)</a>	June 15
<a href="#">Retail Sales</a>	June 14
<a href="#">Jobs</a>	June 3
<a href="#">Manufacturing (ISM)</a>	June 1
<a href="#">GDP</a>	May 26
<a href="#">Home Prices</a>	May 31
<a href="#">Consumer Confidence</a>	May 31

million.

With those kind of financials -- and controversial beliefs -- it's no wonder skeptics have accused the group of running a scam.

Camping first inaccurately predicted the world would end in 1994. Even so, he has gathered even more followers -- some who have given up their homes, entire life savings and their jobs because they believe the world is ending.

Esther, the receptionist in the Oakland office, said some of her most extreme coworkers have recently driven up in fancy cars or taken their families on nice vacations as a last hurrah.

But overall, she estimates about 80% of her coworkers don't even agree with Camping's May 21 forecast. She has stuck to her work as usual, booking appointments and filling up calendars for her coworkers well beyond the May 21 date.

Meanwhile, some employees are questioning the meaning of **Harold Camping's goodbye letter** sent to the Family Radio mailing list last week. While he says farewell, he encourages employees to "steadfastly continue to stand with us to proclaim the Gospel through Family Radio."

Could that mean he plans on disappearing, but the company should still go about its business as usual?

### Read Harold Camping's goodbye letter

The producer in Illinois said, "We're trying to guess what it means for the company. Our producers have programs done through the end of the month, so we're not looking at that having any effect on the work."

Also curious is why Family Radio requested an extension to file their nonprofit paperwork. The group is required to submit financial documents in many of the states where they solicit donations, and in Minnesota they requested an extension from their July 15 deadline to November 15.

July 15th was already well past their Judgment Day prediction -- when they say believers will ascend to heaven -- so why bother requesting an extension to November?

But Family Radio's financial filings otherwise look hardly unusual for a religious nonprofit.

"At first glance, it looks like they have a lot of assets, but they actually don't have a lot of cash that they're stockpiling," said Laurie Styron, analyst with the American Institute of Philanthropy.

Most of the group's net worth is tied up in FCC broadcasting licenses, valued at \$56 million. Family Radio claimed it held only \$1.5 million in cash on its books at the end of 2009.

The paperwork shows Camping has so far, never taken a penny for his own salary, but Family Radio has plenty of other paid employees.

## Job Search

simply hired

job title or company  location

- Accounting jobs
- Engineering jobs
- Finance jobs
- Management jobs
- Marketing jobs
- Sales jobs

## CNNMoney Sponsors



PERSONAL SAVINGS  
from American Express

[CDs and High Yield Savings Accounts](#)



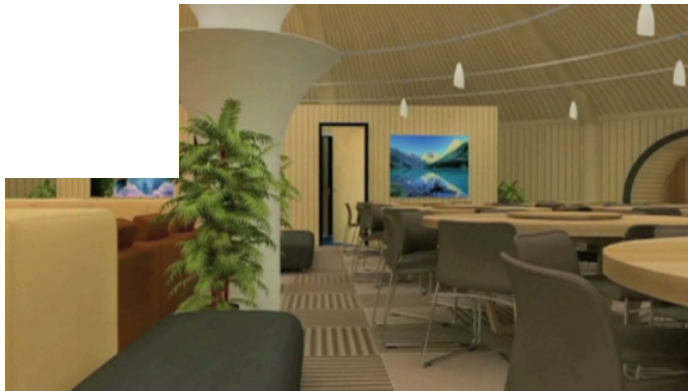
Capital One Bank

[Open a savings account with Capital One Bank](#)



BUSINESS UNUSUAL

[Daring stories from the road to success.](#)



## Living large in an apocalypse bunker

The nonprofit employed about 350 people and paid them a collective \$8.3 million -- or roughly \$23,000 per person -- in 2009.

What the 2009 IRS filings don't show, is how the organization's donations and expenses may have changed during 2010 and leading up to the May 21 Judgment Day prediction.

In the last few months, Family Radio billboards have popped up across the country. And the group **purchased RVs to drive around the country** on its evangelizing missions.

Those expenses could have changed their financial picture, but since Family Radio doesn't have to turn in their next IRS filing until November, it may not even matter.

"If people donating to this group think the world is ending on Saturday, then I'm not sure that they care," Styron said. ■

First Published: May 19, 2011: 10:57 AM ET

[Share](#)

[Email](#)

[Print](#)

## Related Articles

[CNN's interview with Harold Camping](#)

[Sales of luxe doomsday bunkers up 1,000%](#)

[American dream lives on, but money's tight](#)

[Making sacrifices to land a dream job](#)

### Sponsored Links

#### [Penny Stock Jumping 3000%](#)

Sign up to the #1 voted penny stock newsletter for free today!  
[www.AwesomePennyStocks.com](http://www.AwesomePennyStocks.com)

#### [SHOCKING: Apple iPad for \\$24.87](#)

TODAY ONLY: Auction site to give away 1,000 iPads for \$24.87!  
[NewsToday9.com](http://NewsToday9.com)

#### [12 Month CD Rates](#)

Looking For Great Rates For A 12 Month CD?? Jumpstart Your Retirement!  
[JustClickLocal.com](http://JustClickLocal.com)

#### [The Best Stocks to Buy](#)

Get daily penny stocks alerts on active stocks set to big make gains.  
<http://www.bullrally.com>

[Buy a link here](#)

## Join the Conversation (1-5 of 557 comments)

Sort by

[Subscribe by RSS](#)

**Login below to leave a comment**



**LaChaparrita**, 8 seconds ago

Jesus spoke these words, at that time know man had come to the understanding or had perceived as yet the time of the day of the Lord, no not the angels, or even the Son of God, could absolutely say for sure as yet what the day or the hour was going to be.  
This is what this word truly means and NOT what we as Christians have misinterpreted it to mean by saying things... [show more](#)



**Taliskerde**, 33 seconds ago

I have yet to read any intelligent discourse here and certainly have not read a rational apologetic for the existence of God. Without substantiation for God, why should anyone think any of this is more than absurd? What point is there in quoting Bible without first submitting substantive evidence for God? Quote yourselves blue - you've said nothing. You've offered nothing. You've served no one and no purpose. Prove God, prove the Bible, then maybe... [show more](#)



**chubby5258**, 1 minute ago

pin heads !



**Jillian Onishea**, 2 minutes ago

i know i defintiely havent! if anything serious were to already happen over there, a majority of people in this world would have already known about it.



**Adam420**, 2 minutes ago

Can we just make religion and all the whack jobs that follow that garbage criminals? Throw em all in jail. What has religion done for us? Well heres a list:

- Judaism = still screwing us out of money to this day;
- Christianity = death of millions based on "religion", the crusades, etc;
- Islam = same as Christianity, only more radical, terrorism, etc;

Time to wake up and cleanse the world of its... [show more](#)



**About CNNMoney**

- Contact Us
- Advertise with Us
- User Preferences
- Career Opportunities
- Conferences
- Business Leader Council

**Content**

- Fortune Magazine
- Money Magazine
- Business News
- Markets
- Term Sheet
- Economy
- Tech
- Personal Finance
- Small Business
- Video

**Magazines**

- Subscribe to Fortune
- Subscribe to Money
- Give the Gift of Fortune
- Give the Gift of Money
- Reprints
- Special Sections
- Magazine Customer Service

**Site Tools**

- Site Map
- Watchlist
- Search Jobs
- Real Estate Search
- Mortgage and Savings Center
- Calculators
- Widgets
- Corrections
- Market Data Alerts
- News Alerts

**Stay Connected**

- My Account
- Mobile Site & Apps
- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- YouTube
- RSS Feeds
- Newsletters
- Tumblr

---

Market indexes are shown in real time, except for the DJIA, which is delayed by two minutes. All times are ET. **Disclaimer** LIBOR Warning: Neither BBA Enterprises Limited, nor the BBA LIBOR Contributor Banks, nor Reuters, can be held liable for any irregularity or inaccuracy of BBA LIBOR. **Disclaimer** Morningstar: © 2011 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. **Disclaimer** The Dow Jones IndexesSM are proprietary to and distributed by Dow Jones & Company, Inc. and have been licensed for use. All content of the Dow Jones IndexesSM © 2011 is proprietary to Dow Jones & Company, Inc. Chicago Mercantile Association. The market data is the property of Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. and its licensors. All rights reserved. FactSet Research Systems Inc. 2011. All rights reserved. Most stock quote data provided by BATS.

---

© 2011 Cable News Network. A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved. [Terms](#) under which this service is provided to you. [Privacy Policy](#). [Ad choices](#)