

Family Radio and Harold Camping

The 2011 Rapture and End of the Universe

Contents

Articles

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Harold Camping | 1 |
| 2011 end times prediction | 6 |
| Family Radio | 10 |


References

| | |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| Article Sources and Contributors | 19 |
| Image Sources, Licenses and Contributors | 20 |

Article Licenses

| | |
|---------|----|
| License | 21 |
|---------|----|

Harold Camping

| Harold Camping | |
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|  | |
| Camping being interviewed in 2011 | |
| Born | July 19, 1921Boulder, Colorado, United States |
| Occupation | Talk radio personality, self-published Christian author, civil engineer |
| Years active | 1958–present |
| Known for | End times predictions |
| Website | |
| familyradio.com ^[1] | |

Harold Egbert Camping (born July 19, 1921) is a Christian radio broadcaster^[2] and president of Family Radio, a California-based religious broadcasting network that spans more than 150 outlets in the United States as well as a website.

Camping's trademarks include his deep, sonorous voice coupled with a slow cadence. He has also used mathematical predictions applied to the Bible to predict dates for the end of the world.^[3] His current end times prediction is that the Rapture will be on May 21, 2011 and that God will completely destroy the Earth and the universe five months later on October 21.^[4]^[5] He had previously predicted that the Rapture would occur in September 1994.^[6]

Biography

Camping was born in Colorado and moved at an early age to California. He earned a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley (1942).^[2] He and his family were members of the Christian Reformed Church until the year 1988. During this time he served as an Elder and Sunday school teacher at the Alameda Bible Fellowship.

In 1958, Camping joined with other individuals of Christian Reformed, Bible Baptist, and Conservative Christian Presbyterian to purchase an FM radio station in San Francisco, California, KEAR, then at 97.3 MHz, to broadcast traditional Christian Gospel to the conservative Protestant community and minister to the general public.^[7] Through the 1960s, Family Radio acquired 6 additional FM stations and 7 other AM stations under guidelines established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).^[8]

Family Radio

In 1961, Family Radio began the Open Forum program, a live weeknight call-in program that Camping hosts.^[2] Listeners call in primarily with questions about the meaning of certain passages from the Bible, and Camping answers them by means of interpretations, often with reference to other Biblical passages. Occasionally the questions pertain to general Christian doctrine, such as the nature of sin and salvation, and to matters of everyday life conduct, such as marriage, sexual morality, and education.^[2] This program has continued to the present time and is broadcast on the more than 150 stations owned by Family Radio in the United States. The Open Forum is also translated into many foreign languages and together with other Family Radio programming is broadcast worldwide via shortwave station WYFR, a network of AM and FM radio stations, a cable television station, and the Internet.

Family Radio runs various programs on its radio stations. Programs that do not conform to Camping's understanding of the Biblical principle of comparing scripture with scripture (1 Corinthians 2:13) are normally removed from programming upon discovery. Before Camping started teaching that the "Church Age" had ended, programs produced outside of Family Radio were welcome provided they did not accept any "extra-Biblical revelation", and were associated with teachings accepted by the historic Christian faith. Now Camping refuses any ministry associated with the organized church. These programs can be heard by radio, satellite, television, short wave and Internet broadcasts.

His organization also utilizes numerous low-power television signals, for example WFME-TV digital television channel 66 in the New York City area. As of April, 2009, that transmitter has been configured to send out ten separate subchannels, with the first (66-1) carrying the main video at a low quality 480i, the second and third (66-2 and 66-3) sending out a blank video image and, respectively, carrying the audio of "Family Radio East" and "Family Radio West". The other seven have no video and are a mix of different audio content, mostly of a religious nature, and NOAA Weather Radio on 66-9.

The Biblical Calendar of History

In 1970, Camping published *The Biblical Calendar of History* (later greatly expanded in *Adam When?*), in which he dated the Creation of the world to the year 11,013 BC and the Flood to 4990 BC. This was in contrast to Bishop James Ussher's famous chronology, which placed creation at 4004 BC and the Flood at 2348 BC. Camping argued that Ussher's dates "agree neither with the Biblical nor the secular evidence" and thus Ussher's methodology was flawed.^[9]

Camping surmised that word in the Old Testament scriptures "begat" did not necessarily imply an immediate father-son relationship, as had been assumed by Ussher and others who hadn't fully studied the biblical timeline according to incomplete information. Camping noted the use of the phrase "called his name" (Hebrew *qara shem*), found three times in Genesis 4-5, which he characterized as a "clue phrase" to indicate an immediate father-son relationship.^[9] Despite the fact that this "clue phrase" does not occur regarding Noah naming Shem, Camping maintains that there is enough evidence to otherwise conclude that they did in fact have an immediate father-son relationship. He also points out the use of *qara shem* in Isaiah 7:14, where we are told, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."^[9]

Camping assumes that since *qara shem* implies an immediate father-son relationship (e.g., Adam-Seth, Seth-Enosh and Lamech-Noah), all other relationships between the Antediluvian patriarchs (except Noah-Shem) are of ancestors and their distant descendants. That is, when one patriarch died, the next one who is mentioned was not his son but was actually a distant multi-great grandson who was born in that same year, thus Camping's concept of the "reference patriarch," i.e., various events are referenced to a specific year of a particular patriarch's life as a means of keeping an accurate chronological record (in much the same way we reference historical events by year to the birth of Christ). Despite the fact that there is no evidence that any ancient civilization kept track of time in this way,^[9] Camping uses this concept as the backbone of his chronological view of Biblical history.

Philosophy and teachings

Camping teaches that a Biblical calendar has been hidden according to Daniel 12:9, Revelation 22:10 detailing the imminent end of the world (with alleged Biblical evidence pointing to the date for the Rapture as May 21, 2011);^[10] of the "end of the church age" (which asserts that churches are no longer the vehicle used by God for salvation, 1 Peter 4:17);^[11] and of predestination (Ephesians 1:4-5), according to which God determined before the beginning of the world which individuals are to be saved. In Camping's latest publications, he states that May 21, 2011 will be "the first day of the Day of Judgment"^[12] and October 21, 2011 will be the end of the world.^[13] Critics call Camping a "date-setter" following his own method of Biblical interpretation. Camping maintains that he follows the Bible's method of Biblical interpretation.^[14]

Camping does not consider Family Radio a church and does not claim ordained or hierarchical authority within a church or institution. Camping claims that the church institutions do not employ the Bible alone as the sole authority. According to Camping, each church or denomination has its own unique set of doctrines and hermeneutics, which dictate how they understand the Bible. Family Radio's sole focus on the Bible is what he believes distinguishes it from churches. Recently, as his predicted Judgment Day (May 21, 2011) draws near, Family Radio has become affiliated with eBibleFellowship.com, another Bible-based ministry. Followers continue to listen to Camping despite the fact that he was wrong in his previous prediction of the end of the world. In his book *1994?*, he claimed there was a very high likelihood that the world would end in September, 1994, although he did acknowledge in the book "the possibility does exist that I could be wrong."^[15] He makes no mention of this failure when establishing his new claims of the end of the world in October, 2011. Camping has received criticism from a number of leaders, scholars, and laymen within the Christian community for his predictions on when the Rapture will take place. His critics argue that Jesus Christ taught that no man knows the day or the hour of the Lord's return.^{[16] [17]}

Central to Camping's teaching is the belief that the Bible alone and in its entirety is the Word of God, and absolutely trustworthy. However, he emphasizes, this does not mean that each sentence in the Bible is to be understood only literally. Rather, the meaning of individual Biblical passages also needs to be interpreted in the light of two factors. The first is the context of the Bible as a whole. The second is its spiritual meaning. In Camping's words, "the Bible is an earthly story with a Heavenly meaning." This stems from Mark 4:34, which states that Jesus did not speak to the disciples without using parables. Because Christ is the Word of God, therefore, the historical accounts of the Old Testament can also be seen as parables. For example, in the Book of Joshua, we find that Joshua (whose name in Hebrew is identical to the name "Jesus" in Greek), is a picture of Christ, who safely led the Israelites (who represented those who became saved) across the Jordan River (a representation of the wrath of God) into the land of Canaan (which represents the kingdom of God).^[18]

Since leaving the Christian Reformed Church in 1988, Camping has taught doctrines that explicitly conflict with the doctrines and confessions of the Christian Reformed Church and churches of the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions. Examples of how Camping's teachings vary from conventional Reformed doctrines include:

- Departing from Calvinist doctrine, Camping teaches a relative free will for humanity and that humans are not totally depraved.^[19] However, he subscribes to the idea that salvation is unmerited, cannot be achieved by good works or prayer, and is a pure act of God's grace.
- Departing from the doctrine of eternal torment for the unsaved in a place called Hell, Camping teaches annihilationism; that life will end and existence will cease for the unsaved soul.^[20]
- Departing from doctrines stating no one can know the time of Christ's second coming, he teaches that the exact times of the Rapture and the End of the World are to be revealed sometime towards the end of time (Daniel



Van with warning of impending end of the world per Camping's prediction

12:9-13 prophecy).

- Camping teaches that all churches have become apostate and thus must be abandoned. He encourages personal Bible study and listening to his Family Radio broadcasts.^{[21] [22]}

Controversy

Camping's Biblical study regarding time and Christ's second coming is based on the cycles of:

- Jewish feast days in the Hebrew calendar, as described in the Old Testament,
- the lunar month calendar (1 month = 29.53059 days), and
- the Gregorian calendar (1 year = 365.2425 days).

He projects these into modern times and combines the results with other information in the Bible.^{[23] [24] [25] [26]}

Camping calculates that the crucifixion of Christ took place on Friday April 1, AD 33.^{[13] [23]} Not all commentators agree with that date. Hoehner argues for April 3, 33 A.D.^[27] Other students of the subject have placed the event in AD 29, 30, or 31.

In 1992, Camping published a book titled *1994?*, in which he proclaimed that Christ's return might be on September 6, 1994. In that publication, he also mentioned that 2011 could be the end of the world. Camping's predictions use 1988 as a significant year in the events preceding the apocalypse; this was also the year he left Alameda Bible Fellowship. As a result, some individuals have criticized him for "date-setting."^[28] Camping's latest publications, *We are Almost There!* and *To God be The Glory*, refer to additional Biblical evidence which, in his opinion and that of others mentioned by him, points to May 21, 2011 as the date for the Rapture and October 21, 2011 as the date for the end of the world.

In an article "Is Harold Camping and Family Radio a Cult?", the evangelical Got Questions Ministries opposed Camping's teachings because they believe his entire method of Bible interpretation is flawed:

"Harold Camping employs an allegorical method of interpreting Scripture. Because of this method, the meaning of any Scripture passage is purely subjective, subject to the mind and imagination of the person. ... Camping's use of an allegorical method of interpretation for Scripture, and especially for unfulfilled prophecy, is fatally flawed. It undermines the very nature of communication. God gave us His Word to communicate very specific information."^[29]

2011 end times prediction

Camping has gained recent notoriety due to his prediction that the Christian Rapture will take place on May 21, 2011^{[30] [31]} and that the end of the world will take place five months later on October 21, 2011.^[32] Followers of Camping claim that around 200 million people (approximately 3% of the world's population) will be raptured.^[33] As for the remainder of the human population, Camping himself believes in annihilationism, which is the view that those who are not saved will simply cease to be conscious rather than spend eternity in Hell. Those who were "unsaved" and died prior to May 21 will not be affected by or experience the Rapture or the end of the world.

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External links

- Harold Camping biography (http://www.familyradio.com/english/connect/bio/haroldcamping_bio.html) at Family Radio official website
- Harold Camping's publications (<http://www.familyradio.com/graphical/literature/frame/>) at Family Radio
- Last Year on Earth (<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/lastyearonearth/index/>) blog by Justin Berton (<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/lastyearonearth/bios/>), a reporter at the San Francisco Chronicle.

2011 end times prediction

The **2011 end times prediction** is a prediction made by Christian radio host Harold Camping that the Rapture (in Christian belief, the taking up into heaven of God's elect people) will take place on May 21, 2011^[1] ^[2] and that the end of the world as we know it will take place five months later on October 21, 2011.^[3] These predictions were made by Camping, president of the Family Radio Christian network, who claims the Bible as his source and says May 21 will be the date of the Rapture and the day of judgment "beyond the shadow of a doubt".^[4] His followers claim that around 200 million people (approximately 3% of the world's population) will be raptured.^[5]

Camping's predictions have not been embraced by most other Christian groups;^[6] ^[7] some have explicitly rejected them.^[8] ^[9] ^[10] ^[11] Camping previously claimed that the world would end in September, 1994.

Rationale

"I know it's absolutely true, because the Bible is always absolutely true."^[12]

— Harold Camping, president, Family Radio

Camping has presented several arguments, or biblical "proofs", in favor of the May 21st end time. A civil engineer by training, Camping states he has attempted to work out mathematically-based prophecies in the Bible for decades. In an interview with SFGate he explained "...I was an engineer, I was very interested in the numbers. I'd wonder, 'Why did God put this number in, or that number in?' It was not a question of unbelief, it was a question of, 'There must be a reason for it.' "^[13]



Harold Camping being interviewed about his prediction in early 2011.

As early as 1970, Camping dated the Great Flood to 4990 BC.^[14] Taking the prediction in Genesis 7:4 ("Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth") to be a prediction of the end of the world, and combining it with 2 Peter 3:8 ("With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day"), Camping concludes that the end of the world will occur in 2011, 7000 years from 4990 BC.^[5] Camping takes the 17th day of the second month mentioned in Genesis 7:11 to be the 21st May, and hence predicts the rapture to occur on this date.^[5]

Another argument that Camping uses in favor of the May 21st date is as follows:

1. According to Camping, the number five equals "atonement", the number ten equals "completeness", and the number seventeen equals "heaven".
2. Christ is said to have hung on the cross on April 1, 33 AD. The time between April 1, 33 AD and April 1, 2011 is 1,978 years.
3. If 1,978 is multiplied by 365.2422 days (the number of days in a solar year, not to be confused with the lunar year), the result is 722,449.
4. The time between April 1 and May 21 is 51 days.

5. 51 added to $722,449$ is $722,500$.

6. $(5 \times 10 \times 17)^2$ or (atonement \times completeness \times heaven)² also equals $722,500$.

Thus, Camping concludes that $5 \times 10 \times 17$ is telling us a "story from the time Christ made payment for our sins until we're completely saved."^[13]

Camping has not been precise about the exact timing of the event, saying that "maybe" we can know the hour.^[15] He has suggested that "days" in the Bible refer to daylight hours particularly.^[15] Another account says the "great earthquake" which signals the start of the Rapture will "start in the Pacific Rim at around the 6 p.m. local time hour, in each time zone."^[16]

In Camping's 1992 self-published book *1994?* he predicted that the End Times would come in September 1994 (variously reported as September 4^[12] or September 6^[17]) When the Rapture failed to occur on the appointed day, Camping said he had made a mathematical error.^[18]

Promotion

In 2010, Marie Exley of Colorado Springs made news by purchasing advertising space in her locality, promoting the alleged Rapture date on a number of park benches.^[19] Since then, 'Judgment Day' billboards have been erected at locations across the world.^[20] Some people have adorned their vehicles with the information.^[21]

On October 27, 2010, Family Radio launched "Project Caravan". Five RVs arrayed with reflector lettering that declare that Judgment Day begins on May 21, 2011 were sent out from their headquarters in Oakland, California, to Seattle, Washington. Upon arrival, teams are sent out to distribute tracts.^[22] The caravan has made stops in Oregon,^[23] California, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, Florida, Utah, Maryland,^[24] and other states, as well as Canada and Mexico.

Criticism

Camping's rapture prediction, along with some of his other teachings and beliefs, have sparked some controversy in the Christian world. His critics often quote Bible verses (such as Matthew 24:36) which they claim imply the date of the end will never be known by anyone but God until it actually happens. James Kreuger, author of the book *Secrets of the Apocalypse - Revealed*, has stated that while he believes the rapture is coming, Camping is incorrect in attempting to nail down a date. "For all his learning, Camping makes a classic beginner's mistake when he sets a date for Christ's return," writes Kreuger. "Jesus himself said in Matthew 24:36, 'Of that day and hour knows no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my father only.'"^[13] However, Camping and his followers respond that this principle only applied to the "church age" or "pre-tribulation period" and does not apply to the present day, citing other verses (such as Thessalonians 1 5:1-5:5) in their rebuttal.^[25]

In a 2001 pamphlet, Camping asserted that believers should "flee the church," resigning from any church they belong to, because the "Church Age" is over and the "Great Tribulation" has begun.^[26] This assertion was controversial^[27] and drew "a flurry of attacks".^[26]

Edwin M. Yamauchi critiqued Camping's dating of the Flood when Camping first published his ideas in 1970.^[14]

Criticism of the May 21 prediction has ranged from serious critique to ridicule. Theology professor Matthew L. Skinner, writing at the Huffington Post, noted the "long history of failed speculation" about the End Times and cautioned that end-of-the-world talk can lead Christians to social passivity instead of "working for the world's redemption".^[28] Some columnists have mocked the prediction with humorous columns from a skeptical viewpoint.^[29]

Evolutionary biologist and atheist Richard Dawkins dismissed Camping's prediction, writing that "he will inevitably explain, on May 22nd, that there must have been some error in the calculation, the rapture is postponed to . . . and please send more money to pay for updated billboards."^[30] The group Seattle Atheists formed the Rapture Relief Fund which they will use "to help survivors of any Armageddon-sized disaster in the Puget Sound area";^[31] if the

rapture fails to come as predicted, the money will fund a camp that teaches children about critical thinking.^[32] The group American Atheists has sponsored billboards in several American cities declaring the Rapture to be "nonsense", and are holding a party during the period of the predicted rapture. California Director of American Atheists Larry Hicock said that "Camping's well-intentioned rapture campaign is indicative of the problems with religion".^[33]

Publications

Camping's writings that detail the timing of the end include:

- Book
 - *1994?* (1992 - predicts the End Times for September, 1994)
 - *Time Has An End* (2005 - discusses Camping's belief that 2011 is in all likelihood the end of the world)
- Booklet
 - *Has the Era of the Church Come to an End?* (2001 - advises that the Great Tribulation has begun and that Christians should "flee their churches")
 - *We Are Almost There!* (2008 - contains all the information on how May 21, 2011 was arrived at)
- Tracts
 - *The End of the World is Almost Here! Holy God Will Bring Judgment on May 21, 2011* (2009)
 - *God Gives Another Infallible Proof That Assures the Rapture Will Occur May 21, 2011* (2009)
 - *No Man Knows the Day or the Hour?* (2009)

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External links

- Official website (<http://http://www.familyradio.com/graphical/literature/judgment/judgment.html>)
- We Can Know (<http://www.wecanknow.com>)
- EBibleFellowship (<http://www.ebiblefellowship.com>)
- The Latter Rain (<http://www.the-latter-rain.com>)
- Family Radio Discussion Forum (<http://www.departout.com>)

Family Radio

Family Radio (Family Stations Inc.), based in Oakland, California, is a non-commercial, 24-hour, listener-supported, Christian radio religious broadcasting network in the United States, founded in 1959 by Richard Palmquist, Lloyd Lindquist, and Harold Camping. The network consists mainly of FM radio stations with non-commercial licenses (and a few commercial licenses used as non-commercial) and relays, with some AM stations and two television stations, plus WYFR shortwave in Okeechobee, Florida. The network produces programming in more than 40 languages.^{[1] [2]}



Programming

Family Radio's music programming consists mainly of early American hymns and avoids other genres generally, including Contemporary Christian Music and southern gospel.

One of Family Radio's most enduring broadcasts is a call-in program called "Open Forum" in which Harold Camping, the station's president, responds to callers' questions and comments as they relate to the Bible. "Family Bible Reading Fellowship", "Family Bible Study", "Sunday Preaching", "Beyond Intelligent Design", "Christian Home", and "Family Radio World Wide" are examples of other programming offered.^[3]

Support

Family Radio relies solely on listener-supported funding and donations, and is unaffiliated with any other religious denomination.^[4] Outside programming broadcast over the Family Radio network is aired free of charge and Family Radio does not sell programming time to ministries. Unlike other non-commercial stations, Family Radio stations do not get a percentage of donations coming from ministries in Family Radio listening areas. Few outside ministry programs are aired over Family Radio.

Family Radio had net assets of approximately \$122 million in 2007.^[5]

Politics

Family Radio does not discuss politics directly, campaign for political candidates, or endorse candidates or issues. Family Radio attempts to distance itself from political social issues—one reason the "Focus on the Family" program was removed in the early 1980s. Nevertheless, Family Radio has presented programs that may have political and social ramifications, such as those that advocate creationism.^[6]

History

Family Radio (aka Family Stations Inc.) began obtaining FM broadcasting licenses on commercial frequencies early in FM's history, and by 2006, was ranked 19th among top broadcast companies in number of radio stations owned.^[7] Currently, Family Radio's affiliates in New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and San Francisco are on prime commercial frequencies and the licenses of these stations alone may be worth hundreds of millions of dollars if sold today.

In 1958, a Family Radio founder, Harold Camping, joined with other individuals of Christian Reformed, Bible Baptist, and Conservative Christian Presbyterian to purchase an FM radio station in San Francisco, California, KEAR, then at 97.3 MHz, to broadcast traditional Christian Gospel to the conservative Protestant community and

minister to the general public. With the primary purpose of broadcasting doctrines of Christianity reflective of the teachings of the Holy Bible, Family Radio remained independent, never merging with any particular church organization or church denominations^[8]

Through the 1960s, as a ministry, both non-profit organization and non-commercial, Family Radio acquired 6 additional FM stations and 7 other AM stations under guidelines established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).^[9] The flagship station for the network of both full-power and low-power translator stations is KEAR in San Francisco (now at 610 kHz, since 2005 at 106.9 MHz). Due to FCC rules regarding translator stations, the legal primary station for the translators was changed to KEAR-FM in Sacramento, after the former primary FM station in San Francisco was sold to CBS Radio.^[10]

With the sale of KEAR-FM to CBS Radio in 2005, broadcasts from San Francisco moved to an AM radio frequency.^[11] Family Radio continues to own other large market FM commercial band stations, including WFME 94.7 MHz Newark, NJ in the New York City radio market.

Many program productions broadcast throughout the Family Radio station network were produced in the Oakland, California facilities. The production process involved pre-recording two weeks of broadcast programming on reel-to-reel tapes distributed to each local Family Radio station for broadcast on the specified date. Free broadcast time was provided by Family Radio to national fundamentalist and evangelical ministries—outside ministries' programs were sent in cassette and reel-to-reel tape formats to respective Family Radio stations for local broadcast. Popular network announcers and the programs they hosted included Jon Arthur (The Quiet Hours, Big Jon & Sparky, Radio Reading Circle); Omar Andeel (The Morning Clock); Harold Hall (The Christian Home); Ken Boone (Music to Live By); Bob Swenson (Transition); and Jerry Edinger (Nightwatch). Each local Family Radio station had local board operators providing world, national, and local news and weather at various intervals throughout the day; regular public service announcements and daily public affairs programming; and local traffic reports via phone call-in during morning and afternoon weekdays. Outside ministry programs included "Focus on the Family" (which was pulled in 1985), "Freedom Under Fire", "Unshackled", "Back to the Bible", "Family News in Focus", "Beyond Intelligent Design", and "Walk with the King" with Dr. Robert A. Cook. This last program still airs today, although now often edited in places deemed incompatible with the current doctrinal stand. Local Family Radio stations for many years also broadcast church services from local community fundamentalism churches, and the remainder of Family Radio's broadcast time was allocated to traditional Christian music.

By the late 1980s, programming was delivered via satellite, local news was taken off the stations in favor of a various national news from a Christian news source, and all but a few local announcements are produced at their Oakland, California facilities.^[2]

Beginning in the late 1990s, Family Radio began gradually dropping outside ministries because of doctrinal changes in the ministry. As board members left the ministry, they were not being replaced. Harold Camping's views as they were changing became the focus of the ministry. Up to the late 1990s, Family Radio endorsed local church attendance but once Camping stated the church age was over, they are now stating that Christians should NOT be members or attend church services of any type. Today Family Radio produces 95 % of their programming and runs very few outside ministries. Most teaching programs are hosted by Harold Camping himself.

Music broadcast by Family Radio in the 1960s and 1970s was typical of religious stations, commercial and non-commercial. Some commercial stations played Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) for a few hours a week, but in the 1980s, as commercial and some non-commercial Christian stations evolved to Contemporary formats, Family Radio remained with a mainly traditional music format composed of choir hymns, various Gospel singing groups such as the Bill Gaither Trio, Christian college choirs, instrumental orchestral hymn renditions from conductors such as Paul Mickelson and Ralph Carmichael, vocalists such as George Beverly Shea, Frank Boggs, Doug Oldham, Dave Boyer, and others, and softer urban contemporary gospel songs. From the 1970s onward, Family Radio included a few selected tracks from some lighter contemporary Christian artists such as Maranatha, Pam Mark Hall, Cynthia Clawson, the New Creation Singers, Ken Medema, Michael Card, and others, but largely

abandoned this direction by the early 2000s, although this genre is still occasionally heard. In the mid to late 1970s there began a policy of not announcing the names of artists behind the music aired. This was explained as arising from the concern not to distract from the Christ-centered focus of the music. Listeners had to write in for information about music heard that they were interested in.

Family Radio's text publications, and their telephone call-in program, "Open Forum," have continued to be based on the text of the authorized King James Bible.^[12] ^[13] Prerecorded Bible readings broadcast over satellite, shortwave, radio frequencies and the internet are generally based on the Modern King James Bible.^[14]

Teachings and beliefs

Central to Family Radio's and Camping's teaching is the belief that the Bible is the Word of God and completely true. However, he emphasizes, this does not mean that each sentence in the Bible is to be understood only literally. Rather, the meaning of individual Biblical passages needs to be interpreted in the light of two factors. The first is the context of the Bible as a whole. The second is its spiritual meaning: in Camping's words, "the Bible is an earthly story with a Heavenly meaning." In Camping's latest publication, "We are Almost There!",^[15] he states that certain Biblical passages point unquestionably to May 21, 2011 as the date of "Rapture", and October 21, 2011 as the end of the world.

Since leaving the Reformed Church in 1988, Camping has taught doctrines that may conflict with doctrines of the Reformed Church and other church denominations. The principles of Biblical hermeneutics upon which Camping frames his present teachings are:

1. The Bible alone is the Word of God.
2. Every Biblical passage must be interpreted in the light of the Bible as a whole.
3. The Bible normally conveys multiple levels of meaning or significance.^[16]
4. Numerology cannot be applied to numbers in the Bible when following the Biblical rules—some individuals have attempted to apply the concept to Camping's research.
5. That salvation is unmerited and cannot be achieved by good works, prayer, belief or acceptance. It is a pure act of God's grace and that those to be saved were chosen "before the foundation of the world". He has been accused of adding conditions to salvation and teaching relative free will of humanity. However, he has admitted that some, though very few, could be saved, while still in the worldly churches, just as there would be those saved inside the nation of Israel, and that leaving the churches is merely something a believer should do, just as a believer should not lie or cheat. He also gives credit to God for what has been called "common grace", where the unsaved, the yet to be saved and the saved are blessed to do good works, but this is not considered the gift of salvation itself.

Examples of how Camping's teachings vary from past conventional doctrines are:

- Departing from doctrines stating no one can know the time of Christ's second coming, he teaches that the exact times of the Rapture and the End of the World are to be revealed sometime towards the end of time: (Daniel 12:9-13) prophecy.
- Camping teaches that the "Church age" is over, that Satan now rules in all churches, and that no person remaining in a church at the time of the Rapture can be saved. He distinguishes his ministry from a "church", saying that Family Radio does not have a "membership" or hold "authority".
- Camping now teaches that "hell" is synonymous with "death" and the "grave", and that there is no everlasting torment.
- Camping now teaches that The Cross was just a demonstration of what had already happened before the foundation of the world.
- Camping teaches that the world will end May 21 2011 ^[17] using the following reasoning:
 1. According to Camping, the number five equals "atonement", the number ten equals "completeness", and the number seventeen equals "heaven".

2. Christ is said to have hung on the cross on April 1, 33 AD. The time between April 1, 33 AD and April 1, 2011 is 1,978 years.
3. If 1,978 is multiplied by 365.2422 days (the number of days in a solar year, not to be confused with the lunar year), the result is 722,449.
4. The time between April 1 and May 21 is 51 days.
5. 51 added to 722,449 is 722,500.
6. $(5 \times 10 \times 17)^2$ or (atonement x completeness x heaven)² also equals 722,500.

Stations

Satellite

Eutelsat Hotbird 6 - 13 degrees east, Transponder # 89, Vertical LNB polarization; Satellite frequency: 12.597 GHz

- Family Radio Europe (English): channel 8222
- Family Radio International 1: channel 8233
- Family Radio International 2: Channel 8234

Astra 2B - 28.2° east, Transponder # 36, Vertical LNB polarization, Satellite frequency: 12.4024 GHz

- Family Radio Europe (English) : SID 9558

Full-powered stations

East Coast Stations

| Callsign | MHz | City of license | Additional Information |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| WBFR | 89.5 FM | Birmingham, AL | [[WBFR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WCTF | 1170 AM | Vernon, CT | [[WCTF ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WMFL | 88.5 FM | Florida City, FL | [[WMFL ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WJFR | 88.7 FM | Jacksonville, FL | [[WJFR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WYFR | shortwave | Okeechobee, FL | [[WYFR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WWFR | 91.7 FM | Okeechobee, FL | [[WWFR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WFTI | 91.7 FM | St. Petersburg, FL | [[WFTI ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WFRP | 88.7 FM | Americus, GA | [[WFRP ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WFRC | 90.5 FM | Columbus, GA | [[WFRC (FM) WFRC ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WJCH | 91.9 FM | Joliet, IL | [[WJCH ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WFSI | 107.9 FM | Annapolis, MD | [[WFSI ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WBGR | 860 AM | Baltimore, MD | [[WBGR (AM) WBGR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WBMD | 750 AM | Baltimore, MD | [[WBMD ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WOFR | 89.5 FM | Schoolcraft, MI | [[WOFR ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WKDN | 106.9 FM | Camden, NJ | [[WKDN ^[18]]] FCC] |
| WFME | 94.7 FM | Newark, NJ | [[WFME (FM) WFME ^[18]]] FCC] |

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| WFBF | 89.9 FM | Buffalo, NY | [[WFBF ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFRH | 91.7 FM | Kingston, NY | [[WFRH ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFRS | 88.9 FM | Smithtown, NY | [[WFRS ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFRW | 88.1 FM | Webster, NY | [[WFRW ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFSO | 88.3 FM | Olivebridge, NY | [[WFSO ^[18]] FCC] |
| WCUE | 1150 AM | Cuyahoga Falls, OH | [[WCUE ^[18]] FCC] |
| WOTL | 90.3 FM | Toledo, OH | [[WOTL ^[18]] FCC] |
| WYTN | 91.7 FM | Youngstown, OH | [[WYTN ^[18]] FCC] |
| WUFR | 91.1 FM | Erie, PA | [[WUFR (FM) WUFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| WEFR | 88.1 FM | Johnstown, PA | [[WEFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFRJ | 88.9 FM | State College, PA | [[WFRJ ^[18]] FCC] |
| WXFR | 88.3 FM | Charleston, SC | [[WXFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| WFCH | 88.5 FM | Rapid City, SD | [[WFCH ^[18]] FCC] |
| WMWK | 88.1 FM | Milwaukee, WI | [[WMWK ^[18]] FCC] |

West Coast Stations

| Callsign | MHz | City of license | Additional Information |
|-----------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| KPHF | 88.3 FM | Phoenix, AZ | [[KPHF ^[18]] FCC] |
| KFRB | 91.3 FM | Bakersfield, CA | [[KFRB ^[18]] FCC] |
| KHAP | 89.1 FM | Chico, CA | [[KHAP ^[18]] FCC] |
| KECR | 910 AM | El Cajon, CA | [[KECR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KFNO | 90.3 FM | Fresno, CA | [[KFNO ^[18]] FCC] |
| KEFR | 89.9 FM | Le Grand, CA | [[KEFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KFRN | 1280 AM | Long Beach, CA | [[KFRN ^[18]] FCC] |
| KEAR | 610 AM | San Francisco, CA | [[KEAR (AM) KEAR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KEAR-FM | 88.1 FM | Sacramento, CA | [[KEAR-FM ^[18]] FCC] |
| KEBR | 1210 AM | Rocklin, CA | [[KEBR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KFRS | 89.9 FM | Soledad, CA | [[KFRS ^[18]] FCC] |
| KPRA | 89.5 FM | Ukiah, CA | [[KPRA ^[18]] FCC] |
| KDFR | 91.3 FM | Des Moines, IA | [[KDFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KYFR | 920 AM | Shenandoah, IA | [[KYFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KPOR | 90.7 FM | Emporia, KS | [[KPOR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KFRD | 88.3 FM | Butte, MT | [[KFRD ^[18]] FCC] |

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| KBFR | 91.7 FM | Bismarck, ND | [[KBFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KQFR | 89.9 FM | Beaumont, TX | [[KQFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KTXB | 89.7 FM | Salt Lake City, UT | [[KTXB ^[18]] FCC] |
| KUFR | 91.7 FM | Salt Lake City, UT | [[KUFR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KARR | 1460 AM | Kirkland, WA | [[KARR (AM) KARR ^[18]] FCC] |
| KJVH | 89.5 FM | Longview, WA | [[KJVH ^[18]] FCC] |

Family Radio can be heard in English from the following local international stations:

- Moscow, Russia: Center 1503 kHz AM
 - Weekdays 11pm - 12:30am and 8pm - 9:00pm
- Istanbul, Turkey: Radio Joy FM 89.6 mHz
 - Weekdays 5am - 8am and 8 pm - 11pm
- Maseru, Lesotho: 1197 kHz
 - Weekdays 6pm - 9pm and 10pm - 1am

Family Radio also offered international coverage via Short Wave Radio in several languages.

- Metro Manila, Philippines: DWSS 1494 kHz (Tagalog)
 - Weekdays 6pm - 10pm

Translators

In addition to its full-powered stations, Family Radio is relayed by an additional 54 low-powered translators:

East Coast Translators

| Callsign | MHz | City of license | Additional Information |
|---------------|-------|-----------------|------------------------|
| W212AP | 90.3 | Notasulga, AL | FCC ^[19] |
| W203AT | 88.5 | Albany, GA | FCC ^[20] |
| W220AN | 91.9 | La Grange, GA | FCC ^[21] |
| W220BD | 91.9 | Roanoke, VA | FCC ^[22] |
| W203AL | 88.5 | Duluth, MN | FCC ^[23] |
| W209BC | 89.7 | Wakelee, MI | FCC ^[24] |
| W205AP | 88.9 | Pascagoula, MS | FCC ^[25] |
| W212AG | 90.3 | Berwick, PA | FCC ^[26] |
| W204AC | 88.7 | Emmaus, PA | FCC ^[27] |
| W207AG | 89.3 | Freeland, PA | FCC ^[28] |
| W215AF | 90.9 | Muncy, PA | FCC ^[29] |
| W208AF | 89.5 | Nanticoke, PA | FCC ^[30] |
| W280CV | 103.9 | Scranton, PA | FCC ^[31] |

| | | | |
|---------------|------|----------------|----------|
| W207AE | 89.3 | Reading, PA | FCC [32] |
| W207AX | 89.3 | Burlington, VT | FCC [33] |
| W206AH | 89.1 | Eau Claire, WI | FCC [34] |

West Coast Translators

| Callsign | MHz | City of license | Additional Information |
|-----------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| K202CG | 90.3 | Jonesboro, AR | FCC [35] |
| K205CI | 90.3 | Phoenix, AZ | FCC [36] |
| K201CQ | 88.1 | Prescott, AZ | FCC [37] |
| K217BJ | 91.3 | Banning, CA | FCC [38] |
| K219AO | 91.7 | Fairmont, CA | FCC [39] |
| K268AH | 101.5 | Palm Springs, CA | FCC [40] |
| K241AJ | 96.1 | Palmdale, CA | FCC [41] |
| K220EY | 91.9 | Porterville, CA | FCC [42] |
| K227AH | 93.3 | River Pines, CA | FCC [43] |
| K213BZ | 90.5 | Richvale, CA | FCC [44] |
| K213CH | 90.5 | Ridgecrest, CA | FCC [45] |
| K238AC | 95.5 | Salida, CA | FCC [46] |
| K209CE | 89.7 | San Luis Obispo, CA | FCC [47] |
| K204CL | 88.7 | Smith River, CA | FCC [48] |
| K223AL | 92.5 | South Lake Tahoe, CA | FCC [49] |
| K290AG | 105.9 | Stockton, CA | FCC [50] |
| K214CA | 90.7 | Grand Junction, CO | FCC [51] |
| K209BQ | 89.7 | Amana, IA | FCC [52] |
| K236AA | 95.1 | Cedar Rapids, IA | FCC [53] |
| K206BF | 89.1 | Fort Dodge, IA | FCC [54] |
| K205CA | 88.9 | Ottumwa, IA | FCC [55] |
| K206DU | 89.1 | Lafayette, LA | FCC [56] |
| K272DU | 102.3 | Black Eagle, MT | FCC [57] |
| K217CD | 91.3 | Great Falls, MT | FCC [58] |
| K259AN | 99.7 | Billings, MT | FCC [59] |
| K203EP | 88.5 | Shepherd, MT | FCC [60] |
| K214CQ | 90.7 | Grand Island, NE | FCC [61] |

| | | | |
|---------------|------|-----------------|----------|
| K220GM | 91.9 | Placitas, NM | FCC [62] |
| K206BI | 89.1 | Carson City, NV | FCC [63] |
| K254AK | 98.7 | Reno, NV | FCC [64] |

Television

- WFME-TV, West Milford - Newark, New Jersey
- KFTL-CA, San Francisco, California
- KITL-LP, Boise, Idaho

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- [19] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W212AP>
- [20] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W203AT>
- [21] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W220AN>
- [22] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W220BD>
- [23] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W203AL>
- [24] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W209BC>
- [25] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W205AP>
- [26] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W212AG>
- [27] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W204AC>
- [28] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W207AG>
- [29] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W215AF>
- [30] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W208AF>
- [31] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W280CV>
- [32] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W207AE>
- [33] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W207AX>
- [34] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=W206AH>
- [35] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K202CG>

[36] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K205CI>
[37] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K201CQ>
[38] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K217BJ>
[39] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K219AO>
[40] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K268AH>
[41] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K241AJ>
[42] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K220EY>
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[51] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K214CA>
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[53] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K236AA>
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[61] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K214CQ>
[62] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K220GM>
[63] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K206BI>
[64] <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/fmq?call=K254AK>

External links

- Family Radio Worldwide Website (<http://www.familyradio.com/>)
- Guide to receiving Astra satellites (<http://www.onastra.com/how-to-receive-astra/index.php>)
- Guide to channels broadcasting on Astra satellites (<http://www.onastra.com/channel-guide/index.php>)
- Website supporting Family Radio (<http://www.may212011.com/>)
- Website supporting Family Radio and other faithful ministries (<http://www.wecanknow.com/>)
- Discussion Website for Family Radio Listeners (<http://frf.forumer.com/>)

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