The WTS's 1975 "End of World" Timeline: References with Brief Descriptions

1955

1955-02-01 WT pp 93-95
It must have taken Adam quite some time to name all the animals. It was not until after Adam completed this assignment of work that his helpmate Eve was created. The very fact that, as part of Jehovah’s secret, no one today is able to find out how much time Adam and later Eve lived during the closing days of the sixth creative period, so no one can now determine when six thousand years of Jehovah’s present rest day comes to an end.

1960

1960-10-01 WT p 582
Began quoting Dean Acheson that “…in fifteen years (1975) the world is going to be too dangerous to live in it!”

1961

1961-02-22 Aw pp 5-8
Armageddon… will come in the twentieth century.

1961-06-15 WT pp 376-80
Bible prophecy proves that we are living in the time of the end of this wicked system of things immediately preceding the restful 1,000-year Kingdom reign of Christ.

1963

1963-01-01 All Scripture Is Inspired of God, pp 11, 285 – (pp 285-86)
The creation of Adam (4026 BCE) does not correspond with the beginning of Jehovah’s rest day…because he had Adam name the animals, which would take some time, and he proceeded to create Eve. It does no good to use Bible chronology for speculating on dates that are still future in the stream of time.

1963-01-01 Babylon the Great Has Fallen! God's Kingdom Rules pp 634, 682
Chart of Dates starting with 4026 BCE - ...are we not also, like John, eager for his coming? Do we not love it so much that we yearn for it to be quickly accomplished? Most sincerely, Yes!

1965

1965-01-01 Things in Which It Is Impossible for God to Lie, pp 296-97
In 4026 BCE, the 6th creative day had ended with the creation of Adam and Eve, and God rested.

1966

1966-01-15 WT p 42 par. 5
...in these few and all-important years before Armageddon.

1966-05-15 WT pp 299-306 - Save Both Yourself and Those Who Listen to You
In this system of things marked for Armageddon, life is at stake. Man can no longer say, “It will never come in my time.” There is not enough time for that kind of thinking. It is later than many think!

According to this trustworthy Bible chronology six thousand years from man's creation will end in 1975, and the seventh period of a thousand years of human history will begin in the fall of 1975 C.E...The long awaited time for this is at hand!"

1966-06-25 Life Everlasting (book) pp 357 par 8
The remnant would be sealed as God's special property toward the end of 6,000 years of humankind's existence. We are near that point of time now! Bible time-scheduling indicates it. A world storm must therefore be shortly ahead.

1966-09-15 WT p 576
The Scriptures tend to show that a remnant of the Bride class will live for a time here on earth after the end of this system of things and the abyssing of Satan and the other demons.

1966-10-00 KM p 1
“God's Sons of Liberty” District Assemblies - The talks and the dramas made us feel the urgency of the times... The work is urgent... people everywhere desperately need something they can really believe in!

1966-10-08 Aw pp 17-20
From the most reliable investigations of Bible chronology, we find that Adam was created in the autumn of the year 4026 B.C.E. Sometime in that same year Eve could well have been created, directly after which God's rest day commenced. In what year, then, would the first 6,000 years of man's existence and also the first 6,000 years of God's rest day come to an end? The year 1975... a brief period of years at the most separates us from the great windup of this old system.
Does it mean that Armageddon is going to be finished, with Satan bound, by 1975? It could! It could! Time is running out, no question about that!

One of the instructors alluded to the year 1975, the conclusion, chronologically speaking, of six thousand years of human history. What will you be found doing when that time arrives?

Now, shortly, must come the fulfillment of the rest of Joel's prophecy, and that is the "great and fear inspiring day of Jehovah" for the destruction of all those who do not call upon the name of Jehovah..."

If you are studying the Bible with one of Jehovah's witnesses, ...do not delay! Time is running out for this wicked world...

The years remaining before the end of this system of things are very few; the privileges now open will never be repeated; this is the time to take advantage of them.

...never have we felt the nearness of Armageddon and the urgency of our work as we do now.

Armageddon is fast approaching. One doing this preaching work is in a favored position to enjoy the fine privilege of seeing Satan's complete organization on earth and all wickedness destroyed!

The observation that 1975 may well mark the beginning of mankind's great Jubilee has intrigued many.

How appropriate it would be for Jehovah God to make of this coming seventh period of a thousand years a sabbath of rest and release, in 1975.

Truly, 'the time left is reduced.' Pioneer in the short time before the end of this system of things. We hope that will be your blessed privilege as you faithfully serve God in the time remaining.

What will be their position when Armageddon strikes? Will Jehovah, who examines the heart, really find that they are persons who have loved him with all their heart and mind and soul and strength?
Grand privileges of service open up for willing servants. What a fine privilege to be serving in such a place during the remaining years of this old system of things!

1967-03-01 WT pp 158-159 - “Let the People Hear Through Preaching”
With Armageddon drawing on apace, let us be diligent to let as many people as possible hear through our preaching **in the few short remaining years before Armageddon!**

1967-04-01 WT p 197 - “How We Know We Live In The Last Days?”
In fact, in this year 1967 we are actually living in the final part of that time! This can be compared to, not just the last day of a week, but, rather, the last part of that last day. God promises its end.

1967-04-01 District Convention - Charles Sinutko talk - Serving with Everlasting Life in View
Jehovah has provided us..a new goal. Something to reach out for and it has given us so much more energy in this final burst of speed to the finish line. 1975. As one brother put it, "Stay alive to Seventy-Five"

Following the battle of Armageddon, the thousand-year reign of Christ.. **We must yet have a real millennial reign of Christ. The grand fact is that it is very near, for our relief.**

1967-04-15 WT p 244 - “The Most Urgent Warning Ever Given”
We are a reliable source and... it is to come within the generation that has already seen two world wars and it is only a few short years ahead of us.

1967-05-01 WT pp 259-62 - “Where Are We According to Jehovah’s Timetable?”
The Bible “timetable” indicates that ours is a most critical generation. Today we stand at the threshold of Armageddon. The time is close at hand. On God’s “timetable” we are in the closing days of a wicked system of things that will soon be gone forever. A glorious new order is immediately before us. This is, therefore, good reason for Christians everywhere to rejoice. Yes, they rejoice because fulfillment of their prayers for the kingdom of God is now at hand... The prophecy is sure; the time is short.

1967-07-00 KM p 1 - “All the More So”
...what should be our attitude toward meeting together in the days ahead as the end of the old system draws near and the outside pressures increase?”

1967-07-15 WT pp 444-447
6,000 years of human history end about the fall of 1975 CE. The 7,000-year rest day of God, started at the time he rested after the creation of Adam and Eve. There are, therefore, a thousand years left to run.

1967-09-08 Aw pp 29 - “Famine-1975” quote from Paul Paddock
1967-10-00 KM pp 1, 4 - “Finest Work On Earth”
All of us appreciate that there is little time left for this present system of things.

1967-11-15 WT pp 680-81
Jehovah’s “coming” for execution of judgment upon his foes... only a few short years ahead.

1967-12-00 KM p 1 - “Help Wanted”
Remaining time is short. 'The good news has to be preached first,' before the old system comes to its end."

1967-12-15 WT p 751 (par 28)

"This generation" was used by Jesus to mark a very limited period of time, the life-span of members of a generation of people living during the time that certain epoch making events occurred.

1968

1968-01-08 Aw pp 14-19
Dean Acheson quote about 1975 being too dangerous to live

1968-01-15 WT pp 41-43 – “The Time is Short”
All the evidences around us point to this time in which we live as the “last days” spoken about by so many of God’s inspired penmen. Further stressing the shortness of the time remaining, Jesus prophesied about a generation that would witness the fulfillment of the many-featured “sign” marking the conclusion of this system of things... Proof, all this, that the “generation” spoken of by Jesus is now close to passing away!
The time is truly short! ...This is no time for complacency.

1968-02-22 Aw p 31 – Famine threat in 1975

1968-03-00 KM pp 3-6 - “An Opportunity to Increase Your Happiness”
In view of the short period of time left, we want to do this as often as circumstances permit. Just think, brothers, there are only about ninety months left before Oct 1975. The majority of people living today will probably be alive when Armageddon breaks out, and there are no resurrection hopes for those who are destroyed then.

Famine—1975! The fulfillment of Jesus’ prophecy, currently being experienced, indicates that the complete end of this system of things is at hand! Armageddon!

1968-05-01 WT p 271 - “THE SEVENTH DAY”
Adam was created in the year 4026 B.C.E. It is logical that he would create Eve soon after Adam, perhaps just a few weeks or months later in the same year, 4026 B.C.E.

1968-05-01 WT pp 273
Threat of World War III grows more ominous as between “king of the north” and the “king of the south.”

1968-06-00 KM p 1 – Dear Publishers
share in a victory procession—the joyful march toward mankind’s grand millennium of deliverance!

Dean Acheson quote about 1975

1968-06-01 Truth That Leads To Everlasting Life Book (1968) p 95
...this means only a short time is left...
Do we know that the seventh year from now will conclude the 6,000th year since Adam was created? And if we live to that year 1975, what should we expect to happen?

Will Armageddon be all over by the autumn of 1975, and the long looked-for thousand-year reign of Christ will begin by then? Possibly. The lapse of time between Adam’s creation and the end of the sixth creative day, though unknown, was a comparatively short period of time. **This is not the time to be toying with the words of Jesus that “concerning that day and hour nobody knows...”**

Time is running short for this old system of things, Six-month Bible-study program highlighted.

Within a few years at most Armageddon will take place. It is much later for this world than you may think! Indeed, it has only a few more years of existence left!

According to reliable Bible chronology, **Adam and Eve were created in 4026 BCE.** That seven-year period will evidently finish in the autumn of the year 1975.

Some persons may say: "People have been mistaken about these prophecies before." They were guilty of false prophesying. But today? Today we have the evidence required, all of it. And it is overwhelming!

This system of things is about to plunge into destruction. The end of this wicked system is approaching rapidly. Do you want to survive when this wicked system is annihilated soon at Armageddon?

From foretold events we know that the kingdom of God is getting near to its act of destroying this system of things. We are bound to enter into that day since it will arrive suddenly earth wide.
1969

1969-01-15 WT p 45 – (par 21)
The time that he has set for the accomplishment of his righteous purpose toward the earth is scheduled to run out within the coming few years of this generation.


Do not be influenced by student counselors. Do not let them “brainwash” you with the Devil’s propaganda.
This world has very little time left! Any “future” this world offers is no future!

1969-03-15 WT pp 177-78
Some have decided to remain single through the final years of this old system until after Armageddon.

1969-05-15 WT p 312
In view of the short time left in which to do their work, Jehovah’s witnesses do not continue to study the Bible with any who fail to respond to its urgent message within six months.

If you are a young person, you need to face the fact that you will never grow old in this present system of things. All the evidence in fulfillment of Bible prophecy indicates that this corrupt system is due to end in a few years.

1969-06-00 KM pp 3-6 - “Full-Time Service - Youth’s Splendid Opportunity”
In view of the short time left, a decision to pursue a career in this system of things is not only unwise but extremely dangerous... will you pursue a career in this unhappy, dying system of things?

1969-06-01 (booklet) Approaching Peace of a Thousand Years pp 25-27
Adam created 4026 BCE, by which 6,000 years of mankind's existence is calculated to end in 1975.

1969-06-01 (booklet) Approaching Peace of a Thousand Years pp 11-13
Convention talk transcript (see also the WT 1969-09-01, pp 517-524)

1969-06-01 Is The Bible Really The Word Of God Book p 125 – Famines in mid 70s!

World events in fulfillment of Bible prophecy give sure indication that only a few years remain for this wicked arrangement of things. It is a matter of making the best possible use of the remaining time.

1969-07-15 WT p 438 – (par 24)
Have you been thinking of working overtime so that your son can go to college? This will be the wrong kind of sacrifice. Instead, praise offered to God by Christians who are intelligent and enlightened.

1969-09-01 WT pp 517-524 – “Peace on Earth” International Assembly recap
“The Approaching Peace of a Thousand Years.” For Jesus Christ to be ‘Lord even of the sabbath day’, his 1,000-year reign would have to be the 7th in a series of 1,000-year periods. That time is near at hand!

1969-10-01 WT pp 592-598 - time is short

With less than 7 years remaining to the end of 6,000 years of human history, with all the prophetic evidence that Christendom is about to be shaken from her proud foundations, the message must be sounded

1969-10-15 WT pp 612-625 - “Approaching Peace of 1000 Years”

Shortly the outbreak of Armageddon. Then, the 1,000-year reign. Soon now six millenniums will end, within the lifetime of the generation that has witnessed world events since 1914 till now.

1970

1970-01-22 Aw pp 5-8 – “Will It Mean Food for Us to Eat?”

Famine—1975! a few short years away.


Man will get rest during the coming thousand-year reign of Christ, which Bible chronology and fulfillment of Bible prophecy show is to begin very soon.

1970-03-01 WT pp 140-46

If you are a young person, why waste your life in pursuing sensual pleasures or trying to gain riches and a position in the present system of things that will soon pass away?

1970-03-01 WT pp 147-153, (par 30)

In the few remaining years of the old system of things “Keep proving what you yourselves are.”


Bible chronology indicates the rapid approach of the end for this old system under Satan.

1970-05-01 WT pp 271-277 - “An Ingathering Affecting All Mankind”

Only a short time, then, remains for persons who love righteousness to show God that they want to be in his “ark” of protection and live to see the blessings of the new system of things.

1970-09-01 WT pp 539 – “Preparing for the Approaching Millennial Peace”

The Scriptures give us abundant basis for hope regarding this millennial peace. What evidences are there that the approaching peace of a thousand years is close at hand? Fulfillment of Bible prophecies!

1971

1971-01-08 Aw p 5

The first man’s disobedience started the long chain of events that has brought us to the few remaining years of this system of things.
1971-06-01 Aid to Bible Understanding pp 33, 333, 387, 642, 1100 – About the year 4026 BCE

Shortly, within our twentieth century, the "battle in the day of Jehovah" will begin against Christendom

1971-06-01 WT p 329
No indication in the Scriptures that higher educations and a career will lead to everlasting life. How much better it is to devote our principal efforts to a work that leads to everlasting life.

1971-06-08 AW pp 3-8 – "Second Thoughts about a College Education"
Jehovah's witness parents know from fulfilled Bible prophecy that today's industrial society will soon be destroyed by God himself. So by guiding their children away from the so-called 'higher' education of today, these parents spare their children exposure to an increasingly demoralizing atmosphere.

1971-09-15 WT pp 559-564 - “Set Apart from the World”
Though a little time remains to live in this world, we need not let our guard down by hobnobbing with worldlings at office parties, in outings or in sports groups. All worldly careers are soon to come to an end. So, why should today's youth get interested in 'higher education' for a future that will never eventuate?

1971-10-08 Aw pp 26-29 – “Time of Rest and Refreshment at Hand!” [w/ chart showing 1975]
OUR generation will see the end of the present pressure-ridden order. In fact, there is even good reason to hope that a new order of God's making may begin within the present decade.

1972

1972-04-01 WT pp 197-200 - “They Shall Know That A Prophet Was Among Them”
Who is this prophet? Today they are known as Jehovah's Christian witnesses.

1972-04-08 Aw pp 16
Conscientious students of the Bible are confidently hopeful that the 7th 1000-year day will bring the millennial reign. Mature Christians are familiar with the accurate chronology of the Bible.

1972-05-15 WT p 307
Don't be distracted by too much what this old system offers for a few more years. Time is running out for those who allow themselves to be trapped by pursuit of material pleasures. Back up your faith with works.

1972-06-01 WT p 333
As we approach Armageddon, it is vital to stay close to Jehovah's mighty organization.

1972-06-01 Paradise Restored to Mankind – By Theocracy! P 282 – Famine Threat in 1975
1972-07-22 Aw p 12 – Famine – 1975! quote again
1972-08-01 WT pp 462-68 - “Cooperating Fully with God’s Appointed Ones”
We are just a few short years away from the completion of 6,000 years of man's existence on earth. How do we know the new system is very near? The “great tribulation” is coming. That time is very near.
Science magazine of 1969, observed: "We may have even less than a 50-50 chance of living until 1980."

The generation that saw the beginning of world woes with the outbreak of global war in the year 1914 would also see the destruction of Satan's entire earthly system of things. It will be realized within a very short time, before "this generation" passes away.

That God has the power to do such a thing, there can be no doubt. In the Bible he has specifically stated that it is his purpose to do so, in this generation. Does your heart yearn for such a righteous new order?

It was foretold that such final result would take place within the lifetime of just one generation, the generation that was alive in 1914.

statesmen and scientists are saying that mankind won’t survive to the year 2000.

6,000 years of human history has allowed men ample opportunity to see the hopelessness of man's own efforts and the need for God's kingdom, which is ready to replace all other rulership of the earth. We can be equally sure that, of the generation alive in 1914, some will see the major fulfillment of Christ Jesus' prophecy and the destruction with which it culminates. Is that all there is to guarantee that the "generation" foretold in Jesus' prophecy dates from that time? By no means. There is a host of other reasons for having solid conviction that this is the case
Jehovah's promises don't fall short, leaving us frustrated, dissatisfied and unhappy. According to the Bible's timetable, Christ's royal reign for the relief of mankind to perfection is at our doors.

It is these things that make certain that Christendom's destruction is imminent.

No matter when Jehovah's “day” arrives, we will be busy doing the divine will. Is that what you are determined to do? If we have become baptized witnesses of Jehovah, we certainly do not want to develop a negative attitude toward the glorious position in which we stand, we cannot afford now to shirk our responsibility by an apathetic manner of reasoning or by excuses.

Jesus Christ said: “Concerning that day or the hour nobody knows” But do his words mean that God’s servants on earth have no way to determine at what point they are living on the stream of time? This could not be the case, as Jehovah is not a God who leaves his people in the dark. Truly, from 1914 we are well along in the “last days,” and the destruction of all wickedness at the hands of Christ Jesus is very near.

Jesus is Lord even of the sabbath. Neither is there any reason to be afraid that there may be a food shortage during the time Christ rules as Lord of God’s great Kingdom sabbath.

Jehovah’s witnesses love you. They sincerely believe that your life is in real, imminent danger. They know something that you can do to protect yourself as well as your family.

Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old system in the pioneer service. Certainly this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world’s end.
The time can be fixed by Bible chronology as the year 4026 B.C.E. or shortly thereafter.

1974-06-15 WT p 375-80 – “Serve With Eternity In View”

Instead of speculating about a certain date, as if serving with that date as a goal, we can concentrate on the important preaching work that Jesus said his disciples would do in this time period.

1974-06-22 Aw p 4

Population growth is causing snowballing demands on agriculture, education, housing and other needs, which have brought the world from abundance to scarcity in just a few short years.

1974-07-01 WT pp 397-400 - “Avoid Wrong Expectations”

Christians have long looked for the coming of Christ in power. True Christians, therefore, will not be like those who have a wrong expectation. (The next article is about Lowliness of Mind, and how some people are haughty, vain, egotistical and conceited.)

1974-07-22 Aw p 5 - “Population “Explosion” and food crisis

1974-10-08 Aw pp 18-22 – Famine Threat in 1975 quote again!

1974-10-15 WT p 630

Jehovah’s witnesses are giving warning that the time is now near when the Kingdom will crush all human governments at the war associated in the Bible with “Armageddon.”

1974-10-15 WT pp 632-639

These publications have never said that the world's end would come then. Nevertheless, there has been considerable individual speculation on the matter. But we can be confident that the end is near.

1974-11-08 Aw pp 9-11 – “Is This The Time To Have Children?”

Today there is a great crowd of people who are confident that a destruction of even greater magnitude is now imminent. This has been a major factor in influencing many couples to decide not to have children.

1974-12-15 WT pp 759-766 - “Benefits and Rewards from Being Spiritually Secure”

And now, as the critical year of 1975 enters, the remnant and the increasing "great crowd" of their sheeplike companions look forward with them to entering the New Order without interruption of life.


1975

1975-01-01 pp 9-11 - “Will You Live to See Christ’s Coming?”

Despite the doubts of so many, from what Jesus said about his coming, it can be said with confidence that most persons who read this article, and millions of others, will live to see that event take place.

1975-01-01 WT p 12 - “Insight on the News” - Global problems, not just food problems

1975-01-15 WT p 38 - “Do you really want to see a crime-free world?”

Then you need to take the steps necessary for surviving the approaching end of the present system.
Examples of people who gave up lucrative jobs or lived on their savings until savings were depleted.

In more recent decades Jehovah’s witnesses have again noted what Bible chronology indicates, this time warning that the mid-1970’s would be critical for mankind.

F. W. Franz, the Society’s vice-president, stressed that, we do not know exactly when God will destroy this old system and establish a new one, we do not know how short was the time interval between Adam’s creation and the creation of Eve.

Does this mean, then, that mankind has now reached 6,000 years into the 7,000-year period that God ‘blessed and made sacred’ as his great “rest day”? Does it mean that Christ’s millennial Kingdom rule, as the final 1,000 years of that “rest day,” is to be reckoned from September 1975? No, it does not mean that. Why not? Well, the Bible record shows that God’s creations on the “day” just preceding that 7,000-year “rest day” did not end with Adam’s creation. It shows a time lapse between the creation of Adam and that of his wife, Eve. During that time, God had Adam name the animals. Whether that period amounted to weeks or months or years, we do not know. So we do not know exactly when Jehovah’s great “rest day” began, nor do we know exactly when it will end. The same applies to the beginning of Christ’s millennial reign. The Bible provides us no way to fix the date, and so it does no good to speculate when that date may be.

The rebellion in Eden raised a great issue. Would humans out of sheer love for Jehovah loyalty choose to render sacred service to their Creator? Satan claimed that man was inherently selfish.

Has there been any slowness on God’s part in carrying forward his purpose to bring release for humankind. Ridicule will be turned right back on them at the “day and hour” that Jehovah has chosen.”

This is the “kingdom of the heavens” that it is now our privilege and opportunity to proclaim world wide. We who have already taken refuge under it are concerned for the safety of others in this time of distress.

1976

– “Do You Remember?”
Why do we not know when God’s “rest day” began and when it will end?

“Keeping a Balanced View of Time” (Must Read Article)

But that great rest day did not begin immediately after Adam’s creation. How much time elapsed between the creation of the man and that of the woman? The Bible does not reveal this. We do not know whether it was a month or a few months, a year or even more.

“A Solid Basis For Confidence” (Must Read Article)

Those who have become dedicated, baptized servants have, in effect, “burned their bridges behind them.” Are we serving Jehovah God because we love him, trust him and have full confidence in what he says? Or are we looking for a certain date primarily as bringing a relief to ourselves, with little concern for the lives of other people?

“Thessalonians Learn About Christ’s Presence and Jehovah’s Day”

The mid-nineteen seventies have seen the completion of six thousand years of human history, many sincere servants of Jehovah had great expectations as to the nearness of the “great tribulation.”

“Sounding Forth Good News in All the Earth”

What if, in expectation of the “great tribulation,” Jehovah’s Witnesses had eased up, and stopped watching and making plans for the future, in 1914, in 1925, in 1975 or at any other date?

1980 - 2017

Choosing the Best Way of Life

A fine point made in the talk “Choosing the Best Way of Life” was that Jehovah God will save us from stumbling...but we must do our part, and also the candor of this same talk, which acknowledged the Society’s responsibility for some of the disappointment a number felt regarding 1975.

“Choosing the Best Way of Life”

Eagerness, commendable in itself, has led to attempts at setting dates for the desired liberation from the suffering and troubles that are the lot of persons throughout the earth regarding the year 1975.

(experience of Herald Toutjian)

We were expecting that 6,000 years of man’s existence would be reached in 1975.

“Allow No Place for the Devil”

Some opposers claim that Jehovah’s Witnesses are false prophets. These opponents say that dates have been set, but nothing has happened, but what are their motives?
Paul warned of “oppressive wolves” who would ignore theocratic order and pursue their own selfish way... during the mid-1970’s some prominent elders became disgruntled.

1988-01-01 YB p 190

The first few months of the 1976 service year began with a marked decrease in publishers and home Bible studies....Too much emphasis was placed on a date by some Bible teachers.

1993-03-22 Aw pp 3-4 – “Why So Many False Alarms?”

Some have called them false prophets. Never in these instances, however, did they presume to originate predictions ‘in the name of Jehovah.’ Never did they say, ‘These are the words of Jehovah.’

1993-06-01 Proclaimers Book – pp 104-07 - “Say, what’s this about 1975?”

F. W. Franz quote again from the WT 1966-10-15, pp 627-31 about the convention.

1995-01-01 YB p 227 – “There Came a Time of Sifting”

There were strong expectations concerning the year 1975 and when those expectations were not realized, there were some who ceased serving God. A number became apostates.

1995-06-22 Aw pp 8-9 - “Can You Trust God’s Promises?”

Many Witnesses conjectured that events associated with the beginning of Christ’s Millennial Reign might start to take place in 1975. Their misconceptions were due to a failure to heed Jesus’ caution.

1995-06-22 Aw pp 10-12 - “Is the Foretold End of the World Near?”

Perhaps you say, ‘Yes, I believe these Bible prophecies; the end will come someday, but it’s quite some time off.’ Should you not heed the warning now? Wisely, you should not put off lifesaving action.

1995-06-22 Aw p 13 - “Keep Ready for a Bright Future”

Yet, to enjoy this future, you must act. Keeping ready means keeping busy, doing a work like that done by Noah, who served in the days before the Flood as “a preacher of righteousness.”

1996-01-01 YB pp 158-159

A movement originating mainly from the Malawian villages, in 1975, of apostates spread, and many who listened to them were led astray.

1997-06-01 WT p 28 - Questions From Readers

Jesus’ use of the term "generation," helps us to see that his usage was no basis for calculating— counting from 1914— how close to the end we are.
In 1969 the Watchtower magazine in Czech led to many questions and much speculation. The office in Czechoslovakia sent a letter pointing out that no publication of the Society had said that Armageddon will come in a certain year!

The number of publishers continued to increase, surpassing 77,000 by 1975. However, there were many who stopped serving Jehovah when the present system of things did not end in 1975.

In 1959 we sold our house to work where the need was greater until our funds ran out in 1975. We were sad to leave our new friends to return home.

Jesus evidently meant that the lives of the anointed who were on hand when the sign began to become evident in 1914 would overlap with the lives of other anointed ones who would see the start of the great tribulation.

The generation consists of two overlapping groups of anointed ones—the first is made up of anointed ones who saw the beginning of the fulfillment of the sign in 1914 and the second, anointed ones who for a time were contemporaries of the first group. At least some of those in the second group will live to see the beginning of the coming tribulation. The two groups form one generation because their lives as anointed Christians overlapped for a time.

Some were even selling their houses... but I knew that something wasn’t right. I was constantly reminded both at meetings and in my personal study that no one knows the day or the hour...