

second time because they have chosen to hate the hard truth about their sinful condition and love comforting and unbiblical lies which tell them they will be saved in their sin. God declares, "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? . . . I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord God. "Therefore turn and live!" (Ez. 18:23, 32) When the world ends and the wicked are destroyed, the Lord is simply giving them what they want. Proverbs 8:36 puts it this way. ". . . he who sins against Me (God) wrongs his own soul; all those who hate Me love death."

In order to be prepared for the end of the world and the return of Christ we must first understand our true condition. The Bible teaches that the root of all sin is selfishness. Most people think that they are good, but a sincere look into God's word reveals the opposite. Even our acts of kindness can be done through selfish motives. What we need is first; Christ's forgiveness and second; a new heart of selfless love. This pardon can only be received by asking Jesus for it in prayer.

A new heart and Spirit are given to us by seeking God in His word (1 Peter 1:23).

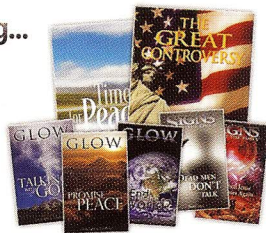
Christ longs for all to be with Him in His kingdom when He returns (2 Peter 3:9). In fact the Bible teaches that when He does come back our friends and loved ones who died in Jesus will be raised to eternal life! "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven . . . And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:16-18).

The Long Count calendar of the Maya—with its precise calculation of the positions of heavenly bodies over a span of more than 5000 years—is a remarkable human achievement. But the Bible tells us God set the planets and stars on their courses, and therefore He determines their movements—they do not determine His. If we are safe in Jesus, we need not worry about what will happen to us on December 21, 2012—or any other day.



Further Reading...

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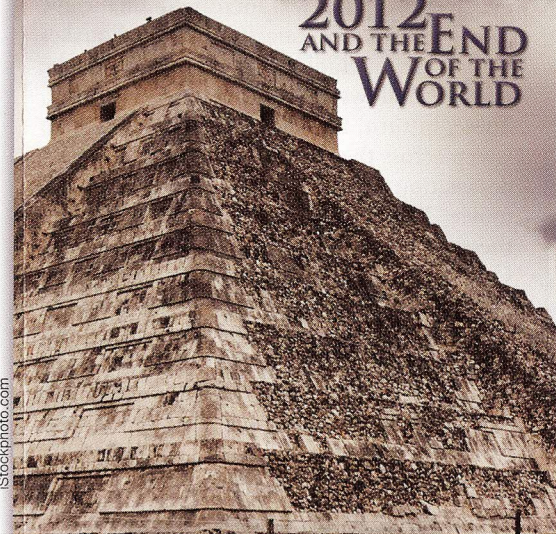
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2012 AND THE END OF THE WORLD



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