

## 2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble - Part 1

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2012 Hype, Everyone Wants To Cash In On 2012, Deception And Darkness vs The Light Of God's Word, Intentionally Deceived, Flee From The Works Of Darkness, Deceivers Of The Endtime, Spiritual Blindness, Greedy Money-Making Bible Hucksters, The 2,000 "Jesus-Is-Coming-At-Any-Moment" False Prophecy, Bible Does Not Contain Specific Predictions Regarding 2012, Tom Horn And Speculations Based On Pagan Myths And Legends, Sin Of Preaching For Personal Material Gain - Filthy Lucre, Theories Concerning Origins Of Ancient Gods And Goddesses, Extraterrestrial Visitors, Demonic Manifestations, Nephilim, Tom Horn's Apollyon Rising 2012, Washington DC & Freemasons, My Disagreements With 2012 Writers, Apollo In The Scriptures

I imagine that by this time -- May, 2010 -- many of you who are reading this have probably already heard about, or maybe even read about, all of the scary talk that's been going on regarding the Mayan calendar and the year 2012. If you use the Internet on a regular basis, it is difficult to escape from the barrage of 2012-related material that has appeared in recent years. It seems that everyone is jumping onto the 2012 bandwagon, and they're making all kinds of predictions, including certain popular Christian teachers, preachers and writers. And, of course, the mass media -- including the movie industry -- is doing what they can to profit from this new "cash cow". We have already seen the release of Roland Emmerich's "2012" movie, as well as the "2012: Supernova" video release, Mel Gibson's 2006 movie "Apocalpyto", and a number of other productions as well, and they are sure to increase as we draw closer to 2012.

Personally, the very fact that this year 2012 hype is being so readily embraced by New Agers, Zecharia Sitchin followers, Nostradamus followers, UFO adherents, and even some popular Christian evangelists, is reason enough to raise some serious doubts in my mind. I think it would be wise for everyone to take a pause, and take some time to sift through all of the information that is being made available, in order to try to

determine what is true and factual, and what is not. You may discover that there is more smoke than fire in all of this 2012 hype.

I find it really odd -- or perhaps tragic would be a better word -- that all of these people are so willing to embrace this Mayan Calendar and 2012 nonsense, which, by the way, is open to all kinds of interpretations; the Quatrains of the French seer Nostradamus, which likewise can be interpreted in a variety of ways; the writings of Zecharia Sitchin and his tales of the Twelfth Planet/Nibiru; and all of the other modern New Age psychobabble; and yet, when it comes to the sure and proven Word of God, many of these very same people reject it, and claim that it is just a book full of fairy tales. Those people willingly accept all of that deception and darkness without blinking an eye; and yet, when they are offered the true light of God's Holy Word, the Bible, many of them reject it. I am reminded again of this verse that was written by the Prophet Isaiah:

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Isaiah 5:20, KJV

The Apostle Paul -- who in his own time had to deal with the cherished philosophy of the Romans and the Greeks -- likewise warns us to beware of the vain wisdom of men when he writes:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

Colossians 2:8, KJV

Of course, I have spoken about this very same theme a number of times before, such as in my 1997 article "Age of Deception, Age of Delusion", as well as in a few other articles. You may recall how even the Lord Himself exposed the sin of those who refused to come to the Light. In the Gospel of John, the Lord stated quite candidly:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are

wrought in God."

John 3:19-21, KJV

So rather than come to Christ, and accept the truth of God's Word, many of these people give preference to their New Age psychics, their Wiccan nature worship, their Tarot cards, their seances and necromancy -- or talking to the dead, at least so they believe -- their hoodoo and voodoo, and other works of darkness which are condemned by God's Word. This 2012 hype just happens to be the latest fad. It is deception and darkness, and God's Word clearly warns us to flee from the works of darkness, and to embrace the Light, as we can see by the following verses:

"They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course."

Psalms 82:5, KJV

"The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble."

Proverbs 4:19, KJV

"The wise man's eyes are in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all."

Ecclesiastes 2:14, KJV

"There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves."

Job 34:22, KJV

"But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

1 Timothy 6:11, KJV

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

James 4:7, KJV

"Neither give place to the devil."

Ephesians 4:27, KJV

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

1 John 4:4, KJV

"To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:"

Proverbs 2:12-15, KJV

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."

Romans 13:12, KJV

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

2 Corinthians 4:6, KJV

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

2 Corinthians 6:14, KJV

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light . . . And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

Ephesians 5:8, 11, KJV

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:"

Colossians 1:13, KJV

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness."

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, KJV

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

1 Peter 2:9, KJV

"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:"

1 John 1:6, KJV

Given this preponderance of Scriptural evidence, it should be clear to you then -- as I point out in articles such as "The Children of Light: Are You One of Us?" -- that a very fierce battle is being waged between the Children of Light, and the Children of Darkness. Just as God's children plant the seed of light and truth in people's hearts, Satan's children also plant the tares of confusion and darkness. They are deceivers who feign to be bearers of truth and children of light; and sadly, many naive, gullible people follow after them. Again, the Bible makes this point very clear, as we see here:

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many . . . And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many . . . For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24, KJV

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;"

1 Timothy 4:1-2, KJV

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

2 Timothy 3:13, KJV

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

2 Corinthians 11:13-15, KJV

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition . . . And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying

wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:"

2 Thessalonians 2:3, 8-11, KJV

There should be no doubt then that we are truly living in an age that is filled with deception and delusion; and the 2012 hype is just the latest piece of bait that Satan is pulling out of his bag of tricks. But again, allow me to remind you that many people are spiritually blind and deceived by their own choice, because they have purposely hardened their heart and conscience against accepting the truth of God's Word. By their rejection of Christ and the truth of the Bible, those people have created a spiritual vacuum in their lives, and that sly, old serpent -- Satan -- is more than happy to fill that vacuum with his own brand of "truth", by sending along his emissaries of darkness. The Apostle Paul described it this way:

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

1 Corinthians 2:14, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."

Ephesians 4:18-19, KJV

But concerning the 2012 hype, what I find most alarming is the fact that even certain popular Christian writers and evangelists are hopping onto the 2012 bandwagon. Of course, I am not really surprised by this, as a lot of them are just money-making Bible hucksters who won't hesitate to grab any theory that is popular, and try to make a profit from it. I first wrote about this problem years ago in my 1997 article entitled "Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon". These

fast-talking preachers know that many Christians are curious about Bible prophecy -- as they should be -- and want to know what is going to happen, and when it is going to happen; and so these fellows write their books, and burn their CDs and DVDs, and they go about selling their personal theories and speculations as if it is God's indisputable truth, which it usually isn't. I advise all of you to beware of these modern false prophets. You may very well end up with less cash in your pocket, and be none the wiser or more informed for it.

Let's not be too quick to forget how some of these very same false prophets stirred up American Christians just prior to the arrival of the year 2,000. They had a lot of Christians believing that Jesus would return in 2,000. Well, sadly, we all know how that prediction turned out. It was an absolute lie, a deception and certainly not a prophecy from God, that was perpetrated by certain of America's Christian leaders. I can only imagine how much profit they must have earned from selling their books, DVDs, CDs, tapes and magazines where they pushed the 2,000 lie. Of course, I wrote all about this in my series "Sorry . . . Jesus is Not Coming at Any Moment", which you can find on my website . . . and read, for free!

The bottom line is that, to my knowledge, the Bible does not mention the year 2012 as being a significant year or anything special. There are no specific predictions regarding the year 2012 as far as I know. In fact, as I've mentioned previously, the Bible is rather silent when it comes to revealing precise dates when specific prophetic events are to happen. While we are sometimes given certain time frames regarding how long certain events are going to transpire, such as in the Books of Daniel and Revelation -- "a time, times, and an half", "a time and times and the dividing of time", "one thousand two hundred and threescore days", "forty and two months", etc. -- nowhere are any specific dates given, and that includes the oft-quoted date December 21, 2012. It is nowhere to be found in the Authorized King James Version of the Holy Bible. It is probably safe to say that it can't be found in any other version of the Christian Bible either.

So what does this fact tell us? Quite simply, it tells us that any specific dates that you may hear or read today are based entirely upon the personal speculation of the persons who are promoting them, and nothing more; and if you know anything about Biblical eschatology, then you will realize that there are as many Biblical interpretations as there are preachers. Therefore, if dates such as December 21, 2012 are

not being taken directly from the Bible, then we must wonder where these greedy Christian profiteers are obtaining their information from in order to spin their wild 2012 tales.

Actually, that last comment was rhetorical in nature because I do have an answer for you. If they're like writer Tom Horn, some of these fellows are grabbing information from ancient pagan mythology -- including from ancient Egyptian mythology, Babylonian mythology and Greek mythology -- as well as from other rather questionable sources -- such as from the beliefs and practices of the Freemasons -- as well as stretching the meaning of some words and events that are found in the Bible, so that it will fit their pet theory, and then piecing it all together into a hodgepodge of New Age nonsense, which sounds interesting and believable to people who don't have a strong foundation in God's Word. Once they have mixed their lethal brew, they are then shamelessly selling it for a profit, even though God's Word specifically advises us to not preach the Gospel for filthy lucre -- or for personal material gain -- as we see by these verses:

"Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; . . . Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;"

1 Timothy 3:3, 8, KJV

"For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; . . . Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake."

Titus 1:7, 11, KJV

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;"

1 Peter 5:2, KJV

To add a degree of balance and fairness to my remarks, allow me to remind you that personally, I don't totally dismiss the legends and myths concerning ancient gods and goddesses. It is quite possible that such stories may have been based upon actual events which occurred in our distant past, but which became highly exaggerated over time. It is difficult for me to comprehend why any ancient society would go so far as to even sacrifice their own children to these gods, unless they



were absolutely convinced that the gods and goddesses were real. I don't know of anyone who would sacrifice their own loved one to an imaginary god, do you? Such an unconscionable act would require a tremendous leap of faith, if there were not some tangible proof that these gods and goddesses were real. So, if we assume that these ancient gods and goddesses had some basis in reality, exactly what was it? In the next few paragraphs I will share a few of my own ideas with you; but please keep in mind that these are nothing more than personal speculations, and that I cannot solidly prove any of them.

As I point out in the controversial series "The Nature of the Alien", theoretically-speaking, if any advanced space-faring races do exist, and if these races visited the Earth in our distant past, it is quite probable that they would have been viewed by the ancients as great gods who had come down from the sky. Such extraterrestrial visitations could explain the pantheon of gods and goddesses which were worshipped by the Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans, as well as by other ancient cultures. As these accounts of strangers who arrived from the sky were passed down over the millennia through traditions, legends, sacred writings, etc., they more than likely became embellished, distorted and perverted, and the actual facts concerning these encounters may have been lost; and thus the mythology of gods and goddesses was born.

Of course, another possibility -- which I also mention in the aforementioned series -- is that the gods and goddesses of the past may not have really been visitors from Outer Space, but rather, they may have really been demonic manifestations. If there is one thing which the Bible makes very clear, it is that the area of the world in which many of these legends and myths had their birth, has been a hub of spiritual activity for millennia. While some of this activity has been positive, such as Angelic Visitations, some of it has been negative as well. Even the Gospels mention people who were possessed by demons, which Jesus sometimes cast out. And let us not forget too that -- as the Apostle Paul wrote -- Satan can appear as an Angel of Light, while in truth, he is a deceiver, and the Father of Lies, as Jesus Himself stated, as we see here:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

John 8:44, KJV

As I explain in articles such as "Great Cloud of Witnesses: God's Holy Ghosts?" and "Sex, a Bowl of Soup and the Nature of Angels", let us not forget too that the Scriptures make it very clear that spiritual entities do possess the power to materialize in our physical world. As the Apostle Paul informs us, these beings can easily pass for another mortal, and we wouldn't even know it. In the case of Angels, Paul writes as follows:

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Hebrews 13:2, KJV

The very fact that Angels and demons can materialize in our physical world brings us to my third theory concerning the possible origin of the legends regarding gods and goddesses. Simply put, it is possible that the stories of ancient gods and goddesses were derived from long-told tales of the great giants which ruled the lands of the Middle East prior to the Flood in Noah's day. I am of course referring to the race of beings who in the Hebrew tongue were known as the Nephilim. These violent creatures were the half-human progeny of the Fallen Angels. They are briefly discussed in the beginning of Genesis chapter six, and even more in-depth in the Book of Enoch. Just as some demon-possessed people in the Gospels acquired great strength, these evil creatures likewise were very powerful, and terrorized the Earth before God destroyed them all during the Flood. In Genesis chapter six we find the following verses:

"There were giants [Nephilim] in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God [Fallen Angels] came in unto the daughters of men, [human women] and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown . . . The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

Genesis 6:4, 11-13, KJV

So maybe the legends of gods and goddesses were derived from the tales of these half-human, corrupt, violent beings which

the Bible refers to as "giants" -- Nephilim -- "mighty men" and "men of renown". For more information concerning this topic, please consider reading my article entitled "Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis", as well as "The Book of Enoch: Truth or Heresy?".

So as you can see, when it comes to writers like Tom Horn, I am willing to meet them halfway on certain issues, if there is at least some possible Scriptural basis for what they are saying. It's when they completely stray from the Scriptures, as so many of them tend to do, that I become more concerned.

On his website, as well as in his book -- "Apollyon Rising 2012" -- Mr. Horn also devotes a considerable amount of time to the subject of Freemasonry. While I am not particularly informed when it comes to Freemasonry, I can also agree with him when he states that there has been a strong relationship between the history of the U.S. government, Washington, D.C. and the Freemasons. It is an established fact that some of the most famous individuals who have been associated with the U.S. government -- beginning with George Washington himself -- were known members of the Freemasons. In fact, quite a few years ago -- in 2004 -- I mentioned this Washington-Freemason connection to members of my now-defunct EDGE Mailing List.

As most American readers will know, there is an American TV station called CSPAN. This channel is dedicated to covering political news and developments which occur in the nation's capital. While some people may find the station boring, at least one individual was smart enough to record a particular event which occurred some time prior to 2004. My memory is not clear on this, but the event may possibly have occurred during the 225th anniversary of the founding of the U.S.A. What was unique about the recorded event -- I downloaded it from the Internet -- is that it was some kind of ceremony that was being performed by the Freemasons in Washington, DC. Not being a Freemason, I obviously did not understand it all, but I do clearly recall that the ceremony was very symbolic in nature, and that it employed objects which are a central part of their craft, such as the square and compass. At the time, I found it unusual that CSPAN would broadcast such an event, but obviously, it was sending some kind of message to those who were in-the-know, meaning viewing Freemasons.

My interest in the Freemasons was further piqued when years ago, a certain member of the EDGE Mailing List informed us that his father was deeply involved in Freemasonry. This

person -- a Christian -- was very concerned about it, as he was familiar with some of the inner workings and beliefs of the Freemasons. One thing which he made clear to us at the time -- and I have heard this before -- is that like other occult groups, as initiates graduate to the higher levels of Freemasonry, they are taught that Lucifer is the real god, while Jesus Christ is the usurper. Not being a Freemason, I obviously cannot prove or disprove this point, but if there is any truth to this claim, it would certainly add a degree of credibility to some of Mr. Horn's speculations.

Note: The EDGE Mailing List -- or Endtime Discussion Group Exchange -- was a precursor to the very first version of the Endtime Prophecy Net website, which eventually became known as Bill's Bible Basics.

While I am endeavoring to find some common ground with what Mr. Horn promotes on his website and in his book, I'd like to make it very clear to my readers that a large gulf still exists between what he and a number of other writers teach, and what I believe and am willing to accept when it comes to the subject of 2012 and Bible prophecy. As I've already made clear, there is absolutely no Biblical basis for assuming that December 21, 2012 will in any way mark the end of the world, regardless of what anyone believes concerning the Mayan Calendar. While the Bible clearly teaches us that a powerful, demon-possessed leader known as the Beast -- which some people refer to as the Antichrist -- rises on the world stage, it is simply personal speculation to state that this event occurs in 2012. To reiterate, there is no Biblical basis to make such a claim.

Furthermore, the belief that the Beast is possessed by the spirit of the false god Apollo, or -- according to some writers -- even be the very Apollo risen from the dead, and incarnated in the flesh, just as Jesus Christ was, is again just an unsubstantiated personal theory that is based upon a questionable "prophecy" by the ancient priestess and oracle, the Cumaean Sibyl. While it is well known that Apollo is an important Olympian deity within Greek and Roman mythology, what do the Scriptures have to say regarding this name?

In actuality, two different variations of this name can be found in the pages of the New Testament. The first one that we will discuss is Apollos. This name, according to the Greek lexicon, means "given by Apollo". In the Book of Acts and the writings of the Apostle Paul, we are told that Apollos was a

Jew from Alexandria, Egypt. He was both an eloquent man, as well as mighty in the Scriptures. After Apollos embraced the Christian faith, he apparently became a pillar in the Early Church and was a teacher. He is mentioned in Acts chapters eighteen and nineteen, as well as in Paul's first Epistle to the Corinthians, and in Paul's Epistle to Titus, as we see here:

"And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly. And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace: For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ. And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus . . ."

Acts 18:24-19:1a, KJV

"For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?"

1 Corinthians 1:11-13, KJV

"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase . . . Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's."

1 Corinthians 3:3-6, 21-23, KJV

"And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred

to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another."

1 Corinthians 4:6, KJV

"As touching our brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time."

1 Corinthians 16:12, KJV

"Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them."

Titus 3:13, KJV

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble - Part 2

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Apollo In The Scriptures, Perdition, Destruction, And The Son Of Perdition, Judas Iscariot, Coming Of Antichrist, Apollyon a.k.a. Abaddon - The Destroying Angel, Demonic Horde From The Bottomless Pit, Only Apollos & Apollonia Are Associated With Greek False God Apollo, Freemasons And The Raising Ceremony, U.S. Presidents And The Spirit Of Apollo, Apollo And Osiris, Horn Either Believes That Apollyon The Destroyer Is Apollo Or Else Apollyon/Abaddon Will Possess Apollo And Bring Him Back To Life In The Flesh, Horn's Interpretation Isn't Consistent, The Eternal Nature And Transformational Power Of God's Word, Commercializing Our Faith, Read It Before US Government Bans, Christian Gospel Should Be Free To Everyone, Morally Wrong To Withhold Biblical Truth And Entice People To Pay For It First, Following Gurus And False Prophets Even When They're Wrong, Blind Faith In New Age Writers, Spiritual Junk Food, Beware

Continuing our discussion of the various forms of the name Apollo that are found in the Scriptures, the second one is the name Apollonia. Thayer's Greek Lexicon informs us that this name means "belonging to Apollo", and that it was a maritime city of Macedonia which was located about a day's journey from Amphipolis. In Acts chapter seventeen we learn that Paul and Silas passed through Apollonia on their way to Thessalonica, as we see here:

"Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:"

Acts 17:1, KJV

As you can see by the previous definitions, in both cases, the Greek lexicon makes a direct reference to the false god Apollo. There should be no doubt that Apollos and Apollonia are derived from this Greek god's name. So the question is this: How does Tom Horn -- and perhaps other writers -- make their connection between the Biblical Beast of Revelation -- and the Greek god Apollo? What method does Horn use in order to convince his readers that, according to his belief, at some undetermined point in the future, Apollo is going to rise from the dead, or at the very least, the spirit of this Greek god -- if he truly ever existed -- and is going to possess the physical body of the Beast, who some people refer to as the Antichrist? Allow me to explain it to you.

In the New Testament of the King James Version of the Bible, we find the word "perdition" used eight times. This word is derived from the Greek "apoleia" according to Thayer's Greek Lexicon. It means destroying, utter destruction, perishing, ruin or destruction. It is interesting to note that in the first instance where the word "perdition" is used, it's used by Jesus in a phrase to describe Judas Iscariot, who, as we know, betrayed the Lord, as we see here:

"While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled."

John 17:12, KJV

Exactly why the Lord referred to Judas Iscariot as the "son of perdition" is a matter of personal speculation. It may be because Judas indirectly tried to destroy Jesus through his betrayal. Another possibility is that Jesus was emphasizing the fact that Judas was lost, and also doomed to destruction because of his betrayal of the Lord. After all, Jesus did say of Judas:

"The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born."

Matthew 26:24, KJV

"And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!"

Luke 22:22, KJV

This second possibility is supported by the fact that where the Lord states "none of them is lost", the word "lost" is derived from the Greek word "apollumi", which Thayer's Greek lexicon defines as meaning perish, destroy, lose, be lost or ruin. Furthermore, according to the lexicon, "apoleia", the word that we looked at previously, is presumed to be derived from "apollumi". Finally, it's a Biblical fact that after he had betrayed the Lord, Judas realized the grave error that he had committed; and thus, perhaps out of feelings of remorse, he went and destroyed himself by hanging himself, as we see by these verses:

"And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself."

Matthew 27:5, KJV

"Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take."

Acts 1:16-20, KJV



Clearly then, "apoleia" and "apollumi" are both associated with destruction. What I also want to call to your attention is the fact that in the Greek lexicon, unlike the two names "Apollos" and "Apollonia", there is no reference made to the false deity Apollo for either "apoleia" or "apollumi". Why this point is important will be made clear to you shortly.

As I point out in my 1998 article entitled "Who is Hindering the Antichrist?", there is one other place in the KJV Bible where the mysterious phrase "son of perdition" is used, and that's in the second chapter of Paul's second Epistle to the Thessalonians, where Paul discusses the coming of the evil one, who we Christians refer to as the Antichrist. Consider the following two verses:

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, KJV

Here again, the word "perdition" is derived from "apoleia", which means "destruction". We know for a fact that this is the intended meaning of the word, because only a few verses later, the Apostle Paul clearly tells us the fate of this wicked man: he is destroyed by the brightness of Jesus's Coming, as we see here:

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,"

2 Thessalonians 2:8-9, KJV

As I mentioned earlier, this word "perdition" is used eight times in the New Testament. Following are the other verses where it's found. What I would like for you to notice as you read these verses is that in each case, the word "perdition" is referring to destruction, loss and ruin, and has nothing to do with the false god Apollo:

"And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God."

Philippians 1:28, KJV

"But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition."

1 Timothy 6:9, KJV

"But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."

Hebrews 10:39, KJV

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

2 Peter 3:7, KJV

"The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is . . . And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition."

Revelation 17:8, 11, KJV

The final verse of Scripture that we are going to examine in the New Testament is found in the Book of Revelation. After telling us about the demonic horde which rises out of the Bottomless Pit, the Apostle John then informs us that this infernal army is led by a Fallen Angel. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, which means "destruction", while in the Greek language it is Apollyon, which means "destroyer". In short, they are synonymous terms. Here is the verse:

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon."

Revelation 9:11, KJV

Upon examining Thayer's Greek lexicon, we see that the name Apollyon is derived from the Greek "Apolluon". This word is in turn a derivative of "apollumi", which we examined a bit earlier. If we summarize all of the information that I have just shared with you, what we see is that the proper names Apollos and Apollonia are the only words that are directly associated with the false Greek god Apollo in Thayer's Greek lexicon. While similar in appearance, all of the rest of

the words have absolutely no connection with the deity, but rather are associated with destruction, ruin and loss.

So why is this information so important to us? Because quite simply, in order to try to substantiate his claims regarding the ancient Greek god Apollo either physically rising from the dead and assuming the identity of the Antichrist, or at the very least, possessing the body of the man who becomes the Antichrist, Tom Horn uses some of the very same verses that I just shared with you. According to Mr. Horn, Apollo's return from the dead, whether it is in physical form or just spiritual form, will result from a ritual that is performed by the Freemasons known as the "Raising Ceremony". Mr. Horn claims that the dome of the White House and the spire of the Washington Monument are integral parts of this secret ritual. Furthermore, Horn states in his writings that this ritual is performed in Washington each time that a new president takes office. In essence, Mr. Horn suggests that each new president becomes possessed by the spirit of Apollo, who continually rises and dies, similar to the myths of old concerning Apollo and the Egyptian false god Osiris, who Horn views as one and the same deity.

As I explained to you in part one, some writers who promote this 2012 hype, grab information from ancient mythology, and stretch the meanings of some words and events that are found in the Bible, so that it will fit their particular theory, and then they piece it all together into a hodgepodge of New Age nonsense. If I have understood him correctly, Mr. Horn appears to be convinced that the angel which rises out of the Bottomless Pit -- that is, Apollyon or Abaddon -- is in fact Apollo, even though I have clearly shown you that the Greek lexicon does not make a reference to Apollo for that verse. Furthermore, Mr. Horn takes some of the previous verses, and replaces the word "perdition" with the name "Apollo". More specifically, in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, where the Apostle Paul refers to the Antichrist as the "son of perdition", because the word "perdition" is derived from "apoleia", Horn believes that the correct translation is the "son of Apollo", which is contrary to what I explained to you earlier.

Mr. Horn takes the very same approach with the following two verses that are found in the Book of Revelation:

"The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition . . . And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of

the seven, and goeth into perdition."

Revelation 17:8a, 11, KJV

Where those verses say "into perdition", Mr. Horn interprets it as meaning "into Apollo". In other words, Mr. Horn appears to be convinced that this dark spirit which rises out of the Bottomless Pit, enters into the body of a resurrected Apollo. To be quite honest, I am somewhat confused myself; because in one place in his writings, Horn seems to believe that Abaddon -- a.k.a. Apollyon -- is actually Apollo, while in yet other places, Horn seems to suggest that Abaddon/Apollyon enters into or possesses the body of Apollo; which is how I imagine the world will end up with a "real" Apollo in the flesh; at least according to Horn's interpretation of events.

Now, aside from Mr. Horn's unusual interpretation of those previous verses, not to mention the liberal way in which he weaves ancient mythology into his Christian beliefs, one of the problems that I have with his particular approach to understanding the Scriptures, is that he is not consistent. In other words, I shared eight verses with you from the New Testament where the word "perdition" is used. They are all derived from the same Greek word "apoleia", which, as we've already seen, means destruction or ruin. Now, if Mr. Horn is going to replace the word "perdition" with the name "Apollo" in two of those verses so that they fit his theory, then he must be willing to do the same thing with the remaining six verses in order to maintain interpretive consistency. If we take that approach, we begin to run into serious problems. For example, Judas is no longer the "son of perdition" as Jesus said he was, but rather, Judas becomes the "son of Apollo". Oh really?

If we follow Mr. Horn's method of exegesis, the same kind of problem also occurs with the other verses. For example, in the verse of Scripture where the Apostle Peter discusses the fiery destruction of the heavens and Earth, and the perdition -- or destruction -- of ungodly men, if we replace the word "perdition" with the name "Apollo", we end up with one very unusual-sounding verse, as we see here:

"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and [Apollo] of ungodly men."

2 Peter 3:7, KJV

By this time, I hope that you are able to see my point. In

short, in my opinion, Mr. Horn has resorted to some rather sloppy exegesis in his efforts to convince his readers of what he believes, and what he wants them to believe as well. While he presents compelling arguments in certain cases, in the end, he relies too little on Biblical sources, he relies much too heavily on questionable external sources -- such as all of the ancient mythology and the Freemasonry -- and even when he does decide to quote from the Bible, quite often, he takes words and verses out of context in an attempt to prove his point. As I've often explained over the years, our faith is supposed to be derived from, and grounded in, God's Word, the Bible, and nothing else. The Scriptures clearly tell us the following:

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Psalms 119:11, KJV

"LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Psalms 119:89, KJV

"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

Psalms 138:2, KJV

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

John 15:3, KJV

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Romans 10:17, KJV

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Hebrews 4:12, KJV

So it is only the Word of God which can truly touch people's lives, reveal the sins in their hearts, cleanse them of sin, and transform them into new creatures in Jesus Christ; and not ancient mythology, or conspiracy theories which revolve around the Freemasons and the Illuminati, or the so-called prophecies of the Cumaean Sibyl, who, according to Tom Horn,

predicted the return of the false god Apollo, or the Mayan calendar, or anything else. If we honestly expect to win the world for Christ, then we must rely on the tools that He has given us. Questionable theories and speculations regarding December 21, 2012 are certainly not one of those tools.

Putting aside these interpretation issues -- and there are others that I haven't even discussed here -- as I explained in part one, one of my biggest complaints concerning writers such as Mr. Horn -- and there are many like him -- is that they seem to lose their first love for feeding God's sheep, and they become entrapped in the business of selling books. Sadly, it seems that like so many other Christian websites which I have visited, Mr. Horn's website is nothing more than a vehicle for enticing and baiting his readers, so that they will purchase his books, such as his "Apollyon Rising 2012". This is clearly evident by the fact that on the top of each blog entry, he has a string of text which encourages his site visitors to read his blog entries before they are banned by the U.S. government. Clearly, Mr. Horn has a problem with his ego, self-aggrandizement and his own assumed self-importance.

By the way, for the record, those blog entries have been on Mr. Horn's website since April of 2009; and as of the date of origin of this series -- May 20, 2010 -- they are still there. It becomes apparent then that Horn's claim that the information might be blocked, banned or removed by the U.S. government because it exposes the evil machinations of the Freemasons and the American elite, was, and continues to be, bogus, and just another sales gimmick.

If one really stops and thinks about it, if what Mr. Horn is saying is really true, and if it really threatens the agenda of the New World Order crowd, surely they would have shut him up a long time ago. However, quite to the contrary, by his own words, Horn states that he has been appearing on hundreds of television and radio talk shows, he has held meetings with a number of U.S. government officials, and he has engaged in other forms of public dialog as well, since first publishing "Apollyon Rising 2012" in 2009. Does this sound like a man who is running for his dear life because he has said and written things which aren't supposed to be made known to the general public? Use your head!

Returning to the issue of commercializing our Christian faith, I fully understand that, like other Christian authors, Horn needs to earn a living; but as I have already clearly

demonstrated through the Scriptures, we are not supposed to make a worldly business out of God's Business of preaching the Gospel to the lost. The First Century Apostles frowned upon this practice, as we have already seen. Of course, the question which then arises is whether or not Horn is really preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, or just some trendy New Age psychobabble that will attract readers and put some money in his bank account. If you have read his work, and observed him in real life or online, what is your opinion concerning this matter? Do you believe that he is genuine, or do you think that he is just another charlatan who knows how to work a crowd?

Another point which I would like to share with you is that it did not escape me that Mr. Horn liberally quotes from sources of like-minded individuals who validate his views, while he chooses to ignore those sources which reveal the flaws in his own theories and speculations. Now, of course, I think that it's safe to say that most people behave in a similar manner. In other words, we like to associate ourselves with people who usually agree with us, and ignore and distance ourselves from those people who don't share our views. It's just a part of our human nature. However, in my view, it is a bit crafty the way that these online authors band together when they're trying to sell their books and other media. In other words, by promoting other authors on their websites, they not only create the impression that a lot of important people agree with their views -- which adds a great deal of credibility to their work -- but the end result of such tactics is that it also encourages and motivates more people to purchase their books; and that is what these money-minded Bible hucksters are all about; that is, turning a handsome profit.

As is quite evident in my articles, I have long believed, and continue to believe, that the Christian Gospel should be free to everyone, without charge. Furthermore, I believe that it's morally wrong to withhold Biblical truth, and to entice folks with only small pieces of it, unless they are willing to pay us money for it as so many of these so-called Christian sites do, including Mr. Horn's site. When we start charging money for what we believe to be the truth, we are purposely setting up barriers, and declaring that some people deserve to have the truth -- that is, those who have money -- while the poor are not deserving of the same. That certainly isn't how Jesus operated, is it? Didn't the Lord clearly teach us "Freely ye have received, freely give"?

That's precisely why anyone can visit my Bill's Bible Basics website; they can read everything that I have ever authored over the past twenty-six years; and they can likewise read it for absolutely free. By God's Grace, I will never charge any money for any of my work. I will never place any kind of limits on my work. Whether you are rich or poor, you can read my work, and even download it in PDF format, if you so desire.

Sales-wise, I honestly don't know how well Mr. Horn's book, "2012 Apollyon Rising", has done. But no matter how well it does, my suspicion is that Horn and his faithful followers are going to be rather embarrassed when his predictions fail to come to pass in December, 2012. If that indeed turns out to be the case, do any of you honestly believe that Mr. Horn will be so kind as to offer reimbursements to the people who foolishly purchased his book? A more likely scenario is that Mr. Horn will offer no apologies. He may possibly offer some kind of weak explanation, such as suggesting that his readers simply misunderstood what he was saying in his book.

Sad to say, this is a very common reaction with cults and other manipulative groups. In other words, when a leader is exposed as a false prophet, the more dedicated followers will simply forgive him for his blunders, wash over his mistakes, and they will continue to place their faith in his writings, until the time arrives for them to purchase his next book, which many of them will gladly do. Some people just never seem to wake up, no matter how often they have been duped by one of these crafty deceivers.

I hope that you can see the danger by now. Unless a person has spent years studying God's Word, how can they possibly know if what they are being spoon-fed, and for a price no less, is really God-inspired truth? Obviously, they cannot know. They are basically accepting that writer's words on blind faith. They are trusting that the writer is an expert in his field and really knows what he is talking about. But sadly, therein lies the problem, because a number of these so-called Christian leaders and writers are feeding their flocks dangerous junk food which is slowly poisoning their souls. They certainly aren't feeding them with the pure, unadulterated Word of God. They are in fact polluting God's Word with toxic, deceptive, spiritual waste, and this can lead to nothing good. To make matters worse, just like the junk food industry, they are charging money for it.



No matter how you try to disguise it, junk food is still junk food. Period. You can try to disguise it by putting it in a pretty, colorful wrapper with all kinds of modern lingo -- or in a fancy book cover, or in a stylish DVD sleeve -- but it still is not nutritional in the least. Just as junk food can give you a temporary sugar buzz, the spiritual junk food that is dished out by these New Age gurus and misguided Christian writers can also give you a temporary spiritual high. But in the end, once the buzz passes, you are left with nothing.

Having said that, I again advise all of you to beware of the 2012 gurus, whether they are Christian or not. Don't fall into their traps, and don't be foolish enough to buy their books and DVDs. If you think that the Nephilim are going to rise in 2012, or that the fabled planet Nibiru will return in 2012, or that the false god Apollo will be returning in 2012, or that the Earth is going to be struck by an asteroid in 2012, or that the world will come to an end in 2012, or any of the other 2012 nonsense that these opportunists are currently preaching and selling, then you may be in for a big disappointment if nothing extraordinary happens in 2012. Just as ten years ago I warned everyone about the "Jesus is coming in 2,000" nonsense, now I am doing the same thing yet again regarding the 2012 New Age psychobabble. No doubt, I will be forced to do it again at some point in the future. Why? Because these deceivers just never seem to give up.

When will people ever learn to stop falling for the slippery words of these manipulative deceivers and slick profiteers? Insofar as the aforementioned events are concerned, let me say this. Based on my personal understanding of the Bible, I can say with almost one hundred per cent certainty that none of them are going to occur in 2012.

Note: 07-26-2020: And absolutely NONE of them ever did occur.

Concerning the popular belief that the Nephilim may possibly return to rule the Earth -- supposedly under the rule of the false god Apollo -- who Horn equates with Nimrod and Osiris, and with Abaddon/Apollyon -- personally, I am fully convinced that this is yet another false doctrine. Why? Because the Old Testament makes it very clear that they were all thoroughly destroyed by way of the Genesis Flood. God plainly declared that all air-breathing life would perish, and that is exactly what happened. To believe otherwise is to call God a liar. If they were to somehow return to the Earth at some point in the future, as Tom Horn, Chuck Missler, and a number of other

misguided people claim, it would mean that God failed, which I for one do not believe. In Genesis, we read as follows:

"And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die . . . And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life . . . All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died."

Genesis 6:17, 7:15, 22, KJV

Please go to part three for the conclusion of this series.

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2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble - Part 3

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God Will Destroy Destroyers Of The Earth, Moral Corruption, Possible Theories Regarding Selection Of Noah And His Family, No Scriptures Point To 2012 Being A Pivotal Year, Deceptive False Prophets And False Christs, Micaiah And Lying Spirits, Questionable Interpretation Of Mayan Calendar, Mesoamerica And The Maya, Maya Religious Beliefs And Human Sacrifices, Maya Today, Maya Long Count Calendar And Gregorian Calendar, Long Count Calendar, 5,126 Year Cycle And December 21, 2012, Partial 2012 Book List, Scientists Attempt To Set The Record Straight, Mayan Daykeepers And The Tzolkin Sacred Calendar, Bible Condemns Astrology, The Impending Judgment Of Babylon, Will America Escape?, Guatemalan Maya Shamans Do Not Believe That December 21, 2012 Will Mark The End Of The World, Age Of The Earth According To Various Religions And Individuals, End Of The Age And Expectations Of Various World Religions, Messiah, Antichrist, Mahdi, al-Dajjal, Moshiach ben David, Armilus, False Prophet, Deceiving Messiah, Great Deceiver, An Oppressed World Is Looking For A Savior, Closing Remarks

One thing is for certain. Just as God imprisoned the Fallen Angels who are mentioned in Genesis chapter six, as well as in the Book of Enoch, and destroyed their violent offspring -- the Nephilim -- by bringing on the Great Flood in the days of the Patriarch Noah, the Bible likewise informs us in the Book of Revelation that God will destroy those who destroy the Earth, as we see here:

"And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth."

Revelation 11:18, KJV

While that verse may be referring to the physical destruction of the Earth and its people through warfare and other forms of violence, through pollution of the land, air and sea, and through other agents which result in destruction in one form or another, I find it interesting that, based upon the Greek word that is used there -- *diaphtheiro* -- it could also be a reference to moral corruption. No honest person, regardless of whether or not they are Christian, can deny that our world has become engulfed by moral corruption. Whether it is sexual corruption, political corruption, corruption in the business world, or religious corruption, it is truly pervasive and can be found everywhere. The reason why this point is interesting is because, as we saw earlier in this series, this is exactly the same thing that the Fallen Angels and the Nephilim were guilty of doing in the Book of Genesis and the Book of Enoch. We are clearly told that they corrupted humanity, and filled the Earth with violence and wickedness; and thus, God chose to destroy them.

In fact, there are those people who believe that the reason why Noah and his family found Grace in God's sight, and were spared from the coming Flood, is because they didn't allow themselves to become corrupted by those evil entities. Some people take this thought even a step further and suggest that Noah and his family were chosen by God because they had not become genetically corrupted like the rest of the people of the Earth. In my view, both of these theories have merit and deserve our attention.

Like many of you, I suspect that the Earth and its people may experience extraordinary, and even terrible things, in the years which lie ahead. My problem, as I noted earlier in this series, is with the fact that some of these preachers and New Age gurus are attempting to convince people that their predictions regarding 2012 are solidly based upon the Scriptures, when they most certainly are not. Let me say it again: There are no verses in the Bible which specifically point to 2012 as being a pivotal year in a prophetic sense; and so-called "teachers" who lead their followers astray by promoting such erroneous beliefs are committing a grave error, in my view. I am reminded of something that the Lord said in Matthew chapter twenty-four regarding deceivers:

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

Matthew 24:24, KJV

When most people read the previous verse, they assume that the phrase "false Christs" is referring to those people who claim to be Jesus Christ returned to the Earth. While this is indeed true, and while there have been a number of false spiritual leaders over the decades who have claimed to be Christ reincarnated -- such as Sun Myung Moon and Marshall Applewhite -- the Lord's prophecy can also be understood in another way as well. Consider the following.

As some of you may already know, the word "Christ", which in the Greek language is "khristos", actually means "anointed". If we understand the word in that context, then the phrase "false Christs" -- or "pseudochristos" in Greek -- may also be a reference to individuals who falsely claim to have the anointing of God's Spirit . . . and boy, are there many such charlatans in the USA, and elsewhere, today! There are now so many "wannabe prophets" in the USA today, all shouting "Thus saith the Lord", that it defies belief, and it really amazes me. Referring to oneself as a Prophet of God, who speaks in the Name of God, is very serious business; and again I must say that it really astounds me that so many of these people take this issue so lightly. Have they no fear of God?

It's quite obvious to me that some of those preachers weren't sent by the Lord. If anything, maybe some of them -- like the ones who preach the "abundant life" doctrine, the "slain in the spirit" doctrine, the "holy laughter" doctrine, and other weirdness -- have lying spirits, as we find mentioned in the

Old Testament story concerning Micaiah. You can read about it in the twenty-second chapter of the First Book of Kings. We would all be wise to take heed to yet another one of Jesus's warnings about false prophets when He said:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."  
Matthew 7:15-20, KJV

As I briefly mentioned earlier, the current December 21, 2012 hype is primarily based on the questionable interpretation of an ancient calendar that was devised by the Maya. The ancient Maya were an indigenous race who populated an area stretching from the southern states of Mexico, to the northern countries of Central America during pre-Christian times. This region is commonly referred to as Mesoamerica. While much can be said regarding the advances that were made by the Maya in written language, mathematics, astronomy, architecture, art and other areas, nevertheless, at the same time, we should not forget that the Maya engaged in the ritual of human sacrifices. This barbarism casts a long shadow over everything else that they may have accomplished as a society, in my view. While I'm not well-versed regarding Mayan religious beliefs, I do know that they were not monotheistic, and that they believed that prior to the current Creation, their "gods" were involved in three previous creation attempts, all of which failed, according to the information that I have read. As you'll see in a moment, the ancient Maya were also heavily involved in astrology. If you have read some of my other articles, then you will know that this is also a practice that is condemned in the Bible.

While I have spoken of the Maya as living in the past, please note that today, the descendants of the Maya still thrive in those areas of Mesoamerica, albeit to a much smaller extent. Like many other indigenous societies, over the centuries they have likewise been confronted with the forces of domination, exploitation, and modernization, yet some of them continue to cling to their old ways, including their ancient languages and customs.

As I mentioned a moment ago, the Maya were quite advanced for their time. This was particularly so in the area of astronomy as well as in mathematics. The Maya devised a calendar which is known as the Long Count calendar. The Long Count calendar identifies a specific day by counting the number of days that have passed since the date of creation, based upon the belief of the Maya. This date corresponds to August 11, 3114 BCE on the Gregorian calendar. As some of you will already know, the Gregorian calendar was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church -- and eventually by a large segment of the world -- in order to correct the ten-day deficiency of the former Julian Calendar.

To continue, the Long Count calendar covers a cycle, unit or period totaling 5,126 years. When converted to our Gregorian calendar system, we discover that the current period of 5,126 years will end precisely on December 21, 2012, at which time the next 5,126-year cycle is set to the year zero and starts all over again. To better understand how we arrived at the year 2012, please look closely at the following math which is based on the Mayan creation date of 3,114 BC/BCE:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3114 \text{ BC/BCE to year } 0 \text{ AD/CE} = 3114 \text{ years} \\ \text{year } 0 \text{ AD/CE to } 2012 \text{ AD/CE} = 2012 \text{ years} \\ \hline 5126 \text{ years} \end{array}$$

As you can see, using simple addition, we can understand why some people consider the year 2012 to be so important. But you see, it is the intentional glossing over of the fact that 2012 will mark the beginning of the next cycle -- and not the end of the calendar, or the end of the world -- which has so many people caught up in the current December 21, 2012 hype. It is also the reason why I have purposely chosen to use the word "questionable" to describe the irresponsible, hyped up modern interpretation of this ancient calendar. The fact of the matter is that the world coming to an end on December 21, 2012 is nothing more than an assumption that is intentionally based upon twisted, manipulated information. In spite of what some people are saying, there is no Biblical or scientific evidence to validate this claim whatsoever, and many of the promoters of this farce know it.

As I stated at the beginning of this series, this misguided belief in the calamities which will supposedly befall the human race on December 21, 2012 is being promoted by New Age gurus, misinformed Christians, crafty book publishers and book writers, movie producers, and other unscrupulous folks

who hope to profit financially from the propagation of this ridiculous lie. While I have highlighted the recent work of Tom Horn, as I noted earlier, he is by no means alone when it comes to promoting this nonsense. While I obviously can't provide you with a full list of everyone who is hoping to profit from the 2012 hype, following is a very short list of some of the authors of recent 2012 books. Please note that I have not read any of these books, and I do not know any of these authors personally. This list is not meant to condemn anyone, but merely to inform you regarding some of the 2012 books that are currently available. Whether or not you accept what they have to say is entirely up to you:

\* "2012 Awakening : Choosing Spiritual Enlightenment Over Armageddon" by Sri Ram Kaa, Kira Raa

\* "2012 : Biography Of A Time Traveler: The Journey Of Jose Arguelles" by Stephanie South

\* "2012 : Science Or Superstition (The Definitive Guide To The Domsday Phenomenon) by Alexandra Bruce

\* "2012 : The Bible And The End Of The World" by Mark Hitchcock

\* "2012 : The Return Of Quetzalcoatl" by Daniel Pinchbeck

\* "2012 : The War For Souls" by Whitley Strieber

\* "2013 Oracle: Ancient Keys To The 2012 Awakening" by David Carson and Nina Sammons

\* "2013 : Envisioning The World After The Events Of 2012" by Marie D. Jones

\* "Apocalypse 2012 : A Scientific Investigation Into Civilization's End" by Lawrence E. Joseph

\* "Fractal Time : The Secret Of 2012 And A New World Age" by Gregg Braden

\* "How To Survive 2012 : Tactics and Survival Places for the Coming Pole Shift" by Patrick Geryl

\* "Maya Cosmogenesis 2012 : The True Meaning Of The Maya Calendar End-Date" by Terence McKenna

- \* "Maya Prophecy" by Dr. Ronald Bonewitz
- \* "Serpent Of Light" by Drunvalo Melchizedek
- \* "The 2012 Story : The Myths, Fallacies And Truth Behind The Most Intriguing Date In History" by John Major Jenkins
- \* "The Mystery Of 2012 : Predictions, Prophecies, And Possibilities" by Gregg Braden, Peter Russell, Joanna R. Macy, Daniel Pinchbeck and John Major Jenkins
- \* "The Revolution Of 2012 : Vol. 1, The Preparation" by Andrew Smith

Of course, not everyone has been so easily mesmerized by the hype surrounding December 21, 2012. In fact, there are some honest scientists and other people of academia who have been attempting to set the record straight. For example, in the article "Does Maya Calendar Predict 2012 Apocalypse?" which appeared in the March 28, 2007 edition of USA Today, Sandra Noble, who is the executive director of the Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, located in Crystal River, Florida, frankly notes that the New Age and doomsday hype surrounding 2012 is simply "a complete fabrication and a chance for a lot of people to cash in." I couldn't agree with her more.

In the same 2007 USA Today piece, when asked for her opinion regarding the public perception that the Maya believed that December 21, 2012 would herald the end of the world, a Maya archaeoastronomer, and a curator of Latin American Art and Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History by the name of Susan Milbrath candidly stated "we have no record or knowledge that they would think the world would come to an end at that point". In similar fashion, Susan Gillespie, who is an anthropologist at the University of Florida, when asked for her thoughts concerning the origin of the 2012 hype, did not hesitate to express her view that it comes "from media, and from other people making use of the Maya past to fulfill agendas that are really their own."

That the Mayan Long Count calendar does not actually end on December 21, 2012 is verified by other scientists as well. In a 2008 article for Tulane University entitled "The Sky Is Not Falling", writer Ryan Rivet noted that Harvey Bricker, who is a professor emeritus of anthropology and a researcher for the



Tulane University Middle American Research Institute, scoffed at the belief that the world might end on December 21, 2012. Bricker also confirmed that the Long Count calendar does not end in 2012, it merely starts a new cycle on December 21st. Bricker stated "It's a crock . . . It's based on ignorance and misinformation. One starts with the clear statement that the Maya calendar will not end in 2012. It is the end of one calendrical unit. It's not the end of the calendar or the end of the world . . . There are abundant written references to dates before the current era, and there are written records about the time after the current era . . . You know what's going to happen on the 22nd of December 2012? It will be the first day of the rest of our lives."

E. Wyllys Andrews V, the director of the Tulane University Middle American Research Institute, agrees with Bricker's assessment. He states "There will be another cycle . . . We know the Maya thought there was one before this, and that implies they were comfortable with the idea of another one after this."

But in my mind, the most startling information that I came across while conducting research for this series, has to be the fact that apparently, even the modern descendants of the Maya do not believe that the world will come to an end when we finally reach the anticipated date of December 21, 2012. In the aforementioned article, anthropologist Judith Maxwell, who is a researcher who specializes in the Maya civilization, and who visits Guatemala on a regular yearly basis, discusses the Maya shamans of Guatemala who are known as "Daykeepers". According to the Wikipedia website, "Daykeeper" was the title that was given to diviners in the pre-Columbian Maya culture. As their name implies, the task of the Daykeepers was to keep count of the days using coral seeds, as well as to perform divination rituals. These rituals were based upon the dates of the Tzolkin calendar. The Maya calendar consisted of three individual calendars, of which the Tzolkin -- or divinatory calendar -- was considered to be the most sacred.

In a sense, the role of the Daykeeper was similar to that of a modern astrologer, in that the shaman would use the day of a person's birth as a means to divine certain traits that said person would inherit, as well as what might befall them in the future. One difference between the two is that ancient Daykeepers didn't take into account the position of the stars when conducting a reading. As I mentioned earlier, God's Word strongly condemns astrology and related practices. When the

Prophet Isaiah spoke about the impending judgment of Babylon, consider some of the blunt language that he used, and notice who is at the center of God's Wrath:

"But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments. For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said, None seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me. Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know. Stand now with thine enchantments, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth; if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail. Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee. Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it."

Isaiah 47:9-14, KJV

If you have a sharp eye, you may realize that the previous prophecy is very similar to the judgments that are pronounced against Babylon the Great in the Book of Revelation. What is also interesting about this prophecy, is that it could very well be describing modern America; because sadly, it too has been overrun with astrologers, psychics, Tarot card readers, palm readers and the like. So should America expect anything different when God begins to pour out His Wrath upon her?

As we discussed earlier, the modern descendants of the Maya continue to practice the traditions of their ancestors. That they still do this after so many centuries, surely indicates how important they must consider these traditions; most of all, the practice of counting days. Therefore, taking into consideration the importance that they place upon counting the days, we must wonder exactly what they think regarding the hype and sensationalism that has surrounded December 21, 2012, and the completion of one cycle of their ancient Long Calendar.

As I noted a few paragraphs ago, the Daykeepers of Guatemala aren't the least bit impressed by the mania that's engulfed a certain segment of modern society, and they do not believe that December 21, 2012 will signal the end of the world. In fact, in the Tulane University article, Ms. Maxwell explains that these modern Maya shamans attribute the end-of-the-world scenario to misinterpretation. Maxwell states "The Daykeepers mention the date in 2012 and say it [is] a misunderstanding of crystal gazers, New Agers who have latched onto [this apocalyptic theory]."

Now please ponder that statement for a moment. Personally, I find it very significant. If the modern descendants of the ancient Maya who created and designed the Long Count calendar don't accept that December 21, 2012 marks the end of their calendar -- but simply a new cycle of the same -- or the end of the world, then how is it that all of these other people promote such a lie and deception? Amazing, isn't it? This is very similar to enemies of our Christian faith saying that we believe a certain thing, just to stir up controversy, when we don't believe it at all. Sadly, these people are not just stirring up controversy, they are also profiting from doing the same, and in a big way. Allow me to reiterate that I find it particularly disturbing that certain American Christian writers have resorted to these very same dishonest tactics. That some of these Christians do this, is a clear sign that American Christianity is in trouble. Of course, as some of you will realize, there is nothing new in my making such a statement. After all, as I point out in a number of other articles, American Christianity has been in a slow state of spiritual decline for quite a few years now, and it is going to require something mighty from God to turn the situation around.

Before concluding this series, allow me to share with you a few more personal observations concerning the December 21, 2012 hype. While I obviously haven't been taken in by all of the 2012 commotion, and while I honestly do not believe that the world will come to an end on December 21, 2012, I do find it rather interesting that such a diversity of cultures and religions seem to coalesce around certain themes insofar as the prophetic scenario is concerned. For example, based on the work of James Ussher, who was the Archbishop of Armagh, and the Primate of All Ireland during the Seventeenth Century, it has been generally accepted by Fundamentalist Christians that the date of Creation was approximately 4004 BCE. While Ussher has been credited with establishing this date, it should be

known that a decade prior to Ussher, this very same date was arrived at by Dr. John Lightfoot, who was a clergyman of the Church of England. Based on this date of 4004 BCE, at this current time -- 2020 -- the Earth is currently around 6,024 years old.

As I explained earlier, according to Mayan beliefs, the date of the Fourth Creation was 3114 BCE. This places the current age of the Earth at approximately 5,134 years old. Now, if we consider that -- depending on who you want to believe --we're dealing with thousands, millions or billions of years when it comes to the actual age of Planet Earth, a difference of less than nine hundred years between the Christian date and the Mayan date is really minimal, and rather interesting.

Furthermore, if we focus on Jewish beliefs, we discover that according to the Jewish calendar, the current date is 5781. This date is based upon the Jewish belief that Creation took place in 3761 BCE. On a side note, Jewish historian Josephus estimated the date of Creation as being between 5481 and 5555 BCE.

According to the Baha'i faith, Creation occurred in 4122 BCE. Using this date, we arrive at the Earth currently being 6,142 years old.

People of the Muslim faith appear to take a rather neutral approach when discussing the age of the Earth. According to online sources, Islam doesn't embrace a set position when it comes to the age of the Earth. Muslims believe that this kind of knowledge belongs to God alone. While the Qur'an does say that Creation occurred during a six-day period, the precise meaning of the word "day" is rather ambiguous. For example, in one passage it states "in a day the measure of which is a thousand years of what you count", (32:5); while in another passage it says ". . . a day the measure of which is fifty thousand years", (70:4).

The Jehovah's Witnesses place the date of Creation at around 4026 BCE. This would make the Earth about 6,046 years old.

During the Seventeenth Century, famed German mathematician and astronomer, Johannes Kepler -- who was a very religious man -- estimated that the date of Creation was about 3993 BCE. Using this date, the Earth would currently be about 6,013 years old.

During the Sixteenth Century, German theologian, and Roman Catholic monk, Martin Luther, arrived at the conclusion that Creation occurred around 3961 BCE. This would make the Earth currently around 5,981 years old.

As you can see, based upon the previous information, we can say that amongst these various faiths and individuals, there is the general belief that the Earth is from 5,134 to 6,142 years old. But there is another common denominator between some of these religions; and that is the belief that we are approaching the end of an age, at which time a great leader will appear on the world stage, who will bring great changes to the Earth and its people. Exactly who this great leader is, or will be, depends on the particular faith to which one personally subscribes. Consider the following:

As you may already know, Fundamentalist Christians refer to this tumultuous period in world history as the Endtime, or the End Times. Many Christians believe that Jesus Christ -- who is the Son of God and only true Messiah of the world -- will return in the not-too-distant future in order to take over the world, and set up His Father's Kingdom upon Earth. According to this particular doctrinal position -- there are others -- in order to achieve His goals, Jesus will, among other things, defeat the Beast -- who some people call the Antichrist -- the False Prophet and their armies during the Battle of Armageddon. This great battle between the forces of good and evil will take place in the plains of northern Israel.

If you wish to learn more about the Futurist perspective, and other theological perspectives, please consider reading some of my other eschatological articles. According to the Christian Scriptures, the aforementioned events all center around the nation of Israel, and particularly around the city of Jerusalem.

Some Muslims also believe that we are approaching the end of the age, and are in earnest expectation of the arrival of a great Muslim leader and messiah. Some of the Hadith, that is, narrations concerning Muhammad, refer to this great leader as the Mahdi, which means "the Guided One". Muslims who embrace this doctrine, believe that working together with Jesus, who they also believe will return in the near future, the Mahdi will destroy "Masih al-Dajjal". In English, this character is referred to as "the False Messiah", "the Deceiving Messiah", "the False Prophet" or "the Great Deceiver". As you can see,

Masih al-Dajjal has an equivalent in Christian eschatology. Some Muslims believe that al-Dajjal will appear between Syria and Iraq, and that he will create an army from those whom he has deceived. He will then wage war against Jesus, who will be leading the Army of the Righteous. This sounds similar to the Battle of Armageddon, as discussed earlier. Just like the Christian faith, Muslims also believe that a time of great judgment is fast approaching. They also believe that these prophetic events will center around Israel and Jerusalem.

Orthodox Jews also sense the urgency of the times, and are in eager anticipation of the arrival of their messiah, who they refer to as "Moshiach ben David", or, Messiah, son of David. Similar to Christian and Muslim doctrine, the Orthodox Jews believe that Moshiach will usher in great changes, and will inspire people to return to the Laws of God. In addition, it is also believed by the Orthodox Jews that the third temple will be built on the summit of Mount Moriah -- or the Temple Mount -- during Moshiach's soon-coming reign. The Jews do not believe that Moshiach ben David will be of divine origin, but merely a great human leader in both a political and military sense. If you wish to learn more about this Jewish figure, please consider reading my series entitled "Who is Moshiach ben David?" when it is released.

Within the Jewish belief system, there also exists a person who is a type of anti-messiah figure. He is known as Armilus. Armilus is said to be an evil king who will rise to power at the end of time. Armilus will persecute the Jews, conquer the city of Jerusalem, and fight against Moshiach ben David until he is finally defeated by the Hand of God, or by Moshiach ben David. As you can see, both Moshiach ben David and Armilus have their equivalents in Christian and Muslim eschatology.

The previous information is obviously just a small sample of some of the beliefs that are embraced by some of the world's religions. As you will know, there are many other religions; some of which embrace doctrines similar to the above, while others that are vastly different. Likewise, if we add modern science to the mix, we are going to end up with some rather conflicting ideas. However, the main point that I would like to emphasize here, is that amongst a very large section of the religious people of the world, and regardless of their particular faith, there appears to be a meeting point, and a commonality of some ideas and beliefs. Is this just a matter of coincidence, or is it perhaps by some unseen design? Not only that, but there appears to be an urgency, an impalpable

sense, an inner expectation, as well as an anticipation that something very big will soon happen on our planet.

If the truth be told, there is a longing desire for real, positive change, because at this current time, there are so many people who are suffering under oppressive, manipulative, deceptive and self-serving governments which are controlled by the rich and the elite of the world. Politicians have not been able to provide the answers that people want and need. So, many people of the world are currently looking for an ethical person, a sort of savior or messiah, who is capable of rising above human politics and governmental corruption, in order to bring the world together as one. Now, more than ever, they need hope; they require justice; and they want relief from the many political, economic and social problems which the world faces today. The question is, what form will this relief take, if and when it comes, and who is going to bring it to them? Will he be the world's savior, or will he really be a devil in disguise who simply offers the world a carrot on a stick? If the arrival of this great leader is truly on the horizon, as so many people seem to sense, will he bring relief to our current sorrows and burdens, or will he only make our situation worse?

For answers to these and other questions, I encourage you to continue reading the many articles and series which can be found on the Bill's Bible Basics website. At the same time, I again urge all of you to please stay clear of the 2012 New Age psychobabble. It is just poison for your soul. Please be smart and invest your time in reading the Bible instead. You will find God's Word to be much more spiritually rewarding and satisfying. It will fill you with faith and hope for the future, instead of the dread and doom that is promoted by so many of the December 21, 2012 gurus.

With these words I will bring another series to a close. I trust that you have found it informative, and I hope that it has been a blessing in your life as well. If so, if you have an account with Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr or with any other social network, I would really appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding share buttons which are found on this same page. Thank you so very much! May God bless you abundantly!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this series, or which contain topics which are related to

this series. All of these articles are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics website:

Age of Deception, Age of Delusion  
Elijah: Where Are the True Prophets of God?  
Freemasonry and the Danger of a One World Religion  
Great Cloud of Witnesses: God's Holy Ghosts?  
Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?  
Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon  
Nephilim: The Giants of Genesis  
Sex, a Bowl of Soup and the Nature of Angels  
Sorry . . . Jesus Is Not Coming At Any Moment  
The Book of Enoch: Truth or Heresy?  
The Children of Light: Are You One of Us?  
The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping  
Who Hindered the Antichrist?  
Who is Moshiach ben David?

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