



Week 2: God's Goal for Us

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INTRODUCTION – Oh Maya

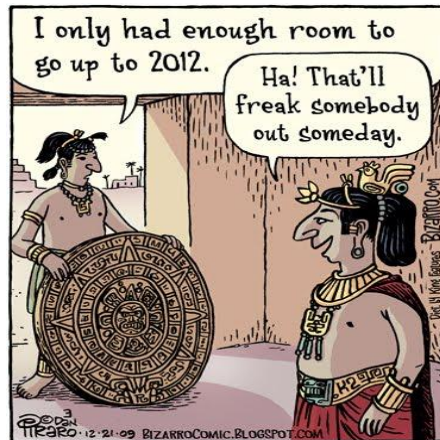
What's the BIG IDEA?

The Bible tells us enough about the future to encourage us, but not enough to distract us. If you're worried or distracted about the future, you've missed the point of Jesus somewhere along the way.

When you hear theories like this, stop and think...

- Does this make sense?
- Does it fit with what we know about Jesus?
- How does this change how I live my life today?

2 Peter 3:10-13



DINE IN – The Day of the Lord

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

1 Corinthians 6:14; 2 Corinthians 4:14
1 Corinthians 15:51-54 and Philippians 3:20-21
John 16:4, 33

Caught up = *harpazo* (Greek) = *raptus* (Latin) = Rapture

TAKE OUT – I'll Have That to Go Please

We should talk and think about the end times (eschatology) enough to encourage us to follow Jesus in our present time, but not so much that we start to confuse eschatology with the gospel.

CONCLUSION – Let's Talk About Today

Matthew 6:11, 34; 2 Corinthians 6:2

For further study, check out our series on the Book of Revelation done back in 2000, called "Revelation 2000". (Not our most creative series title.)

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email ask@themeetinghouse.ca.

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. Why do you think discussion about the end of the world or the last days is so attention-grabbing for some people?
2. Has your thinking about the end of the world changed at all through this brief series? If so, how?
3. In his article "Farewell to the Rapture" (Bible Review, August 2001), N.T. Wright writes: "Paul conjures up images of an emperor visiting a colony or province. The citizens go out to meet him in open country and then escort him into the city. Paul's image of the people "meeting the Lord in the air" should be read with the assumption that the people will immediately turn around and lead the Lord back to the newly remade world." Whadaya think?

Look to the Book...

4. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11. A) What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why? B) What is the significance of Paul (like Jesus) suggesting that the end will come like a thief in the night? What are the implications for us? C) Paul contrasts being awake and/or sober to being asleep and/or drunk. This past week can you think of times that you have behaved more asleep/drunk than awake/sober? D) When was the last time you "built someone up"? What does/should "building each other up" look like in your relationships? Talk about examples from your own life.

So What?...

5. If you knew the world would end in a week, what changes or corrections would you make in your relationships? Should you make them anyway?
6. Talk about one specific thing you can do to build someone up this week (or better, before you go to bed tonight). Commit to it and pray for the wisdom and resolve to carry it through.

The Meeting House | Sunday, December 4/11, 2011 | Bruxy Cayey

Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching or on your mobile device at youversion.com (go to Live and search for The Meeting House)