Contemporary Comments on the Adult Sabbath School Lesson

[Title] The Triune God  
[Text] Deuteronomy 6:4; Philippians 2:6; Matthew 28:19; Genesis 1:26, 27; John 14-16  

Now that 2012 is here, many believe that an apocalypse is coming. There’s even “The Official Website” for December 21, 2012 that’s counting down the days, hours, minutes and seconds until the world ends. If you browse the site you’ll find articles, music, FAQ, photos and videos. There’s even a 2012 store where you can purchase T-shirts, caps and mugs that advertise the end. You can also order a portable generator, a deluxe two-person survival kit, a 72-hour emergency kit and a host of other products.

NASA, however, confirmed on New Year’s day that scientifically, we have nothing to be anxious about. On its official website, NASA answers some of the most frequently asked questions about 2012. Here are two:

Q: What is the origin of the prediction that the world will end in 2012?  
A: The story started with claims that Nibiru, a supposed planet discovered by the Sumerians, is headed toward Earth. This catastrophe was initially predicted for May 2003, but when nothing happened the doomsday date was moved forward to December 2012. Then these two fables were linked to the end of one of the cycles in the ancient Mayan calendar at the winter solstice in 2012 -- hence the predicted doomsday date of December 21, 2012.

Q: How do NASA scientists feel about claims of pending doomsday?  
A: For any claims of disaster or dramatic changes in 2012, where is the science? Where is the evidence? There is none, and for all the fictional assertions, whether they are made in books, movies, documentaries or over the Internet, we cannot change that simple fact. There is no credible evidence for any of the assertions made in support of unusual events taking place in December 2012.

Although as Christians we have no Biblical reason to think that the world will end in 2012, one thing is certain: 2012 will bring changes—both good and bad—to our lives. And what a “blessed assurance” it is to know that during these changes, we have the triune God as our companion!

We know what God is like through the workings of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Jesus, the Creator of this universe, will not abandon it. Jesus will be there to forgive us when we make wrong choices in the year ahead. And when the end of time finally does come, it is Jesus who will judge the world. Fortunately for us, the Judge is also our Savior! The Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised would be with us forever, will be our counselor and advocate. Doesn’t having such a Godhead give you encouragement and hope as you face this new year?
A good new year’s resolution for all of us would be to follow the counsel of this week’s memory text from Jude 1:20-21: “But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.”

~nc

Additional resource: YouTube

1. December 21, 2012
2. NASA

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