

## **Hunab Ku, Agnostos Theos, and doomsday 12/21/2012:**

### **A short note**

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#### **Prologue**

There are a number of articles published recently with intention to soothe the anxiety of many people in recent years. This anxiety is concerning the coming doomsday which is claimed to happen at December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 [1][2][3][4]. These articles support the argument put forth by many scientists and majority of governments that the claimed prediction by the ancient Mayas of the end of the world is a false prediction.

This short note supports this kind of argument. I go even further to explore the notion of Hunab Ku, the Supreme Creator according to the ancient Mayan people, and see if that name can be related to The Unknown God (Agnostos Theos) according to St. Paul in his speech in Athena (Acts 17:23).

I then conclude that it is difficult to relate the name of Hunab Ku with Agnostos Theos of St. Paul, even though there are many similarities between them.

#### **Who is Hunab Ku?**

“Hunab Ku” means precisely that in Yucatec Mayan (“hun, “one”; ab, “state of being”; ku, “god”). According to a source: “Hunab Ku was, to the Mayans, the supreme God and ultimate Creator and was located in the center of the Milky Way galaxy. It represented the gateway to other galaxies beyond our Sun as well as all of the consciousness that has ever existed in this, our own galaxy. Hunab Ku, according to the Mayans, is also the consciousness which organized all matter from a whirling disk - into stars, planets and solar systems. Hunab Ku is the Mother Womb which is constantly giving birth to new stars and it gave birth to our own Sun and planet Earth as well as the other planets found in our solar system. They also believed that the ultimate Creator directs everything that happens in our galaxy from its center through the emanation of periodic energy bursts of consciousness.” [10] “The Mayans also believed that time originates out of the Hunab Ku and is controlled by it.”[10]

According to Wikipedia [7]: “Hunab Ku is a Yucatec Maya word meaning “The Only God” used in colonial, and more particularly in doctrinal texts, to refer to the Christian God. Since the word is found frequently in the Chilam Balam of Chumayel, regarded by some as

indigenous writing not influenced by Christianity, some authors have proposed that the name was originally used for an indigenous Maya deity, which was later transferred to the Christian god but recent research has shown this to be unlikely. Rather the word was a translation into Maya of the Christian concept of the "One God", used to enculturate the previously Polytheist Maya to the new Colonial religion."

According to other source [9]: "Hunab Ku is the great primeval god of the Mayan culture, center of the galaxy, primordial and vital energy of all things, a shapeless divinity that created all. According to Mayan cosmogony, this deity manifested as a unique and absolute entity amongst all things. Hunab Ku was born from himself, he was the beginning and the end at the same time. This is a clear evidence of the Mayan infinity concept. Hunab Ku was the father of Itzamná or Itzamnaaj, who became the most relevant divinity and is known as The Master and Lord of the Skies, the Day, and the Night."

Therefore apparently we can conclude that the idea of Hunab Ku refers to the Supreme Creator according to Mayan cosmogony. However, Hunab Ku can also be interpreted as a location/point in the center of galaxy (Milky Way). Interestingly, according to some theories there is continuous matter creation in the center of galaxies, which seem to support Mayan idea that the center of galaxies is where matter is continuously created.

### **Is Hunab Ku really related to Agnostos Theos?**

The Unknown God or Agnostos Theos ([Ancient Greek](#): Ἄγνωστος Θεός) is a theory by [Eduard Norden](#) first published in 1913 that proposes, based on Paul's [Areopagus speech](#) in [Acts](#) 17:23, that in addition to the [twelve main gods](#) and the innumerable [lesser deities](#), ancient [Greeks](#) worshipped a deity they called "Agnostos Theos", that is: the "Unknown God" [8].

Therefore, it seems interesting to ask if Hunab Ku, the Supreme Creator of Mayan cosmogony can be related to the Unknown God of ancient Greeks people. We read in [Acts](#) 17:24 that the Unknown God that was worshipped by the ancient Greek people is He who created the world and human being:

"22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. 23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. 24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;"

Therefore, apparently the Unknown God is quite related to the concept of Hunab Ku in Mayan cosmogony. They both are names used to represent the Supreme Creator in ancient

world. Therefore we can understand the reason why historically Hunab Ku was used to carry the notion of Christian God to Mayan people. See the following quote from Wikipedia [7]:

“The earliest known reference to the term "Hunab Ku" (which translates as "Sole God" or "Only God") appears in the 16th century Diccionario de Motul, where "Hunab-ku" is identified as "the only living and true god, also the greatest of the gods of the people of Yucatan. He had no form because they said that he could not be represented as he was incorporeal". The term also appears in the Book of Chilam Balam of Chumayel, written after the Spanish Conquest, but is unknown in any pre-Conquest inscriptions in Maya writing. Hunab Ku was closely associated with an indigenous creator god, Itzamna, in an effort to make use of religious syncretism. An assertion that Hunab Ku was the high god of the Mayas can be found in Sylvanus Morley's classic book *The Ancient Maya* (1946). However, the interpretation of Hunab Ku as a pre-Hispanic deity is not widely accepted by Mayanist scholars today. Anthropological linguist William Hanks, for example, identifies hunab ku as an expression created in the context of *maya reducido*, a form of Yucatec created in the context of missionization. He writes, "The use of hunab ku ['one' + suffix + 'god'] for the singularity of God is linguistically transparent to the oneness of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and occurs widely in the missionary writings. He also notes, "the fact that close paraphrases make reference to Dios, halal ku, and hunab ku **allows us to securely identify hunab ku with the Christian God**, even when surrounding text may be ambiguous.””

However, we should also mention that there are obvious differences between the creation processes by the Biblical God and by Hunab Ku. According to Genesis chapter 1, God created the world and human being only in one time creation, while according to ancient Mayan cosmogony the creation processes by Hunab Ku were supposed to happen several times by trial and error.

“You may believe that Hunab Ku, being an all-creator god was perfect, but as a matter of fact, he was the opposite; the Mayans described him as an imperfect god that failed 3 times before he could create the first life form. Becoming aware of his failures, Hunab Ku used all his power and energy to populate the world with dwarves, a brutal and primitive life form that emerged from the earth. After that, he created the offenders, a life form capable of modifying what was already established, and that represented the water and spiritual capabilities. Finally, when he combined the first two creations, he obtained the Human Being, and guided by Itzamná gave life to the Mayan people.”[9]

## **How can Hunab Ku be related to 12/21/12?**

There are some interpretations on this issue, however according to ancient Mayan texts, there is no reason to believe that there will be the end of the world at 12/21/12. "Maya never really made a prediction about a galactic alignment for Dec 21, 2012. This idea was born out of attempting to figure out why the Long Count ends on that date." [5]

So what will happen at 12/21/12? Some says that there will be some kind of better consciousness and transformation. According to other source: "On the Mayan Long Calendar the day designated as 4 Ahau 3 Kankin (13.0.0.0.0) falls on December 21, 2012 and this day will mark "El Fin de los Tiempos" or the end of the long cycle when all of humanity will experience a new beginning." [10] But what those ancient Mayan people think of a new beginning is not really clear. But this event may be related to hypothesis that some kind of alignment of the Earth and the center of Galaxies, the location of Hunab Ku. However, some scientists apparently reject this hypothesis [4].

However, we cannot conclude that since Hunab Ku is related to the Christian God then there will be the end of the world at 12/21/12. It is just a beginning of a new cycle.

## **Concluding note**

**It is safe to conclude here that according to Mayan texts themselves, there will not be the end of the world at 12/21/12.**

**Hunab Ku may be related to Christian God, but we should be careful about their differences.**

**According to the Bible, we do not know when Jesus Christ will come again. Therefore, be prepared. Visit <http://www.sciprint.org>**

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. VC

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## **Doomsday 2012: NASA Debunks The Apocalyptic Prophecies**

Source: <http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1112739454/nasa-debunks-doomsday-prophecies-113012/>

Lawrence LeBlond for redOrbit.com – Your Universe Online

NASA took time out of its busy schedule this past week to ease the minds of many who believe the world is going to end on December 21, 2012. Following misinterpretations of the ancient Mayan calendar, doomsday seekers have been busy preparing for a front-row seat for the end of all things. However, the US space agency said Mayan apocalypse rumors are just that: rumors.

Growing fears of the apocalypse have led to frightened children everywhere and teens becoming suicidal, among others, trying to make sense of the supposed end of the world. But while the 21st of December can be associated with a number of events, it does not have anything to do with the world meeting its maker.

Not only is NASA trying to help soothe doomsday fears, but Mayan scholars are also playing their part, telling the world that ancient Maya had never seen this day as apocalyptic. The 21st of December is most notably associated with the Winter Solstice, an annual occurrence. Yet, this year, the date also marks the end of the 13th b'ak'tun calendar cycle.

According to ancient-mythology.com, the b'ak'tun calendar cycle is based on Mayan myth that their gods (Quetzalcoatl and Tepeu) wanted to create a people that would both resemble and praise them. However their attempts were less than fruitful, and on the end of the last 13th b'ak'tun (equivalent to 144,000 days) all creation ended and the gods began anew. The last 13th b'ak'tun ended on August 11, 3114 BCE, officially starting the next cycle, which is now set to end on December 21, 2012 AD.

However, Mayans have never seen this date as an end of all creation, only the completion of a cycle. And thus, the Mayans have never associated the end of the b'ak'tun with the end of the world.

“We are speaking out against deceit, lies and twisting of the truth, and turning us into folklore-for-profit. They are not telling the truth about time cycles,” charged Felipe Gomez, leader of the Maya alliance Oxlaluj Ajpop, according to PhysOrg.

The doomsday myths have ballooned out of control partially due to Hollywood. Several movies and documentaries have promoted the idea that the ancient Mayan calendar predicts the end of the world on 12-21-12. And to further complicate the matter, some governments and groups are heeding the prophecies just in case.

The Culture Ministry is hosting an event in Guatemala City just in case the world does end. And in other places, tour groups are promoting doomsday-themed getaways and retreats.

Gomez has urged the Tourism Institute to rethink their doomsday celebrations, which he is criticizing as a “show” disrespecting the Mayan culture and its beliefs, which have nothing to do with the end of the world.

Oxlaluj Ajpop released a statement saying that the Maya time cycle simply “means there will be big changes on the personal, family and community level, so that there is harmony and balance between mankind and nature.”

The alliance is holding events it considers sacred in five cities to mark the event and Gomez said the Culture Ministry would be wise to throw its support behind their real celebrations.

It’s safe to say that apocalyptic rumors such as the 2012 doomsday prophecies spread more readily due to the Internet age. While the Internet can be a great resource tool and a good platform for spreading word of developing news, it has also shown that it is a bane for technology as it makes for a grand stage for rumors that often become so virulent, that they affect the lives of millions of people who turn these falsehoods into twisted reality. This starts a snowball that can grow out of control, as has occurred with the 2012 doomsday prophecies.

At NASA, the agency is taking a strong stance to debunk the persistent online stories of doom. One such end of the world rumor is the tale of a fictional dwarf planet that is supposedly on a crash course with Earth. According to the myth, the rogue planet Nibiru, supposedly discovered thousands of years ago by the Sumerians, will crash into our planet sometime next month. There are also variations on this myth, with some calling for dwarf planet Eris to come hurtling toward us with apocalyptic vengeance. The myth has also been inaccurately tied to the end of the Mayan calendar.

And along with the end of the Mayan calendar doomsday predictions, several other doomsday rumors are easily picked apart with minimal scrutiny, according to NASA.

“Contrary to some of the common beliefs out there, **Dec. 21, 2012 won’t be the end of the world as we know it. However, it will be another winter solstice,**” NASA associates wrote in a Google+ post.

NASA has launched a new site called Beyond 2012, dedicated to debunking pseudo-science. The site maintains there is no Nibiru (or Planet X, according to some doomsdayers) and there is no worry of Eris coming even remotely close to our planet as it is floating around in the outer solar system about 4 billion miles away. And even if any of these celestial bodies were to come crashing into Earth in the next few weeks or so, they would be easily visible with the naked eye by now.

Other popular doomsday fears countered by NASA on the Beyond 2012 site are the prophecies that there will be an imminent reversal in the Earth’s rotation, giant solar storms that will disrupt and destroy the entire planet, and a disastrous rare alignment of the planets.

The Beyond 2012 social site links to a video of a recent Google+ hangout where a panel of science experts take on a series of 2012 doomsday claims and explain why there aren’t any truths to them.

Among the panelists in the Google+ hangout video is NASA’s own David Morrison, an astrobiologist at Ames Research Center.

At the beginning of the discussion, Morrison said that while 2012 doomsday theories were “a joke to many people” and while there was no real threat to Earth or its citizens, it was nevertheless “appropriate for NASA to answer questions” about such doomsday prophecies, if only to soothe the fears and potentially prevent some from harming themselves.

“There is no true issue here,” said Morrison during the Google+ Hangout event. “This is just a manufactured fantasy.”

Unfortunately, added Morrison, this fantasy ends up having real-life consequences. As one of NASA’s most prominent 2012 doomsday myth speakers, Morrison said he receives numerous emails and letters from people who are worried about the coming apocalypse; most of these letters are from the younger generation. Some of the more notable letters come from people who say they cannot eat, are too worried to sleep, and some who even go as far as to admit they are having thoughts of suicide, he said.

Although these people should have nothing to fear, they have been led to believe the world is in fact coming to an end, and it is wreaking havoc on their well-being.

“I think it’s evil for people to propagate rumors on the Internet to frighten children,” Morrison said.

While NASA is most concerned with how the young are handling these frightening rumors, Morrison said that not every 2012 apocalypse believer thinks the world will end on December 21. Some expect a day of universal peace and spiritual transformation. Yet, even these prophetic beliefs are based on ancient myth rather than cold hard facts.

Ultimately, we should be more concerned about real-world problems that will shape the future of society, such as global warming and climate change, said Andrew Fraknoi, an astronomer at Foothill College in California.

Mitzi Adams, a heliophysicist at NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center, agreed.

“The greatest threat to Earth in 2012, at the end of this year and in the future, is just from the human race itself,” Adams said.

Along with the Google+ Hangout video, NASA released a series of answers to the most popular questions revolving around the 2012 doomsday scenarios. You can find the full list of questions and answers at NASA.gov.

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<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2012/12/03/federal-government-no-apocalypse-in-2012>

Federal Government: No Apocalypse in 2012

Cancel your doomsday party: The world isn't going to end this year, the U.S. federal government has assured its citizens.

In a blog post published Monday on usa.gov, the federal government has said "**the world will not end on December 21, 2012**, or any day in 2012."

"False rumors about the end of the world in 2012 have been commonplace on the Internet for some time. Many of these involve the Mayan calendar ending in 2012 (it won't), a comet causing catastrophic effects (definitely not), a hidden planet sneaking up and colliding with us (no and no), and many others," the post says. "Unfortunately, these rumors have many people frightened, especially children."

The official post comes on the heels of a NASA announcement last month that said "the world will not end in 2012. Our planet has been getting along just fine for more than 4 billion years, and credible scientists worldwide know of no threat associated with 2012."

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<http://sciencenordic.com/world-unlikely-end-2012-say-scientists>

World unlikely to end in 2012, say scientists

December 30, 2011 - 03:16

The claimed prediction by the ancient Mayas of the end of the world, as popularised in the film '2012', gets a sceptical assessment from the scientific community.

With the new year just around the corner, it's natural to start thinking about what 2012 has in store for us.

Well, for sports fans there's Euro 2012 and the Olympic Games to look forward to.

And for devotees of current affairs, there's the thrilling prospect of a US presidential election.

But then again, there could be deep trouble ahead. The collapse of the euro, perhaps. Or maybe 2012 will turn out to be just as depicted in the film called ... 2012.

For those who missed it, 2012 was a disaster movie in which the world comes to an end – a shocking event apparently predicted with pinpoint accuracy by the Maya civilisation, thousands of years ago.

But is it pure science fiction, or is there a genuine possibility that the film's doomsday prophecies could be true? ScienceNordic asked the experts for their views.

False prediction

It is generally accepted that the very exact Maya calendar terminates at the winter solstice on 21 December 2012, and this has led some people to conclude that the world will come to an end on that date.

But according to Danish historian Finn Madsen, an expert on Maya culture and author of several books on the Mesoamerican civilisation, the Mayas never predicted the end of the world.

"No serious scholar would claim the Mayas believed that the world will end on 21 December 2012," says Madsen. "It is true that their long-term calendar ends on that date, but all that one could imagine

happening is the start of a new calendar, just as we do when the 2011 calendar expires and we replace it with the 2012 version."

"Total hotchpotch"

But on the internet there are websites and videos with an entirely different take on the expiring Maya calendar. Just like the film 2012, they offer some very gloomy predictions of what will happen on 21 December 2012.

The most widely-held view is described on a YouTube video. The claim is that on the day the Maya calendar expires, the solar system will cross the galactic equator, triggering all sorts of apocalyptic happenings.

Space scientist Søren Brandt of DTU Space at the Technical University of Denmark has looked into this claim and describes it as a "total hotchpotch" and "nonsense on a higher plane".

"The climate and weather on Earth are determined by our position relative to the Sun, and the tides are determined by the Moon," says Brandt. "The solar system's position in the galaxy has nothing to do with the climate or anything else on the Earth."

No doomsday meteors in sight

Giant meteors are another popular doomsday scenario among those who believe that the world will end on the last day of the Maya calendar. Brandt agrees that the impact of a huge meteor travelling at a speed of 30 kilometres per second would constitute a real threat to mankind.

But what the astronomers can see through their telescopes gives no indication that the Earth will be hit by a giant meteor next year. "There is nothing that makes 2012 particularly magical in that respect," says Brandt.

Others speculate that a giant solar flare will occur in 2012, but Brandt says this is highly unlikely. Solar flare activity peaks at 11-year intervals; the next hotspot is forecast for 2013 or 2014 and is expected to be milder than in previous decades.

Scientists agree that one has to look at a time period of up to 1,000 million years before there is a major risk of a solar flare big enough to have biological consequences on Earth.

#### Lively imaginations

Yet another doomsday scenario envisioned for 21 December 2012 is a polar inversion, in which the magnetic poles of the Earth swap places. There is speculation of catastrophic climate change in connection with polar inversion, but such events do not happen overnight. On average it takes 5,000 years for the poles to change around, and scientists agree that there are no signs of a polar inversion taking place any time soon.

All in all, science can find no portents that 21 December 2012 will be a fateful day. Maya expert Finn Madsen thinks the doomsday prophecies are simply the product of lively imaginations.

“I won't be withdrawing my pension savings just before 21 December 2012, and I am confident of celebrating Christmas three days later.”