

# DISCIPLE'S QUEST

*If you continue in My word, then you are  
truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31

**August 18, 2024**

**The Doom of the Man of Lawlessness**

**2 Thessalonians 2:5-12**

## **Main Idea:**

A murderer from the beginning and the father of lies (John 8:44), Satan's desire and objective is to oppose God in every way possible. Since the fall he has continually worked to defame God and especially to thwart His plan of redemption. Having failed and already destined to eternal punishment in hell himself, his present aim is to see as many people condemned to that fate along with him as he can. One of the main ways that he lures people to destruction is through false religion, and his ultimate last-ditch effort will be to deceive and destroy as many as possible through "the man of lawlessness, the son of perdition" ("the antichrist" 1 John 2). This purely evil man, who will be energized by Satan and completely under his control will one day establish the ultimate false religion, blasphemously proclaiming himself to be God and demanding the world's worship.

God, however, is omnipotent and sovereign and is in complete control. Satan's antichrist will one day do his evil work, but for the accomplishment of God's plan (God will use him as an unwitting instrument of His justice), and in God's time. Presently God is preventing the ascendancy of the antichrist through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. At the time already fixed by God, the antichrist will be revealed and he will be allowed to seemingly rule over the world during the tribulation. However, his reign of terror will be brief. Three and a half years after his ultimate act of blasphemy (the abomination of desolation), the Lord Jesus will return to earth in His blazing glory and He will slay the antichrist with the breath of His mouth and mete out justice to all who did not believe the love of the truth so as to be saved. The devil and his antichrist will ultimately be cast into the lake of fire where they will be tormented day and night forever (Revelation 20:10).

## **Outline:**

1. The antichrist's rise to power
2. The antichrist's certain doom
3. The fate of those willingly deceived by the antichrist

## Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 What things do the world's many false religions share in common?

Who is ultimately the power behind the world's false religion (See Deuteronomy 32:16-17)

#2 Should Christians fear the devil and his diabolical plans?

Why or why not?

#3 How does "the spirit of antichrist" differ from the person who will be THE antichrist?

What will the antichrist's mission be, and from whom will his power originate?

#4 In this present age of the church, God is restraining the antichrist. For what purpose? (See: Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8, etc.)

#5 Should the certain knowledge of future events that God has provided for us in the Bible (the rapture and the day of the Lord, etc.) motivate us to live faithfully now? Why?

#6 For Whom should we be eagerly awaiting as Christians, and how?