

1/9/00

**2Thessalonians 2:8b-12**

Last week we saw that the appearance of the lawless one is a result of the falling away, be it a falling from the faith or a reference to the rapture of the church in verse three.

The removal of the church is made very clear in verses six and seven, for it is the Holy Spirit working in and through the church that is the restraining force regarding the evil in the world.

Once the church is removed, all the breaks are removed and evil will have it's day, without any checks and balances.

Remember that Paul is telling them that the Day of the Lord cannot come until this happened:

1. The falling away from faith takes place.
2. The removal of the church.

So Paul said "Don't be shaken in mind or troubled, not by spirit, word or letter, don't be deceived."

1. Paul had told them before. 2Thess. 1:5
2. God had not appointed them to wrath. 1Thess. 5:9

**2:8b The future of the lawless one.**

\* Paul gives to us two important facts about the lawless man of sin, the antichrist, the son of perdition.

- 1) He will be revealed, this is the third time he has said it. 2Thess. 2:3, 6, 8a  
\* We saw this last time!
- 2) He will be defeated by Christ.
  - a) The Lord will consume him with the breath of His mouth. Is. 11:4
    - 1)) The word consume "analisko" means to use up, destroy or slay.
    - 2)) The focus being his person, emphasizing the authority of Jesus and the ease of the action.
  - b) King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed about what was to become of his kingdom and saw a great image, struck by a stone. Dan. 2
  - b) Daniel saw in a dream and vision the same kingdoms, but not as man sees himself, powerful, but as beasts. Dan. 7
    - 1)) He saw a lion, bear, leopard, beast with iron teeth and ten horns. 7:7
    - 2)) Corresponding to a ten nation confederacy in Europe, the common market. Rev. 13:1; 17:12-13,
- 3) He will destroy him with the brightness of His coming. Rev. 19:15
  - 1)) The word destroy "Katargesei" means to be made inoperative, not annihilated.

- 2)) The focus being the lawless man's activities.
- 3)) The brightness "epiphaneia", the manifestation of his coming "parousia" the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, a word used by the Greeks for the manifestation of a god or emperors.  
\* At His presence. 1Thess. 2:19

**2:9-10      The source and nature of power of the lawless one.**

**2:9-10a** His partnership is described.

- 1) His coming "parousia", his physical presence is 100% Satanic in dependence.
  - a) He will ascend from the bottomless pit, abyss or shaft. Rev. 17:8
  - b) The Dragon gives his power to him, his seat, and great authority. Rev. 13:2
  - c) He will be healed of a deadly head wound. Rev. 13:3-4
  - d) Says his right eye will be darkened and his right hand withered as a result. Zech. 11:17
  - e) The word working "energeo" means power in operation, Satan's.  
\* According to the harmony and characteristic of Satan.
- 2) He is distinct from Satan.

- a) The beast and false prophet are cast into the lake of fire alive. Rev. 19:20
- b) The Devil is cast into the lake of fire, where both the beast and false prophet shall be tormented day and night forever and ever. Rev. 20:10
- 3) He has super-natural credentials.
  - a) All power to work miracles, Satan's. Rev. 13:2
  - b) Signs refers to the significance behind the operation, in view of the people.  
\* The false prophet and antichrist both will do this, foretold by Christ. Matt. 24:24; Rev. 13:11-15
  - c) Lying wonders, astonishing the observer in amazement, unexplainable through natural means, steeped in falsehood to seduce. all three are sourced in lying. Jn. 8:44  
\* All three are used for the genuine works of Christ by his saints. Heb. 2:4
    - a)) They that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names are not written in the book of life... Rev. 17:8
    - b)) Miracles are not credentials that you are from God.  
\* I never knew you. Matt. 7:21-23
    - c)) But let's not limit God either and deny them.

- 4) With all unrighteous deception among those who perish.
- a) The deceit stems from unrighteousness, every sort of evil that deceives.
  - b) The target are people, even as Eve. Gen. 3
    - 1) Literally, them that are perishing, in operation constantly, part of “the apostasy”. vs. 3
    - 2) She who liveth in pleasure is dead while she lives. 1Tim. 5:6; Eph. 2:1
  - c) Through wealth, sin, pleasures, and lusts. Matt. 13:22; Heb. 3:13; 2Pet. 2:13; Eph. 4:22
  - d) God takes no delight in the death of the wicked. Ezk. 33:11

**2:10b-c** The reasons for being deceived

- 1) Because they did not receive the love of the truth.
  - a) God’ word about Himself and mans sinfulness, the article indicates the gospel.
  - b) The Jews will make a one week covenant with him. Dan. 9:27
  - c) The Gentile world will follow.
- 2) The purpose of God’s message is to be saved.

- a) Providing the needed sacrifice, The Lamb of God.
  - b) Providing the revelation to man.
  - c) Providing men to communicate the message.
  - d) Perseverance in the doctrine of Christ marks a disciple. Jn. 8:31, 32  
\* The entire contrast is “the lie” against “the truth”.
- 3) This may also refer to those who have rejected the gospel while under the age of grace and go into the Tabulation period?  
\* The next two verses are a strong support!
- 4) Antichrist Facts.
- a) He will be a Genius.
    - 1) A horn with eyes, speaking of intelligence. Dan. 7:20
    - 2) He understand dark sentences. Dan. 8:23
    - 3) Perhaps in terms of solving difficult problems.
    - 4) But for sure because he will be aided by Satan, the Prince of darkness himself.
    - 5) He speaks great things. Dan. 7:20
    - 6) The people were astonished at the doctrine of Christ, so will they be at antichrist, he is an imitator. Matt. 7:28

- 7)) He has a mouth of a Lion, Christ is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. Rev. 13:2
- 5) He will be a political Wizard.
- He obtains kingdoms by flatteries. Dan. 11:21
  - He conquers through diplomacy, no arrows. Rev. 6:2
- 6) Commercial Genius
- He causes craft to prosper at his hand. Dan. 8:25
  - He will have power over the treasures of gold, silver, precious things. Dan. 11:43
  - He solves problems of theft by a number system. Rev. 13:17
- 7) He will be a military Genius.
- He will destroy the mighty and holy people by power of Satan. Dan. 8:24
  - The people will say who is able to make war with him? Rev. 13:4
- 8) He will be a governmental Genius.
- Ten toes, iron and clay. Dan. 12:33
  - Ten horns. Dan. 7:7
  - He unites the kingdom. Rev. 13:1-2
  - They give their allegiance. Rev. 17:17
- 9) He will be a religious Monument.
- Sets himself up as God to be worshipped. Matt. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:4
  - All the world wonders after the Beast. Rev. 13:3

- c) He demands worship. Rev. 13:14-15
- Antiochus Epiphany sacrificed a pig on the alter and caused the priest to eat the meat.
  - Nero was called the Beast.
  - Hitler killed millions of Jews and gave the a number.

### 2:11-12      The righteous judgment of God.

- 2:11      God gives them over to their will.
- God is in control and ordering things, Satan is only acting out what God has ordained, the judge of man. Jn. 5:22
  - In view of their hardened hearts, God will send this strong delusion of antichrist.
    - \* The lies and deceit. vs. 9-10
  - The outcome is that they should believe the lie, literally, the lie, Satan.
    - God does this through long patience, giving them up to uncleanness, vile affections and reprobate minds, changing the truth of God into a lie. Rom. 1:24, 26, 28
    - God is seen as putting a lying spirit in the prophet's mouth, after ongoing rebellion. 1Kings 22:23
    - In He answered them according to their idols. Ezk. 14:1-5,9
    - Pharaoh hardened his heart and God strengthened it in that position!

- e)) Jesus gave the three-fold work of the Holy Spirit to the world. Jn. 16:8-11
  - f)) But the world is too callous, unable to receive.
  - g)) The Holy Spirit is not removed from the world but the church.
  - h)) The Holy Spirit is God and is all present, but the age of grace has closed, yet the Spirit of Grace searches for man.
- 4) Revelation gives us the three-fold division of the book. Rev. 1:19
- a) The vision of Christ, things he saw. Rev. 1
  - b) The messages to churches, things which are. Rev. 2-3
  - c) The church in heaven, tribulation begins, things hereafter. Rev. 4-22

**2:12** The outcome of God allowing the delusion.

- 1) That they may be condemned.
  - \* The word condemned “krino” means to sift or judge, the verdict of their guilt, calling them to account.
- 2) The reason is two-fold.
  - a) The fact that they did not believe the truth.
  - b) The fact that they had pleasure in unrighteousness, they are not victims

but participants who consented by choice. 1Thess. 1:10, 5:9; 2Thess. 1:9

- 3) The Scriptures tell us.
  - a) For our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29
  - b) Fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Heb. 10:31
    - 1)) To the believer. Rom. 13:11-12
    - 2)) To the non-believers. Heb. 12:25
    - 3)) Thyatira is cast into great tribulation. Rev. 2:18-22