

**Introduction:** Welcome, Teaching Practice.

**>>> A. Topic Of Chapter 2: End-Time Events That Precede The Day Of The Lord.  
(Eschatology, Eschatological.)**

- Visible Return Of Jesus. Final Judgment. Setting Up Of The Kingdom Of God.

**>>> B. Event #1: Verse 3. “The Rebellion.” Apostasy.**

- Widespread Rejection And Departure From The Fundamental Truths Of God's Word And His Established Authority.

**>>> C. Event #2: Verse 3. “The Revealing Of The Man Of Lawlessness.”**

- The Antichrist. The Beast. The Man Of Sin. (Most Of Focus In This Chapter.)
- Connected And Coinciding With The Rebellion.

## >>> **D. Review Main Points From Last Week.**

**The Teaching Of A Pre-Tribulation Rapture Can Be Biblically Supported But So Can Other Positions.**

- Not Invention Out Of Thin Air In 1800's

**Christians Should Not Overreact To Life Events Or Spiritual Teachings Regarding End-Time Events.**

**Weatherman III.** Warning About Mistaking Unrelated Thunderstorm With Approaching Hurricane.

**The Specific Rebellion That Precedes The Day Of The Lord's Judgment Is The Worldwide Rejection Of Jesus In Order To Worship, Submit To, And Follow A Miracle-Working Man Who Claims To Be Christ And God.**

**The Title “Man Of Lawlessness” Indicates That This End-Time Leader Will Radically Disregard And Disrespect God's Moral Standards.**

**The “Man Of Lawlessness” Will Claim To Be The Christ And Most Will Accept His Claim. (Revealed, Coming, Signs And Wonders, Demand Of Exclusivity.)**

**>>> E. Prerequisites For Teaching On The End-Times.**

- Humility (I Could Be Wrong About Details.) Some Things Are Foggy.
- Unity (Not A Test Of Orthodoxy Or Fellowship.)
- Simplicity (Limited Information And Alternatives For Purpose Of Clarity.)

**1 Thessalonians 2:3-4. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, <sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.**

**>>> A. Vs. 4. The Man Of Lawlessness “Opposes And Exalts Himself Against Every So-Called God Or Object Of Worship.”**

## **Main Point #1. The Man Of Lawlessness (Antichrist) Will Demand Exclusive Worship And Devotion For Himself.**

**>>> A. 4 Activities Related To Claim To Deity And Demand For Worship.**

**>>> B. First: Opposes All Other “Gods” And “Objects Of Worship.”**

- No Rivals. Either Totally Eliminates And Forbids, Or Demands Priority Over All Else. (Like Jesus.)

**Exodus 20:3. “You shall have no other gods before (besides) me.”**

**>>> C. Second: Exalts Himself. (Not A True Secularists: No Worship/Religion.)**

**Luke 4:5-8. And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, <sup>6</sup> and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered him, “It is written**

**(Deut. 6:13), ““You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.””**

- Satan Has Wanted The Priority, Worship, Devotion That Belongs To God. Ultimately Gets It On Widescale Through Satanically Empowered Man.
- Strong Opposition To Christianity Will Open The Door To A New Religion: Give Worship, Devotion, Highest Loyalty And Trust To A Man.

**Revelation 13:6, 11-12. It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. ....Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed.**

**>>> D. Third: Takes His Seat In The Temple Of (The) God. 5 Options:**

- Option #1: Speaking Of Then Existing Jewish Temple: It Just Never Happened Unless You Super-Spiritualize The Meaning.
- Option #2: Generic Physical Building Representing Deity. Problems: Specific Definite Article Normal = Jewish Temple. “The Temple Of The God.”
- Option #3. The Church Is The Temple: 2 Corinthians 6:16. Problems: How Would This Take Place? Claiming To Be Head Of The Church? Claiming Deity, Worship?
- Option #4. Figurative Phrase: Like Saying: “Who Put You On The Throne?”

Problems: Observable. Specific. Recognizable. More Than Claim To Deity, Which Happens All The Time.

- Option #5. Future Physical Temple In Jerusalem: Problems = Still Temple Of God? John 4. Book Of Hebrews. Offense Of Sacrifices.

**>>> E. Personal Choice Would Be A Rebuilt Jewish Temple. Fits Other Details In Scripture Found In Daniel, Ezekiel, Etc.**

**>>> F. Opposes All Other Worship. Exalts Self Above All Others. Symbolically Claims To Godhood By Taking Seat In Temple.**

**>>> G. Fourth: “Proclaiming Himself To Be God.” Meaning By His Actions Or By His Words.**

**Main Point #1. The Man Of Lawlessness (Antichrist) Will Demand Exclusive Worship And Devotion For Himself.**

**Main Point #2: The Man Of Lawlessness Will Proclaim Himself To Be God In A Rebuilt Temple In Jerusalem.**

- Require Significant Historical Changes That Seem Impossible? Already More Unlikely Events Have Taken Place In Israel Becoming A Nation Again.

**>>> H. What Do We Know So Far About This End-Time Person?**

- Character = Lawless.
- Conduct = Blasphemous.

**2 Thessalonians 2:5-7. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? <sup>6</sup> And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way.**

**>>> A. Verse 5 = Previous Oral Instruction. Requires Us To “Read Between The Lines.”**

**Text Conversation III.** Middle Of A Series Of Texts. We Only See One Person's Words.

**>>> B. Verse 6. “You Know What Is Restraining Him Now.”**

- Impersonal “What” In Verse 6 Is A Personal Pronoun “He” In Verse 7.

**>>> C. Something (What) Or Someone (Personal Presence) Is Preventing:**

- The Full Outbreaking Of Satan's Work Of Lawlessness And Ungodliness.
- The Rise Of Antichrist.



- World-Wide Worship And Devotion To A Wicked, Deceitful Man.

## >>> D. What Or Who Is The Restrainer? Various Options To Consider:

- Option #1: Angelic Beings: Revelation Commands To Release. Book Of Daniel. Angelic Warfare.
- Option #2: Government As A Restraint Against Anarchy. (When Anarchy Prevails, Authorities Are Powerless, Evil Is Ready To Pounce.) (Note Hitler.)
- Option #3: Holy Spirit's Preserving, Restraining Influence Through The Church, Is Removed. How? Rapture Or Corruption. **Slower Drivers Restraining Impact III.**
- Explain: Salt Restrains Corruption. Light Overcomes Darkness. (Grammar Using "What" Of Spirit's Power, "He" Masculine Pronoun Indicating Personhood.)
- Holy Spirit Will Still Present, But It Will Be Like A Reversal Of Pentecost When The Already Present Holy Spirit Came In A Special Way.

**Main Point #3: The Rise Of The Man Of Lawlessness And Of Unrestrained Wickedness In Currently Prevented By The Holy Spirit's Preserving Influence In The Church.**

**>>> E. Verse 6. "So That He May Be Revealed In His Time." According To God's Plan And Purpose. Notice That "He" Will Be Revealed.**

- A Specific Person, Not Just An Entity.

**>>> F. Verse 7. "The Mystery Of Lawlessness Is Already At Work."**

- Evil Spiritual Forces Similar To The Antichrist's Future Operations And Activity Are Already Active.

**1 John 4:3. .... every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.**

**1 John 2:18. Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that (the) antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.**

**Rain Bands Of Hurricane III.** Lesser, But Still Significant, Rain And Wind Indicating Much Greater To Come.

**>>> F. Supernatural Forces That Promote Immorality, Anarchy, Spiritual Deception, And Blasphemy (False Worship) Are Already Manifested.**

**>>> G. Verse 7. “Until He Is Out Of The Way.” Not Forcible. Just Means Until He Or It No Longer Holds Back Evil.**

- All Evil Is Currently Divinely Restrained. Much Worse When Mankind Is Completely “Given Over” To Evil.

**Worst Prisoners III.** Evil While In Prison, While Under Guard. What If All Restraint Is Removed?

## **Main Point #4: The Power Of Evil That Will Lead To The Rise Of The Man Of Lawlessness (Antichrist) Is Currently Active, But Restrained, In The World.**

**Partially Controlled Wild Fire III.** Active In Areas, Flare Ups, But Also Some Barriers.

**2 Thessalonians 2:8.** And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

**>>> A. Character = Lawless. Conduct = Blasphemous. Conclusion = Hopeless.**

**>>> B. Verse 8. “Then The Lawless One Will Be Revealed” Like Jesus.**

- Manifestation After Restraint Is Removed.
- Skips Over Earthly Activity To His Ending: “Whom The Lord Jesus Will Kill With The Breath (Word) Of His Mouth.”

**Looking Up The Final Outcome To NFL Game W/O Many Details ILL.**

## >>> C. How And When The Antichrist Is Defeated:

- How? “Killed (Consumed, Taken Away) By The Breath Of His Mouth (Powerful Word.)”
- When? “By The Appearance Of His Coming...”

## >>> D. Literal: Physical Coming Of Jesus. Radical Defeat Of Antichrist. Revelation 19.

- “Appearance” = Same Word Is Used Of Jesus First Coming, Which Is Clearly Physical. 2 Timothy 1:10.

**2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. <sup>11</sup> Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, <sup>12</sup> in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

**>>> A. Character = Lawless. Conduct = Blasphemous. Conclusion = Hopeless. Coming = Convincing Or Plausible.**

**>>> B. Why Would People Worship And Follow This Man?**

**>>> C. First Reason: Supernatural Activity Of Satan. All Power, Signs, And Wonders.**

- Counterfeit, But Not Fake. Counterfeit In The Sense That They Don't Point To The Truth.
- They Are Powerful And Convincing. They Are Not Mere Tricks.

**>>> D. Second Reason: With “With All Wicked Deception” Satan Is The Best Liar Ever. Ultimate Conman.**

- Convinced Eve To Disbelieve God, Trust Him While In Paradise!

**>>> E. Third: “God Sends Them A Strong Delusion So That They May Believe What Is False.”**

- Judicial Blinding: Unresponsive To Truth = Unretained Spiritual/Moral Understanding.

**Luke 8:18. Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”**

**Romans 1:28. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. (Exchanged, Suppressed.)**

**>>> F. Who Is Deceived? Why Are They Deceived?**

- Vs. 10. “Those Who Are Perishing Because They Refused To Love The Truth (Gospel) And So Be Saved.”
- They Refused - Not God Refused.

- Vs. 12. Why Not Love The Truth And Receive The Gospel? “Pleasure In Unrighteousness.”

**John 3:19-20. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.**

**>>> G. All People Sin.**

- Some People Hate Their Sin And Run To Jesus.
- Some People Love Their Sin And Run From Jesus.

**Main Point #5. Everyone Who Ignores Or Rejects The Ultimate Truth About Jesus Will Believe The Ultimate Lie Of The Antichrist.**

- Only One Possible Outcome: Vs. 12. “That All May Be Condemned Who Do Not Believe The Truth.”



- No: Universalism. Second Chances. Sincerely Believed Something = OK. Etc.

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