

Date: January 16, 2022
Text: II Thessalonians 2:1-5
Title: Discerning the Days
Theme: Antichrist and the Tribulation

Theme Slide - Duty and Discernment

Title Slide - Discerning the Days

The word Antichrist is only mentioned four times in the New Testament (I John 2:18, 22; 4:3; II John v. 7)

Greek word for Antichrist is *antichristos* *anti* - meaning “against” or “in place of”

Antichrist goes by many names in Scripture

- Daniel 7:8 - “little horn”
- Daniel 8:23 - “fierce king”
- Daniel 9:26 - “coming prince”
- Daniel 11:21 - “vile person” or the New Living Translation translates “a despicable man”
- Zechariah 11:16-17 - “worthless shepherd”
- II Thessalonians 2:3 - “the man of sin” and “the son of perdition,” meaning the “son of ruin”
- II Thessalonians 2:8 - “the lawless one”
- Revelation 13:1 - “the beast”

Paul’s instructions to strengthen doctrinal understanding of the Thessalonians:

1. The rapture - v. 1

Greek word for **coming** is *parousia* meaning “arrival” or

“presence”

Greek word for **together** is *episynagoge* denotes
“assembling together”

I Thessalonians 4:15-18

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God

And the dead in Christ will rise first

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air

And thus we shall always be with the Lord

Therefore comfort one another with these words

I John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but

We know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, For we shall see Him as He is

2. The report - v. 2

Greek word for **shaken** is *saleuo* meaning “to move to and fro” or “to agitate”

Greek word for **troubled** is *throeo* meaning “to cry aloud” or “to be alarmed”

- **By spirit** - possibly false prophet

I John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits,

whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world

I John 4:2-3

By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God

And this is the spirit of Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world

- **By word** - possibly a false preacher

I Corinthians 1:18

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God

- **By letter** - supposedly by Paul stating Day of Lord had come

3. The rebuttal - v. 3

- **Falling away first**

Greek word for **falling away** is *apostasia* (English word apostasy) means “to depart”

Two schools of thought - The departing is either theological or literal (as in the rapture)

- **Man of Sin revealed**

Greek word for **sin** is *hamartia* meaning “to miss the mark”

4. The revelation - v. 4

- His pride - v. 4a

Greek word for **opposes** is *antikeimai* meaning “to lie opposite” or “to be adverse”

- His presence - v. 4b

5. The reminder - v. 5

Good news is that if you’ve been born again no fear of what is coming

Bad news is that if you are not born again and reject Christ, you will experience the wrath to come

Acts 26:18

Open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me