

2 Thessalonians 2:1-14: Worthy of the Kingdom
“The Day of the Lord”
January 14, 2024

Three objectives of today’s study:

- The day of the LORD from the OT/Jewish perspective
- What has to happen before “that day”
- Where the “coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” and our “gathering together to Him” fit into that
 - **The day of the LORD from the OT/Jewish perspective**

Isaiah 13:6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is near! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

See also **Isaiah 13:9; Ezekiel 30:3; Joel 1:15; Joel 2:31; Amos 5: 20**

➤ **What has to happen before “that day”**

1. The apostasy comes first (2:3)
2. The “man of lawlessness” is revealed (2:3)

The “man of lawlessness”

“son of destruction” 2:3

“opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship” 2:4

“takes his seat in the temple of God” 2:4

“displaying himself as being God” 2:4

“coming is in accord with the activity of Satan” 2:9

“with all power and signs and false wonders” 2:9

“with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish”

“whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming” 2:8

Is currently being restrained. 2:6

Those who perish. . .

“because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved” 2:10

“For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false” 2:11

“that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth” 2:12

“but took pleasure in wickedness” 2:12

- **Where the “coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” and our “gathering together to Him” fit into that**

See **1 Cor 15:51,52; 1 Thes 4:15-18; 2 Thes 2:1,2**

The “coming of the Lord” and our “gathering together to Him” are His coming in the clouds for the snatching away of the church (rapture) and are *not* the “day of the LORD.” When Jesus appears in the clouds, He will be, like the morning star, the proof that the day of the LORD is dawning.

See **Romans 11:25**. Israel’s rejection of Messiah, Pentecost, the NT Church, and the Rapture, were all a mystery to the OT prophets. It is highly probable that the restrainer of the antichrist is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit within the bodies of NT believers, which presence is removed at the Rapture of the church. The last trumpet of the Rapture signals the end of the Church Age and the resumption of the timeline of Israel.

2 Thes 2:13,14 Though sometimes used as a proof text of predestinarian theology, it would seem more probable that Paul is keeping within the context of deliverance from the terror of the day of the LORD when the judgment of God is poured out on the wicked.

“salvation” *sozo* = deliverance

“sanctified” *hagios* = set apart

From the beginning of their belief in the Gospel, God had chosen them for deliverance by virtue of their being set apart in Jesus Christ.