DIVING DEEPER DISCUSSION GUIDE

TEXT SUMMARY

In our text, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-6, Paul explains why his people can be sure that the Day of the Lord has not yet come.

SERMON POWERPOINTS

II Peter 3:1-4, 8-10

Deception regarding the Lord's return turns our hope away from the promises of God.

FALSE STATEMENTS ABOUT THE COMING OF THE LORD

1. False teaching is taking place regarding the coming of Christ
2. The Thessalonians have become concerned and believe they may have missed out.

DON'T BE DECEIVED

Romans 7:11

Romans 16:17-18

II Corinthians 11:3

Jeremiah 14:14

Matthew 24:24

I John 4:1

REBELLION AND THE MAN OF LAWLESSNESS

II Thessalonians 2:3-6

Mathew 24:10-12

II Peter 3:11-18

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INTRODUCTION (OBSERVATION):

1. Paul reassures his readers that the Day will not come until two things have happened first. What are those two things?
2. How does Paul describe the "man of lawlessness"?

DISCUSSION (INTERPRETATION):

This text is notoriously difficult to understand; godly and wise Christian scholars have struggled with it for centuries. But Paul didn't write this letter to satisfy our curiosity about the sequence of events in the End Times. He wrote as a pastor, with pastoral concerns in mind. What pastoral goals do you think Paul had in mind in this text? What are we missing if we focus solely on getting the sequence of events in the right order?

SO WHAT? (APPLICATION):

The one thing we can be absolutely clear on in this passage is that the Day of the Lord won't come without warning. There is no fear, then, of any of God's people being left behind.

How should our knowledge of these two facts shape the way we approach our daily lives right now?

1. Jesus has promised that he will return, and we can be sure he will keep that promise.
2. Before he comes, there will be unmistakable indicators, primarily the revelation of someone who will oppose Christ in every conceivable way and will deceive many.