

The End-Times Calendar pt. 1:

Don't Be Deceived!

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 (NASB95):

1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

2 that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

For The Group Leader:

Summary of this section the *New Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*:

The apostle warns the Thessalonians against groundlessly supposing that the day of Christ was at hand, 1, 2, and shows that it must be preceded by a great apostasy; in which "the man of sin," by his blasphemies, usurpations, and impostures, would cause the destruction of numbers, and then sink himself into perdition, 3-12.



Lesson Outline:

1. Paul's *Request* with Regard to the Rapture & the *DOTL* – v. 1-3a
2. The *Revealing* of The Man of Lawlessness – v. 3b-4
3. *Remembering* the Teaching – v. 5

I. *Paul's Request with Regard to the Rapture & the DOTL* – v. 1-3a

- What can we learn about Paul from his “*requesting*” the brethren, rather than “*commanding*”? How can pastors, parents and other leaders follow his example?
- How can Paul's description of the rapture in v. 1 **encourage** us?
 - (“the *coming* of our Lord. . . our *gathering together* to Him.”)
- Have you ever thought much about the rapture? Have you been *afraid* of it or looked forward to it? Why?
- What are some other things that we know from Scripture will happen *to us* at the rapture?
 - We will be made like Christ (1 John 3:2)



- We will be changed in a moment! We will receive glorified bodies. (1 Cor.

15:51-53

➤ Paul urges the Thessalonians not to be disturbed or deceived. Have you ever been disturbed by a false teaching? How did you become *settled* again?

➤ How can we “examine everything carefully” (1 Thess. 5:21)?

- How can we seek to be *discerning* without being argumentative or divisive?

II. *The Revealing of The Man of Lawlessness – v. 3b-4*

➤ What do the titles given to the Antichrist teach us about him?

- “Man of lawlessness” and “son of destruction”

➤ What do we learn about his work in v. 4?

➤ How can we be encouraged that the Day of the Lord *will not come* until certain things happen?

III. *Remembering the Teaching – v. 5*



- Paul had taught the Thessalonians extensively on the matters of eschatology (the doctrine of last things) even though he was in Thessalonica a short time. What does this teach us about the importance of this issue?
 - Have you ever viewed eschatology as irrelevant or unimportant?
- How can knowing the truth of these end-times events encourage, comfort, or warn us?
- What are some practical ways to **remember** the truth?

Prayer Topics:

- Pray that God will help us to be people who understand the times, and take action, living godly lives.
- Pray that God will protect us from deception and from being disturbed by false teaching and lead us in the truth.
- Pray that God will help us to live in light of our future hope in Christ's return.

