

II Thessalonians

(3) Signs of the End

2 Thess 2:1-9

2 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. 4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

5 Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? 6 And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. 7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. NIV

Avoiding the deceptions...2:1-2

What teaching was Paul writing to clarify? 2:1-2 (Note: coming and gathering = 1 event)

What was happening to the church at Thessalonica? 2:2a; Eph.5:6; IThess.3:3

Since Paul had taught this previously, why was this happening? 2:2b; IITim.3:13; IIJn.7

Regards *forgery*, what 'proof' does Paul provide? 3:17; Gal.4:15, 6:11; IICor.12:7; **Rom.8:28**

And what, *specifically*, was the lie? 2:2b; IThess.4:13-18

What was one unmistakable fear from this lie? 2:13-15; IIJn.5:5-15

How does their *unsettled alarm* tie into this? What else would happen? IIJn.5:13-15; Phil.1:25

The truth vs. the lie...2:3-4

What is Paul's first command to this church? 2:3a; IICor.11:14-15; Eph.5:6; IIJn.7

What is his *first* argument that the Day of the Lord has not come yet? 2:3b; ITim.4:1

And what is the *signature event* flowing from the apostasy? 2:3c, 8-10; IIJn.2:18; Jn.17:12

How will he be recognized? What does he do? 2:4; Dan.7:25, 8:9-11, 11:36; Rev.13:6

Next: The Restrainer...

II Thessalonians

(3) Signs of the End

2 Thess 2:1-9

2 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. 4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

5 Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? 6 And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. 7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. NIV

Avoiding the deceptions...2:1-2

What teaching was Paul writing to clarify? 2:1-2 (Note: coming and gathering = 1 event)

He's writing to clarify the Rapture (coming/gathering to Him) and the Day of the Lord.

What was happening to the church at Thessalonica? 2:2a; Eph.5:6; IThess.3:3

They had become unsettled (shaken, insecure) and alarmed (frightened, Mt.24:6).

Since Paul had taught this previously, why was this happening? 2:2b; II Tim.3:13; II Jn.7

On top of their persecution they had false prophecy, reports, forged Pauline letters.

Regards *forgery*, what 'proof' does Paul provide? 3:17; Gal.4:15, 6:11; II Cor.12:7; **Rom.8:28**

His easily recognized signature. Undoubtedly an eye problem. Thorn worked for good!

And what, *specifically*, was the lie? 2:2b; IThess.4:13-18

That they were in the Day of the Lord! Missed the Rapture? Paul was wrong? Help...

What was one unmistakable fear from this lie? 2:13-15; II Jn.5:5-15

They feared they weren't really saved! Missed the Rapture! Paul gently confirms them.

How does their *unsettled alarm* tie into this? What else would happen? II Jn.5:13-15; Phil.1:25

When you fear loss of salvation, all joy/witnessing/service goes out the window! Serious!

The truth vs. the lie...2:3-4

What is Paul's first command to this church? 2:3a; II Cor.11:14-15; Eph.5:6; II Jn.7

Don't let anyone (prophets, teachers, etc) deceive you in any way (prophecy, reports, etc)

What is his *first* argument that the Day of the Lord has not come yet? 2:3b; II Tim.4:1

That day will NOT come until THE rebellion (apostasy, falling from faith) comes first.

And what is the *signature event* flowing from the apostasy? 2:3c, 8-10; II Jn.2:18; Jn.17:12

The man of lawlessness is revealed. The man doomed to destruction. i.e., the Antichrist.

How will he be recognized? What does he do? 2:4; Dan.7:25, 8:9-11, 11:36; Rev.13:6

He opposes and exalts himself over everything to do with God. He proclaims to be God!

Next: The Restrainer...