

II Thessalonians

(4) The Restrainer

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

Don't you remember?...2:3-5

What gentle reminder does Paul give in 2:5? What's his point? See 2:2

What *specific* teaching was he referencing? 2:3-4 (Note: rebellion and revealing is one event)

What does Scripture declare about apostasy in general? IITim.3:1-5, 13; IIPet.3:3-4

But, *beyond* general apostasy, what is *The apostasy*? 2:3-4; Mt.24:15; Rev.13; Rom.1:24,26,28

What is the 'ancient' significance of this event? 2:4; Isa.14:13-14

The Restrainer...2:6-8

So why has this 'abomination' not happened already (>6000 years)? 2:6 see Gal.4:4

What very important truth is restated here? See Ps.103:19; Dan.4:26,34-35

What does the word 'revealed' mean and also imply? 2:6

What are some terms used to describe the antichrist? 2:3,8,9; Rev.13

From the pronouns used in 2:7, what do we know about the Restrainer? 2:7 note Jude 9

When God, the Holy Spirit, is 'taken out of the way', is this the Rapture? Dan.9:24-27

So what is Paul's point to the Thessalonians?

What's some applications of this Scripture for us today!

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Don't you remember?...2:3-5

What gentle reminder does Paul give in 2:5? What's his point? See 2:2

Paul's teaching on the antichrist is not new to them. There is no new teaching on this.

What specific teaching was he referencing? 2:3-4 (Note: rebellion and revealing is one event)

The Day of the Lord can not come until the rebellion occurs which reveals the antichrist.

What does Scripture declare about apostasy in general? IITim.3:1-5, 13; IIPet.3:3-4

The situation will grow worse and worse, questioning the return of Christ. Here and now!

But, beyond general apostasy, what is *The apostasy*? 2:3-4; Mt.24:15; Rev.13; Rom.1:24,26,28

The abomination of desolation standing in (worshiped in) the Holy place (in the temple).

What is the 'ancient' significance of this event? 2:4; Isa.14:13-14

From the beginning (of Satan's sinning) it has been his goal to be worshipped as God.

The Restrainer...2:6-8

So why has this 'abomination' not happened already (>6000 years)? 2:6 see Gal.4:4

Because he (Satan) is being held back so that he may be revealed at the proper time.

What very important truth is restated here? See Ps.103:19; Dan.4:26,34-35

What does the word 'revealed' mean and also imply? 2:6

'To uncover'. He (antichrist) is already there, just deceitfully hidden. Maybe here now.

What are some terms used to describe the antichrist? 2:3,8,9; Rev.13

Man of lawlessness, lawless one. Beast out of the sea. The man doomed to destruction.

From the pronouns used in 2:7, what do we know about the Restrainer? 2:7 note Jude 9

The Restrainer is a person (one, he). Only God has the power/authority to restrain him.

When God, the Holy Spirit, is 'taken out of the way', is this the Rapture? Dan.9:24-27

No! Rapture is 3.5 years earlier. Rapture-3.5yrs trib-3.5yrs Great trib-Day of the Lord.

So what is Paul's point to the Thessalonians?

This hasn't happened! You're not in Day of the Lord! You didn't miss the Rapture!

What's some applications of this Scripture for us today!