



2

THESSALONIANS

CHAPTER 2:9-17

2 THESSALONIANS OUTLINE

CHAPTER

God's Righteous Retribution (1:1-12)

1

Paul's Encouragement

1:3-4

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1:5-12

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PERSECUTION



CHAPTER

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2

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2:13-17

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PROPHECY



CHAPTER

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3

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3:1-5

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3:6-15

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PRACTICE



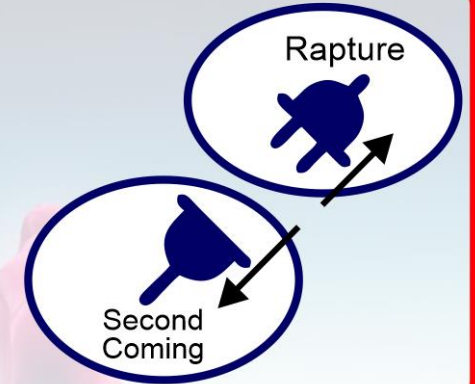
2 THESSALONIANS INTRODUCTION

 **Paul has to address two mistaken issues (1) That Jesus could come at any time; (2) Persecution (from man or Satan) is the same as God's judgment.**

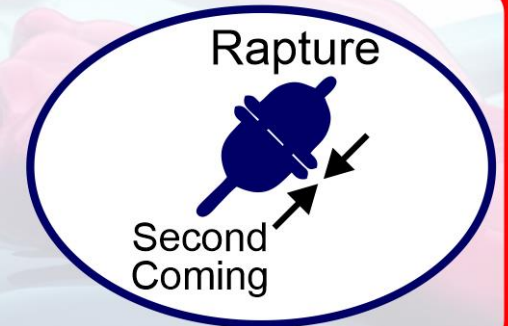
 **Paul tells them not to listen to rumors and reports that the day of the Lord has already begun (2Th.2:1-2).**



PRETRIBS make the mistake of
DISCONNECTING
the Rapture from the Second Coming



POSTTRIBS make the mistake by
IDENTIFYING
the Rapture with the Second Coming



PREWRATH shows the Rapture as
BELONGING
to the Second Coming



**Now, brethren, concerning
the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ and our
gathering together to Him,
we ask you,**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:1

**not to be soon shaken in
mind or troubled, either
by spirit or by word or by
letter, as if from us, as though
the day of Christ had come.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:2



Signs Preceding the Coming Day

(2 Thessalonians 2:3)

**Let no one deceive you by
any means; for that Day will
not come unless the falling
away comes first, and the
man of sin is revealed, the
son of perdition,**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3

A landscape photograph featuring a field of green crops, likely corn, with a rocky path leading through them. The background shows rolling hills and a sunset sky with orange and red clouds. The text is overlaid on the image.

What The Man of Sin Does

(2 Thessalonians 2:4)

**who opposes and exalts
himself above all that is
called God or that is
worshiped, so that he sits
as God in the temple of
God, showing himself that
he is God.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:4

**Do you not remember
that when I was still
with you I told you
these things?**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:5

A scenic landscape featuring a vibrant green field in the foreground, a path of smooth, light-colored rocks leading through it, and a line of trees in the distance. The sky is filled with dramatic, orange and red clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

On The Restrainer

(2 Thessalonians 2:6-8)

**And now you know
what is restraining,
that he may be
revealed in his own
time.**



2 THESSALONIANS 2:6

**For the mystery of
lawlessness is already at
work; only He who now
restrains will do so until
He is taken out of the way.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:7

**And then the lawless one
will be revealed, whom the
Lord will consume with the
breath of His mouth and
destroy with the brightness
of His coming.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:8



“And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.” (2Th.2:8)

- **When he is revealed it will be through a dramatic resuscitation of this assassinated world ruler (Rv.13:3).**



And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. (Rv.13:3).

- **It is the restraint of a SPECIFIC advance of Satan's agenda which is currently being held in check.**
- **Does the restrainer hinder the GENERAL advance of Satan's agenda? No. He hinders the revealing only.**



CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

**RESTRAINER Taken
Out of The Way (v.7)**

**CHURCH
Raptured (v.1)**

1

Once the restrainer is removed, then the Antichrist will be revealed for who he is

2

ANTICHRIST Revealed (v.8)


- Abomination (Mt.24:15)
- Begin Great Tribulation (Mt.24:21)


3


— Unknown Duration —
The Great Tribulation is “cut short” for the sake of the elect (Mt.24:22).





WHAT PREDICATES THE REVEALING OF THE MAN OF LAWLESSNESS?


 This will occur at a time in history when there will be a ten-nation confederacy (**Da.7:7-8**)


 This man will arise within the group of "ten" and bring into submission three of the "ten" (**Da.7:7-8, 20**)


 The start of the week is determined by the establishment of a specific 7-year covenant (**Da.9:24-27**)

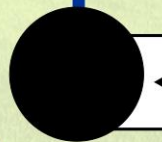
 Time of distress will begin because Michael stands aside from guarding the people of Israel (**Da.12:1; Rv.12:13**)

 Satan is kicked out of heaven by Michael (**Rv.12:9, 12-13**)

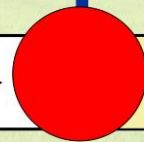
 The healing of the fatal wound of the assassinated world ruler (**Rv.13:3**)

 RESULT: AC takes his stand in the Temple and proclaims himself to be God (**Da.11:37; 2Th.2:4**).

 RESULT: AC will stop the sacrifices in the Jewish Temple (**Da.9:27**).



← **3½ YEARS** →



Great Tribulation
UNKNOWN DURATION



Day of the Lord
UNKNOWN DURATION



**The coming of the lawless
one is according to the
working of Satan, with all
power, signs, and lying
wonders,**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:9

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,” (2Th.2:9)

- The Antichrist will have the power of Satan backing him (v.9).**
- The power of Satan animates and controls the man of lawlessness.**
- Satan will use various miracle type activity to convince the world that the authority he claims for himself and for the beast is valid.**
- If someone has spiritual power, signs, or wonders, those are not enough to prove they are from God.**





“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,” (2Th.2:9)

- **“Signs” draws attention to a specific message usually in connection with past prophecy. The sign is that the beast fulfills O.T. Messianic prophecy (Is.35:5; Lk.7:18-22).**



Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. (Is.35:5).

- **“Lying wonders” are strange and awe-inspiring things. They are real miracles, but will support what is false.**





For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. (Mt.24:24).



**and with all unrighteous
deception among those
who perish, because they
did not receive the love
of the truth, that they
might be saved.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:10



“and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” (2Th.2:10)

- All of these things are designed to deceive the people into following and worshipping the beast.**
- The specific recipients of this deception are the unbelievers (“those who perish”).**
- The deception can only take root in those who do not receive the love of the truth.**
- Because of their unbelief, they are perceived as presently in the condition of spiritual death. Their ultimate end is eternity in the lake of fire.**



**And for this reason God
will send them strong
delusion, that they
should believe the lie,**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:11

“And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,” (2Th.2:11)

- These people are ready for the deception of the Antichrist, because they want a lie, and God will send them a strong delusion.**
- The Antichrist is ultimately God’s messenger. God will send a strong delusion through the Antichrist.**
- God will not force this delusion on anyone. Those who do not receive the love of the truth will receive this strong delusion.**



“And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,” (2Th.2:11)

- **The deception is SENT by God through His permissive will.**
- **The RESULT of the influence of delusion is that unbelievers “believe the lie.”**
- **That specific LIE will be that the man of lawlessness (the beast, Rv.13:1-10) is God, and is to be worshiped as God.**



**that they all may be
condemned who did not
believe the truth but had
pleasure in unrighteousness.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:12

“that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” (2Th.2:12)

- **God's purpose is to ultimately judge all the unbelievers (G2443, *hina*, “that”).**
- **All men are presently under the indictment from God (“condemned already,” Jn.3:18), but these will experience the trumpet and bowl judgments, and ultimately the lake of fire.**
- **Whenever a person takes the mark of the beast, that functions as a "lock-down" decision that cannot be undone.**
- **These took “pleasure in unrighteousness” by identifying with the beast and not in Christ. The unrighteousness here is believing the lie.**

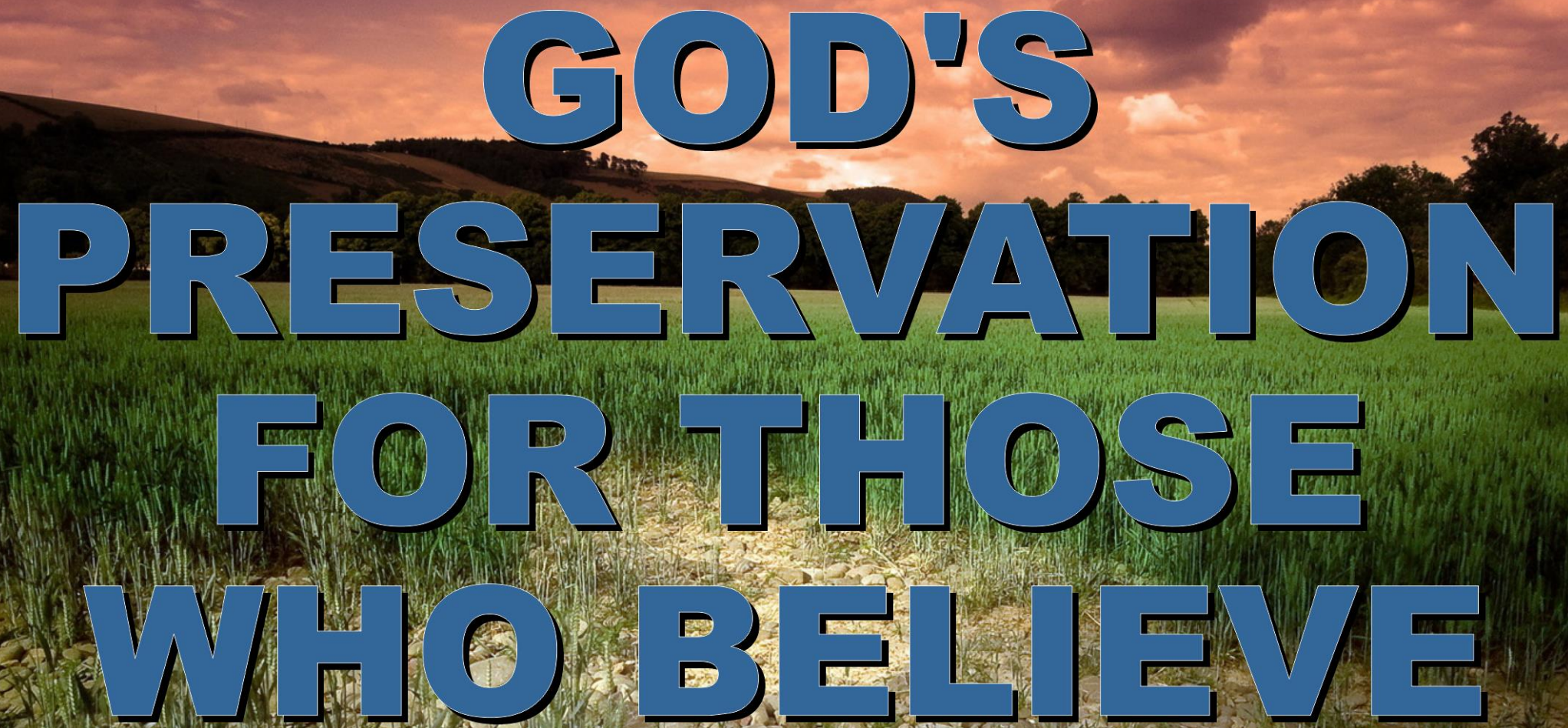




“that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” (2Th.2:12)

- The “pleasure in unrighteousness” seems to be parallel to Romans 1 where God gives them over to the depravity of sin (Ro.1:24-28, “debased mind”).**
- Man acts in defiance of God not knowing those acts of defiance are the vehicle of their punishment.**
- Many teach that those who do not believe the gospel, having understood but chose not to believe, and thus miss the rapture, cannot be saved after rapture or the man of sin is revealed.**







GOD'S PRESERVATION FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE

(2 Thessalonians 2:13-15)

**But we are bound to give thanks
to God always for you, brethren
beloved by the Lord, because
God from the beginning chose
you for salvation through
sanctification by the Spirit and
belief in the truth,**



2 THESSALONIANS 2:13



“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2Th.2:13)

- Thankfulness recognizes that everything we have is because of God's grace, and we simply express that gratitude attitude toward God.**
- When we express thankfulness toward another person, we recognize the benefit and value of the person's actions on our behalf.**
- Paul praises the sovereign choice of God in bringing them to salvation.**
- Before they chose God, He chose them, and He chose them for salvation through sanctification.**







“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2Th.2:13)

- The beginning of creation was preceded by the anticipation of Redemption.**
- We can't see if a person is chosen, but we can see if they are sanctified. By their fruits!**
- This refers to salvation from the penalty of sin and not deliverance from the DELUSION that will come upon the unbelievers in the future. Paul addresses those saved NOW.**
- Hearing the gospel, believing on Christ, and being born again, we receive all the benefits all at once (Ep.1:13-14).**







“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,” (2Th.2:13)

- This is saving faith expressed toward the gospel message, which is the opposite of verse 12, “did NOT believe the truth,” so as to be saved.**
- Salvation and sanctification go together. It is not possible to have the blessedness of salvation without the holiness of it. It would be no blessing to be saved from the consequences of sin but not from the sin itself.**
- The Spirit of God and the word of God are essential to our sanctification.**



**to which He called you by
our gospel, for the obtaining
of the glory of our Lord
Jesus Christ.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:14



“to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2Th.2:14)

- **The purpose of being called to salvation is so that the believer can share the glory of Christ IN THE FUTURE (“for the obtaining”).**
- **This does not refer to glorifying Christ in your life now, but rather, at the moment that He returns.**



Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. (1Jn.3:2).

- **They were destined for glory, not judgment, and would not be included with those deceived and judged in that day.**



**Therefore, brethren, stand fast
and hold the traditions which
you were taught, whether by
word or our epistle.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:15



“Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.” (2Th.2:15)

- **Paul exhorts the believers to be strong in the face of the great persecution they were going through.**



You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked (2Pe.3:17).

- **The means by which we stay strong is to learn and sincerely apply God's word.**





“Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.” (2Th.2:15)

- **Tradition means that which has been handed down as authoritative and standard for Christian living.**
- **Traditions can be dangerous. What Paul has in mind are the apostolic traditions perserved for us in the New Testament.**
- **The words of Jesus are obviously what He verbally taught to the disciples.**





A scenic landscape featuring a field of green crops, a rocky path, and a sunset sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

A PRAYER FOR THE THESSALONIANS

(2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

**Now may our Lord Jesus Christ
Himself, and our God and Father,
who has loved us and given us
everlasting consolation and good
hope by grace,**



2 THESSALONIANS 2:16



“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace,” (2Th.2:16)

- **These verses sound like a closing, and yet Paul still has a lot to write to them (chapter 3).**
 - “ 2Th.2:16, “Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself...”
 - “ 2Th.3:5 “Now may the Lord direct your hearts...”
 - “ 2Th.3:16 “Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace...”
- **It is like Paul writes, “Oh wait, here's some more stuff I wanted to tell you.”**
- **Paul is simply expressing his prayer for them.**







“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace,” (2Th.2:16)

- Paul often views the Father and the Son together as a UNIT, working together to accomplish not only the plan of salvation, but the experiential blessings for living here on earth.**
- “Everlasting consolation” applies to our salvation and we are comforted that our sins have been forgiven.**
- The word “hope” usually has the idea of a confident expectation.**
- We depend on HIM and not on ourselves for the completion of our salvation, and that is why we can have confidence.**





“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace,” (2Th.2:16)

- “By grace” refers to the TERMS by which we are saved. Grace means what God does for us based on His character without recourse to our human merit.**
- Paul reminds them of all God had done for them. (1) loved them; (2) gave everlasting consolation; (3) given good hope by grace.**
- In our intercession with God it is good to remember God's past faithfulness.**
- His faithfulness in the past is a promise of His faithfulness for the future.**



**comfort your hearts
and establish you in
every good word and
work.**

2 THESSALONIANS 2:17



“comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.” (2Th.2:17)

- Both the Father and the Son participate in both the SALVATION factors mentioned in verse 16, and the EXPERIENTIAL factors mentioned in verse 17.**
- As the believer continues to apply Bible truth unto good works, God will continue to encourage and support him in His Christian walk.**
- It serves like a promise. If you will continue, God will continue to bless you.**
- The blessings and the misery in our Christian life is then based on those choices.**





“comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.” (2Th.2:17)

- We are not saved BY doing good things but we are saved FOR doing and saying good things.**
- The goal of every believer is not only heaven when we die, but Christlikeness now.**
- These good works and sayings are to help us as believers reach those who do not know our Savior.**
- One of the best ways to guard the truth is to put it into practice.**



“comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.” (2Th.2:17)

SOUL (psyche)

Mentality of the SOUL is the HEART

HEART
(kardia)

Heart is the controller of the SOUL

3 SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS
AWARENESS; EGO; WILL

2 CONSCIENCE
STANDARDS

1 MIND
(nous)



Knowledge perceived enters the SOUL through the MIND (Lk.24:45)

Here it is analyzed based on standards of the CONSCIENCE

Accepted or rejected information is retained in the MIND as memory (2Pe.3:1)

Accepted info is then transferred to the CONSCIENCE as standards (He.10:22; Ti.1:15; Pr.14:33)

The conscience and the "understanding" of the mind then form the character of the soul by influencing self-consciousness (ego or will)

