

# **2 Thessalonians 2:1-17**

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- 1. The day of the Lord**
- 2. The man of sin and his followers**
- 3. The salvation of God's Christians**

**1. What subject is Paul addressing in verses 1 and 2?**

## **2 Thess. 2:1-2**

**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.

**1. What subject is Paul addressing in verses 1 and 2?**

**1. The “coming of the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:21-28; 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Thess. 2:1, 7-9; 2 Peter 3:10)**

**2. When Jesus returns, all Christians will be gathered together to Him (1 Cor. 15:23-24, 50-54; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 2:1)**

**3. Do not listen to:**

**a. False spirits**

**b. Message (Words from false teachers)**

**c. False letter (A misunderstanding of actual apostolic letters or forged ones)**

**2. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes?**

**2 Thess. 2:3-4**

**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.

**2. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes?**

**1. First comes apostasy (The falling away).**

**2. The man of lawlessness (The son of destruction [perdition]) is revealed.**

## 2. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes?

**Apostasy** - Turning against God, as evidenced by abandonment and repudiation of former beliefs. The term generally refers to a deliberate renouncing of the faith by a once sincere believer rather than a state of ignorance or mistaken knowledge. (Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible)

### **Acts 20:28-30**

**28** “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

**29** “I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

**30** and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

## 2. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes?

### 1 Tim. 4:1-3

1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

3 *men* who forbid marriage *and* advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.



**2. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes?  
The man of lawlessness (The son of destruction [perdition]) is revealed.**

**1 John 2:18-19**

**18** Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

**19** They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.

3. Who is the “man of lawlessness”?

**2 Thess. 2:3**

**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,

### **3. Who is the “man of lawlessness”?**

#### **Proposed Explanations:**

**Satan himself**

**The principle of Evil**

**Judaism**

**A Roman ruler**

**The Future Anti-Christ**

# 4. Describe the character of the man of lawlessness.

## 2 Thess. 2:3-8

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?

6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed.

7 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.

8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

**4. Describe the character of the man of lawlessness.**

**Satanic**

**Son of destruction (perdition)**

**The Antichrist**

**The beast**

**The abomination of desolation**

**One who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship.**

**4. Describe the character of the man of lawlessness.  
Sits at the temple of God.  
Proclaiming himself to be God.  
Restrained during Paul's day.  
The "Man of Sin" continues until the  
second coming of Jesus.**

## 5. What is the difference between unbelievers and believers?

### Unbelievers

#### 2 Thess. 2:9-12

9 *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,

12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth but took pleasure in wickedness.

### Believers

#### 2 Thess. 2:13-14

13 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

14 It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **5. What is the difference between unbelievers and believers?**

### **Unbelievers**

**They perish.**

**They did not receive the love of the truth.**

**They believe a lie.**

**They all will be judged who did not believe the truth.**

### **Believers**

**They are “beloved by the Lord”.**

**God from the beginning chose them for salvation.**

**They are sanctified by the Spirit and believe in the truth.**

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



## 5. What is the difference between unbelievers and believers?

### Unbelievers

2 Thess. 2:9-12

LOST

The unbelieving people will be lost because they do not believe in the truth.

### Believers

2 Thess. 2:13-14

Saved

Believers believe in the truth.

## 6. How were the Thessalonians chosen by God?

**2 Thess. 2:13-14**

**13** But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

**14** It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# 6. How were the Thessalonians chosen by God?

Eph. 1:3-6

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

## 6. How were the Thessalonians chosen by God?

### 1 Peter 1:1-2

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen

2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.

## 5. What is the difference between unbelievers and believers?

### Eph. 1:13-14

13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

### 2 Thess. 2:13-14

13 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

14 It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7. What are the resources that the Thessalonians have for salvation?

## 2 Thess. 2:15-17

15 So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word *of mouth* or by letter from us.

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace,

17 comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

**7. What are the resources that the Thessalonians have for salvation?**

**If they stand firm:**

**They must hold to the traditions which they were taught.**

**God the Father and Jesus will love them.**

**They will be given eternal comfort and good hope by grace.**

**They will find comfort and strength for their hearts in every good work and word.**