

What Is This World Coming To?

An In-depth Study of Bible Prophecy Instructor: Pastor Henry Wallace

Lesson 6

Introduction: In today's lesson we're gonna look at the third event before the Day of The Lord begins.

1. Review Of the first two events before The Day of The Lord (2

Thessalonians 2:1-12)

- First Event (2:3) – Rebellion; *literally the falling away from the truth that God has revealed in HIS WORD*
- Second Event – the revelation or revealing of **the man of sin (2:3-4;8-10)**

2. Now the Third Event **The Mystery of Lawlessness 2:6-12**

The emphasis shifts to what is presently restraining the revealing of the Man of Sin

Verse 7 explains and expands on verse 6

Here Paul is reminding the saints at Thessalonica and you and I that the secret power of lawlessness was already at work.

A. A mystery in the New Testament is a new truth previously unknown before Paul revealed it.

Verse 6 lets us know who is restraining this Man of Sin and this movement against God's Law

B. The Holy Spirit of God is the only Person with sufficient (supernatural power) to do this restraining

It is through the CHURCH, Christians whom HE indwells that GOD uses to hold back the tide of lawlessness.

C. (v. 8) After the removal of restraint the world will plunge headlong into lawlessness.

He is referred to in **Daniel 9:26-27**

D. v. 12 Like the blast of a fiery furnace, this powerful person will be destroyed by the mere breath of the Lord Jesus.

E. This man's name is never given in the Bible, but he will be known by his actions.

3. The Works of The Antichrist (2:9-12)

A) He uses the same method that Satan uses. *That method is counterfeiting.* From Genesis to Revelation, we see Satan counterfeiting the miracles of God.

As one person has accurately stated; Satan can't create, he can only attempt to duplicate.

B) Everything he does is intended to deceive!

Let's look at **(Revelation 13:2-4 and 17:8)**

As I mentioned earlier, his deception is so great, so convincing that people will believe that he is God and they will actually worship him (Revelation 13:13-15)

He's even gonna get people to believe that he can give life to an inanimate object. (Revelation 13:15)

C) In the rebuilt temple there will be an image of this Antichrist or Beast. People will worship this image.

D) There will be this second beast, who it will appear to people, that he can actually give breath to the image of the first beast.

- Saints, one thing we know; ONLY GOD CAN GIVE LIFE. ONLY GOD IS THE CREATOR.
- While Bible teachers can't say definitively how he gonna pull this off, we know that the technology already exist today with computerized talking robots.

E) Those who refuse to worship the beast or this image of the beast will be killed **(Revelation 13:15)**

4. The Mark of The Beast (Revelation 13:16-18)

- We've already talked about his counterfeiting; now let's address is control.
- To enforce his control over the human race, he gets them to worship him, the second beast will require everyone to receive a mark on their right hand or forehead.
- Without this mark no one will be able to buy or sell.
- A decision will have to be made; Do I get the mark so I can buy and sell or not get the mark and suffer the penalty.
- **So, a great majority will worship him**
- Your political affiliation, financial status; your ethnicity; your social status (free or slave), will not exempt you from this requirement. **(Revelation 13:16)**

5. What He Is; His Character

- As we do a deeper dive into this person, we discover that:
 - *He is a liar and untrustworthy* – We know this because he will make a seven-year covenant or agreement with Israel, but after three and one-half years he will break that covenant. **(Daniel 9:27)**
 - *He is a Gentile*. When we read Revelation 13:1, we discover that he arises from the sea. The sea depicts the Gentile Nation **(Revelation 17:15)**

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