

{53} II Thessalonians

Chapter 2

(1) Now we urge {ask; encourage} you, brothers, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by* our gathering together to Him,

(2) That you not be soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ^a is at hand.

(3) Let no man deceive you by any means: because *that day shall not come*, except there comes a falling away first, and that man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition;

(4) Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, displaying himself as God.^b

(5) Do you not remember, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

(6) And now you know who restrains him that he might be revealed in his time.

(7) Because the mystery of sin is already at work: only he who now restrains *will restrain*,^c until he is taken out of the way.

(8) And then that Wicked {one} shall be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming:

(9) *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

(10) And with all deceit of unrighteousness in those who perish; because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (11) And for this reason God shall send upon them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:^d

(12) That they all might be damned who did not believe the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.^e

2:2a - the Day of Christ - i.e. the day of the Rapture - see 2:1 - see note on I Cor. 1:8; Is. 26:20

2:4b - Dan. 7:2; 8:12-25; Mat. 24:15; Mark 13:14 - note the man of sin will be revealed before the Rapture – Note that the end of the verse and the next verse describes who this man is. We are not told that we will see him in the temple.

2:7c - "he who now restrains .. until he is taken out of the way" - there is some question as to who this individual is who is restraining the man of sin [i.e. the antichrist] -- It could be the Holy Spirit Who may be removed in the present sense from the earth at the time of the Rapture. It is also possible that Michael or another angel is preventing the antichrist from his reign until his time has come to reign. Traditionally many have believed that it was some governing official or the pope. Whoever it is, will cease to restrain the antichrist when it is the proper time.

2:11d – believe a lie – Rev. 12:9; 13:14; 16:14

2:12e - Rom. 1:18-32