

II Thess. 2:1-12 DON'T BE AFRAID, AND DON'T BE DECEIVED!

INTRO. We know from our study of I Thess. 4 and 5 that Paul wrote them about the two aspects of the Return of Christ: the _____ (Christ comes for His Church and we meet Him in the air). I Thess. 4:15-17 (Parousia – coming/appearing) and is the same word used in II Thess 2:1 (Parousia – coming/appearing of the Lord) – notice the additional phrase – “our being gathered to Him” – echoes of I Thess. 4:16, 17: “and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air....” This is the Rapture.

I Thess. 5 Paul writes about “The Day of the Lord” – which is the time when God will judge the world and punish the nations and prepare Israel for His return. Also called the _____ – Rev. 6-19.

Zech. 14 – “day of the Lord is coming...all nations (will gather) to Jerusalem to fight against it...v. 3 – Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations....v. 5 - Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

“The day of the Lord” begins either with the Rapture, or almost immediately after the Rapture, and ends with the Second Coming.

Second Coming: the second time Jesus will actually set _____ on planet Earth – Zech. 14:4 - ⁴On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley...v. 9 - The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and His name the Only Name.

In addition to what he wrote in I Thess., Paul also _____ them things about these events – v. 5, and we don't know what he told them!

I. DON'T BE _____ V. 2

A. “Easily” is too quickly without due thought and _____.

B. “Unsettled” (“_____”) a ship in a _____

C. “alarmed” – troubled, frightened. _____ with that fear.

II. DON'T BE DECEIVED – KEEP COMING BACK TO THE _____

A. The rebellion will take place – v. 3

I Tim. 4:1-3; II Peter 2:1,2; I Jn 2:18,19; 4:1-3; Jude 4

B. The “man of lawlessness” – anti-Christ – will be revealed – v. 3,4, 7

1) Opposing _____

2) Exalt himself as God – his image in the Temple – (v. 4) “abomination of desolation” Daniel 9, 11, 12, Matthew 24, Mark 13

3) The power/_____of lawlessness is already at work – v. 7

C. The _____ is restraining the spirit of lawlessness – v. 7,8

Be encouraged: _____ is in control, even of the anti-Christ!

D. When the Rapture happens, anti-Christ will be revealed – v. 8 – 10

1) All sorts of displays of _____ through signs and wonders – v. 10 (Rev. 13:13-17)

2) Deception of wickedness

E. Christ will overthrow (abolish!) the anti-Christ at His coming v. 8 (Rev. 19:19,20)

III. SERIOUS WARNING – v. 10-12

If you don't believe the _____ of God, you'll believe the _____ of the devil

Similar to God “giving them over” in Rom. 1 – to a reprobate mind – one that doesn't _____ right from wrong.

I John 4:1-6; I Thess. 5:21,22

As believers, we are called to stand firm and hold fast to the Truth – next week's lesson.

