

**2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- The passage we are reading today speaks of two separate topics:
  - A Future Time of God’s Judgment
  - A Future Man of Sin
- Since the subject matter here can seem intricate, we’ll take these topics separately, doing two parts on the same passage.
- Today we will look at things that characterize this **Future Time**.

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- Things that signal the beginning of the time:
  - The falling away (**v.3**)
  - The revealing of the man of sin, the son of perdition, the lawless one (**vv. 3 & 8**)
  - The removal of the restrainer (**vv. 6-7**)
  - 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12
- The falling away in **v.3** can reasonably be said to refer to the Rapture rather than a great turning from God.
- The literal translation of the word means “departure” or “departing”.
- The KJV was the first English translation to use the term “falling away”. All seven previous English versions say “departure” or “departing”.

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- The Greek word need not have a special spiritual connotation, nor does it really mean “to fall”.
- In any event, both the Rapture and a latter day apostasy of the church are clearly foretold elsewhere, so both ideas make perfect sense in the context of 2 Thessalonians 2.

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- Things that characterize the time itself:
  - The activity of the man of sin (**vv. 3-4, 8-9**)
  - Lying (**v.9**)
  - Deception (**v.10**)
  - Delusion (**v.11**)
- Both the time of judgment and the man of sin come to an end when Jesus Christ returns in glory. (**v.8**)

### **The Day of the Lord (The Tribulation) in the Old Testament**

- Deuteronomy 4:27-31
- Isaiah 13:6-13
- Jeremiah 30:1-10
- Daniel 9:24-27
- Etc., etc., etc.

### **The Day of the Lord (The Tribulation) in the New Testament**

- Matthew 24:15-22
- Revelation 6
- Revelation 9:20-21
- Revelation 16:1-11
- Revelation 19:11 – 20:3

### **Conclusions**

- The study of prophecy should build our **character** as we see that life in this world is very meaningful and the stakes are very high.
- The study of prophecy should build our **confidence** because from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22 God remains in control.
- He is working out His plan and bringing it to fulfillment though both spiritual and human enemies oppose Him.

### **Conclusions**

- The study of prophecy should build **anticipation** in our hearts as we see the time of Christ's return approaching.
- The study of prophecy should also give us a **sense of urgency and purpose** as we see that time is precious and Jesus is coming soon.
- **Maranatha!** Come Lord Jesus.