



Signs marking the coming day.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, "Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion (falling away) comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God."

Deceiving the Christian: Who does this?

Preachers and teachers with myopic/wrong opinions, neighbors with their opinions, family with their opinions, books with their opinions, etc...

Remember...Satan is known as the great **deceiver**.

"For that Day will not come...unless:"

Paul will not describe events which must *precede* the rapture, but events that are *concrete evidence* of the Great Tribulation – **the day of Christ**

"Unless the falling away comes first:" The ancient Greek wording for **falling away** indicates a *rebellion* or a *departure*. Bible scholars debate if it refers to an apostasy among those who once followed God, or a general worldwide rebellion.

Paul's point is clear: "You are worried that we are in the Great Tribulation and that you missed the rapture. But you can know that we are *not* in the Great Tribulation, because we have not yet seen **the falling away** that **comes first**."

The falling away: The word **"the"** makes it even more significant. This is **not a falling away, but the falling away, the great and final rebellion**.

The idea of a great end-times apostasy also does not contradict the idea of a great end-times revival.

Just as the Book of Revelation describes a great rejection of Jesus during the Great Tribulation (Revelation 9:20-21/Revelation 17:2-6) *and* a great acceptance of Him (Revelation 7:9-14), the two can stand side-by-side (my opinion).

“And the man of sin is revealed:”

Paul is letting the Church know that the Rapture will not be before the Anti-Christ (man of sin) is **revealed**. This is a person...not a group of people. There will be a group of people supporting him and lifting him up (fake news)...But they/he will not be THE MAN OF SIN.

There is *no* good reason to see this man of sin to be other than what the plainest meaning is here – an individual who will come to great prominence in the very last days.

- Daniel described an individual person: *The prince who is to come* (Daniel 9:26), the *king of fierce countenance* (Daniel 8:23), the *willful king* (Daniel 11:36-45).
- Jesus described an individual person: The one who comes *in his own name* (John 5:43).

We are not surprised that Paul described this **man of sin** as an individual person, *not* as a **system** or an office.

This man of sin will have the *spirit of the Antichrist* spoken of in 1 John 4:2-3. The idea behind the title **man of sin** is that “Sin has such absolute domination over him that he seems to be the very embodiment of it.” (Hiebert)

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“Son of perdition:” **Perdition** means *destruction*, the complete loss of well-being. It is really the opposite of *salvation*.

To call him the **son of perdition** means his character is marked by this destruction. Moffatt says the phrase “**son of perdition**” essentially means *the doomed one*.

“Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

The man of sin demands worship for himself that belongs to God only (Luke 4:8). This demand for worship is also described in Revelation 13:1-6.

He will sponsor a religion that does not tolerate the worship of anyone or anything except himself. There will be a church, group/synagogue or mosque as part of this end-times religion, but it will not encompass it.

There are entities pushing this today...Intolerance of the Christians way of thinking. They are saying we are bigots, privileged, intolerant, prejudiced, belligerent and uncaring...and many other words not worthy to be repeated. Even "so called Christians/Denominations" are falling for it.

45 Goals of the Communist Party to Take Over the United States (1963)

14 Contrasts Between the Antichrist and the Lord Jesus Christ-

1. Christ came from above (John 6:38)----Antichrist will ascend from the pit (Rev.11:7)
2. Christ came in His Father's Name (John 5:43)---Antichrist will come in his own name (John 5:43)
3. Christ humbled Himself (Philippians 2:8)----Antichrist will exalt himself (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
4. Christ was despised (Isaiah 53:3; Luke 23:18)---Antichrist will be admired (Revelation 13:3,4)
5. Christ will be exalted (Philippians 2:9)----Antichrist will be cast down to hell (Isaiah 14:14; Revelation 19:20)
6. Christ will do His Father's will (John 6:38)----Antichrist will come to do his own will (Daniel 11:36)
7. Christ came to save (Luke 19:10)----Antichrist will come to destroy (Daniel 8:24)
8. Christ is the good shepherd (John 10:1-15)----Antichrist is the "idol [evil] shepherd" (Zechariah 11:16,17)
9. Christ is the True vine (John 15:1)----Antichrist is the vine of the earth (Revelation 14:18)
10. Christ is the "Truth" (John 14:6)----Antichrist is the "lie" (2 Thessalonians 2:11 ASV)
11. Christ is "the Holy One" (Mark 1:24)----Antichrist is the "lawless one" (2Thessalonians 2:8)
12. Christ is the Man of Sorrows (Isaiah 53:3)----Antichrist is the "man of sin" (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
13. Christ is "The Son of God" (Luke 1:35)----Antichrist is the "son of perdition" (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
14. Christ is "the Mystery of Godliness: God –manifest in the flesh" (1 Timothy 3:16----Antichrist will be the mystery of iniquity: Satan manifest in the flesh (2 Thess. 2:7).

WE ARE IN THE LAST DAYS.

Keep your oil burning (meaning)—Faithful to the End!

For You know not what hour the Bridegroom cometh!

2 Thessalonians 2:5-6, “Don’t you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.”

Paul was only with the Thessalonians a few weeks (Acts 17:1-10). But Paul thought it important to teach these brand new Christians about Biblical prophecy, and he taught them in some detail.

I have thought about this. Do I give you the full notes I have put together...or, do I give you bullets (summarization) of what I am teaching.

If you have kept the notes over the years, you know that it could become a book/a commentary to go back to see what was said. Have I ever missed on my interpretation of the Word of God? Of course I have. I am only human. My thoughts are not intended to be the Word of God. They are to give my opinion of what I feel the Word of God is saying to me and the Church.

I’m certainly not infallible...but I do look at the whole picture in relation to the past, present and future. I look at those days when the Bible was written and how it relates to today.

I look at it as I look at the Constitution of the United States; I look at the original intent. The only difference is that the Word of God has the stamp of approval by God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

I pray...LORD, lead me in your ways and precepts. Let me meditate on your Word...for it is a lamp unto my feet.

