

II Thessalonians Thematic Outline

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven . . .

--has a two-fold purpose:

1. to be glorified in the saints
2. to render vengeance to the disobedient (*Ch. 1*)

--will be preceded by the Falling Away and
by the revelation of the man of lawlessness (*Ch. 2*)

--is a firmly anchored hope whose contemplation
should result not in disorderliness, but in calm
assurance, steadfast endurance, and
strength-imparting peace (*Ch. 3*)

II Thessalonians Two

II. Paul's Explanation of the Day of the Lord

A. Events preceding the Day of the Lord 2:1-12

1. First, a Falling Away :1-3a

--Paul's assurance that the Day has not arrived

He doesn't want them unsettled in mind,
troubled or deceived. (*a bogus letter?*)

--the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

and our gathering together (*synagogue*) to Him

--the Falling Away, apostasy: *to stand away*
a mass defection from the Truth

2. The Man of Sin is revealed :3b-5

--Character of the Man:

*lawlessness, sin

total contempt for Divine law

*son of perdition, ruin, loss

his proper destiny

--Activity of the Man (next page)

--Activity of the Man

*opposes God

*exalts himself above God, gods & religion

*sits as God in the temple of God

*displays himself as being God

Paul's probing question: Do you not remember...?

3. The Restrainer is taken out of the way :6-7

--Thessalonians' knowledge of the restrainer

~he will be revealed in his own time

--mystery of lawlessness already at work

~the one who now restrains (will do so)

until he is taken out of the way

4. The Second Coming of Christ :8-12

--Lawless one is revealed :8

--Lawless one is destroyed

**by the Lord's consuming breath*

**by the Lord's resplendent majesty at*

His coming

--Lawless one's source of power: Satan

*techniques: power
signs
lying wonders
unrighteous deception

*realm of operation: those who perish

--*reason for their perishing: they did not
welcome the love of the truth*

--God's judgment on the unbelievers

*strong delusion, that they should believe
the lie

*this leads to their condemnation

--*they did not believe the truth*

--*they had pleasure in unrighteousness*

Note again the mind-body or belief/practice connection.

Wrong belief leads to wrong behavior. A person whose beliefs are contrary to Scripture will be a person whose behavior is unrighteous, immoral, displeasing to the Lord, and ripe for the judgment of Holy God.

Pursue the Truth, cling to it, welcome it, love it, obey it, and enjoy walking with the Lord Jesus Christ, Who **is** the truth.

B. Believers' Comfort on the Day of the Lord :13-17

1. Paul's Thankfulness for God's work in the Thessalonian church :13-14

--bound to give thanks always (*His past work*)
(*Cf. 1:3 His present work*)

*chose them for salvation

Spirit set them apart and gave them faith

*called them to salvation (*effectually*)
by our gospel

Why did God do this for these people?

“For the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Exhortations to the Saints :15

(note the “*therefore*”)

--Stand fast (*imperative*)

--Hold tightly onto (*imperative*)

“the traditions which you were taught

by word (spoken, preached)

or by letter (epistle, I Thessalonians)

3. Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians'
comfort and strength :16-17

“Himself” is in the emphatic position at the beginning of the sentence.

our Lord Jesus Christ

our God and Father

Who has

--loved us

and --given us everlasting consolation

and good hope

by grace

(the prayer requests) “May He Himself

1. Comfort your hearts

2. Establish you in every

--good word

--good work