

Lawlessness 2 Thess 2:1-12

Gathered to 'Remember'
Counterfeit & Lawlessness
Lawlessness & Restrainer
Apostasia & Lawlessness
Lawlessness & Gathered



2 Thessalonians 2:5-6a

Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things?

And now you know what is holding [the man of lawlessness] back,

2 Peter 1:12,15

Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the <u>truth</u> you have been taught...so I will work hard to make sure you <u>always remember</u> these things after I am gone.

2 Thessalonians 2:1

Now, dear brothers and sisters, let us clarify some things about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we will be gathered to meet him.

Hebrews 10:25

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.



2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 This man [of lawlessness] will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. He [lawlessness] will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them.



ACCC reports in 2022 total scams up 80% from 2021 to 3.1b

Scams Jan-Aug 2023 finance +7.5% \$217m; romance +9.6% \$25m; billing +47% \$21m; phishing +79% \$20m; employment +950% \$18m.



Proverbs 26:24-26

Enemies disguise themselves with their lips, but in their hearts they harbor deceit.

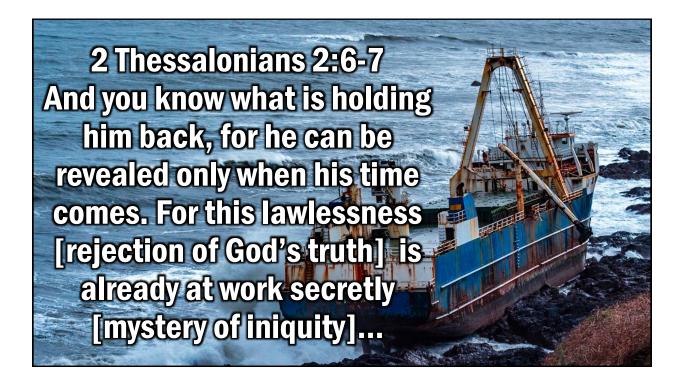
Though their <u>speech is charming</u>, do not believe them, for seven abominations fill their hearts.

Their malice may be concealed by deception, but their wickedness will be <u>exposed in the assembly.</u>

[HW][Proverbs 26 - 'seven abominations']

Romans 10:14-15 But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

Acts 8:29-31
The Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to that chariot and stay by it." So Philip ran up and heard the man reading Isalah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.



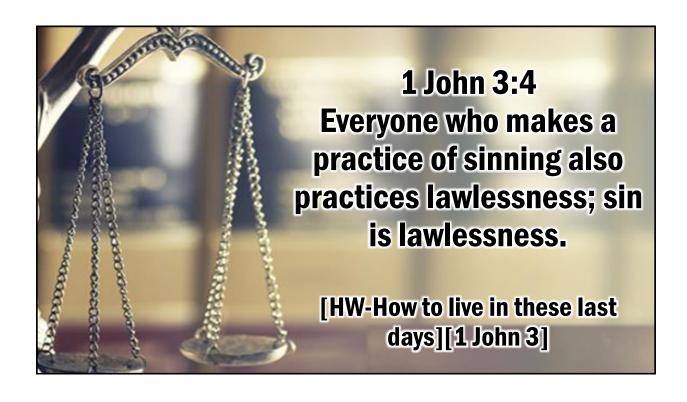
Judges 17:6 & 21:25
In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

Pilate asked "Are You the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world; if it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest" "Then You are a king!" Pilate said.

"You say that I am a king," Jesus answered. "For this reason I was born and have come into the world, to testify to the Truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My voice."

"What is truth?" Pilate asked.



2 Thessalonians 2:7
For this lawlessness is already at work secretly [mystery of iniquity], and it will remain secret until the one who is holding it back steps out of the way.

Rome; Govt; Elijah; Angels?

2 Thessalonians 2:6 And you know what is holding him back, for he can be revealed only when his time comes.

[HW-Restraint][Gen1,6,18; Job1,2; Is30,48,59; Mt18,19; 2Pet 3; Rev 7]

Romans 9:22-23

In the same way, even though God has the right to show his anger and his power, he is very patient with those on whom his anger falls, who are destined for destruction. He does this to make the riches of his glory shine even brighter on those to whom he shows mercy, who were prepared in advance for glory.

2 Thessalonians 2:3b-4

...For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction. He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God.

Increasing Apostasia
Gathering of the Saints
Restrainer removed
Man of sin revealed

Apostasia increasing 'assertion of absence of Truth'

some point in that apostasy...

Gathering of the Saints / Ecclesia (2Thess 2:1,1:7,10)(1Thess 4:13-5:11) (Next week...Marriage Feast & 1000 years etc)

Restrainer removed (Holy Spirit/Church gathered to meet Jesus)

Jacobs Troubles

Suffering, Tribulations, Control, Supply Chain, Security,
Wars, Rebuilding of the Temple, Peace, A treaty
('establishment of the rule of man by complete overthrow
of the law of God')

(Jer 30:7, Dan 12:1, Hos 5:15)



- An attractive leader and oratorical genius (Dan7:20; Rev13:2; Dan7:8,11,20;11:36; Ps52; 2Thess2:4)
- An intellectual genius (Dan7:20;8:23; Ezek28:3)
- A political and governmental genius (Dan11:21; Rev13:1,2;17:17)
- A commercial genius (Dan8:25; Dan11:38,43; Ezek28:4,5; Rev13:17; Ps52:7);
- A military genius (Dan8:24; Rev6:2,13:4; Isa 14:16)
- A religious genius (2Thess2:4; Rev13:3,14,15)

Empowered by Satan, the lawless one is accompanied by false wonders and signs (2 Thess 2:11-12).

The counterfeit nature of lawlessness is directly described by Paul in the Parousia.

The "coming" (parousia) of the lawless one in verse 9 is placed immediately alongside the parousia of Jesus (2 Thess 2:8, and v1)

'Day of the Lord'

'the abomination of desolation'

2 Thessalonians 2:1a,8b
Now, dear brothers and sisters, let us clarify some things...the Lord Jesus will slay [the man of lawlessness] with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by the splendour of his coming.

