

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 06 March	1Thessalonians 1:1-10	Commended
2) 13 March	1Thessalonians 2:1-12	Shared
3) 20 March	1Thessalonians 2:13-20	Response Required
4) 27 March	1Thessalonians 3:1-13	Encouraged
5) 03 April	1Thessalonians 4:1-12	Demonstrated
6) 10 April	1Thessalonians 4:13-18	Promised
7) 17 April	Matthew 28	Risen
8) 24 April	1Thessalonians 5:1-11	Returning
9) 01 May	1Thessalonians 5:12-28	Living
10) 08 May	2Thessalonians 1:1-12	Enduring
11) 15 May	2Thessalonians 2:1-12	Observing
12) 22 May	2Thessalonians 2:13-17	Praying
13) 29 May	2Thessalonians 3:1-18	Waiting

INTRODUCTION

- Few chapters in the Bible deal with as many doctrines as 2Thes 2:
 - The Lord's Day,
 - The Antichrist revealed,
 - The state of the world in the last days,
 - The destruction of the Antichrist,
 - The Last Lie,
 - Predestination,
 - Sanctification,
 - Calling of the Gospel,
 - Everlasting consolation. [Rom 8 deals w/ 12 doctrines]

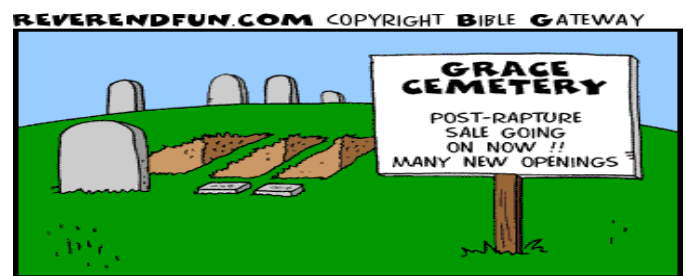
Passage	Comments
2Thes 2:1-2	<p>Be not troubled in Mind, Spirit, Word, or Letter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apparently, a letter, forged with Paul's signature or credential, was floating around disturbing the Christians that Christ had already came Are we confident enough in God's word not to be troubled, & to lead someone to the Lord or to address some common issues for believers and skeptics alike? How long does it take to acquire such confidence? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <1 year? <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 years? <input type="checkbox"/> 10+ years? <input type="checkbox"/> Depends? Consider this: Reading 10 pages per day (45-60 min) you can read the Bible through in 90 days. If you are able to read the Bible through ~12x (in about 3-12 yrs), you are on par with the majority of preachers.
2:3	<p>Be Not Deceived</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v3. We are commanded NOT TO BE DECEIVED: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not to be deceived by man ... Mat 24:4, 11; 2Thes 2:3 Not to be deceived by SatanRev 12:9 Not to be self-deceived 1Cor 3:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do we keep from being deceived? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know the truth so you can spot a counterfeit Devote yourself to prayer Scenario of events leading up to the "Day of the Lord" (aka, the 2nd Coming of Christ after the 7-yr Tribulation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v3b. Jesus will not be revealed from Heaven (2Thes 1:7) until there is first a falling away (lit. apostasy) (presumably, of non-believers waxing worse & worse – Mt 24:12; Lk 18:8; 2Tim 3:13). OR, this apostasy (aka departure) could allude to the Rapture of the church as some scholars believe. v3c...and the man of lawlessness (ESV, NASB), sin (KJ) come on the scene (be revealed) who is the son of perdition (KJ), destruction (ESV, NASB) – this is the Antichrist, 1John 2:18 v4. He will sit himself in the temple of God
2:4	<p>He (Antichrist) Will Sit Himself in the Temple of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The preterist view is it has already happened in the first century A.D. when the Romans destroyed the Temple The dispensational view is that Paul is referring to a future rebuilt temple in Jerusalem where the Man of Sin, the Antichrist, takes a seat in the middle of the 7-year Tribulation after the Jews reconstruct their temple during the 1st 3.5 years of the Tribulation period

Passage	Comments
2:5	<p>Do You Not Remember?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are very forgetful creatures needing constant reminders. Peter told his readers, "I will always remind you of these things, though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have" 2Pet 1:12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many times do we tell our kids at least each week, "pick up your clothes", "be nice", "obey" ... When is it noticeable when a believer has forgotten some critical teachings of God's word? <input type="checkbox"/> Worry sits in <input type="checkbox"/> Little prayer time <input type="checkbox"/> Bad Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Other?
2:6-7	<p>Who Now Restrains, and When Will He Be Removed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Something or Someone withholds the "Wicked One" from being revealed before his time..... What or Who is this? Presumably, the Holy Spirit, is "HE" who currently limits the evil that occurs in the world today until such time that He is 'taken out of the way' – presumably at the Rapture Since God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are omnipresent, (being a triune God), the HS will still be on the earth, but operating differently, as He once did in the OT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Holy Spirit uniquely empowered individuals in the OT to accomplish a divine plan. Samson's mighty deeds were performed when "the Spirit of the Lord came upon him mightily" (Jud 14:6; 15:4); Recall the Spirit's work in Moses and the 70 elders of Israel (Num 11:17), Gideon (Jud 6:34), David (1Chron 28:12), and many others. When each task was accomplished, the Holy Spirit would leave the person. Instead of indwelling each believer as He does during the Church Age, He will work during the Tribulation era as He did during the OT period to empower certain individuals (possibly the 144,000 evangelists seen in Rev 7 & 14, and the 2 witnesses in Rev 11)
2:8-12	<p>The Time is Right for the Lawless One to be Revealed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v8. The Wicked or Lawless one (the Antichrist) shall be destroyed with the brightness of His (Christ) coming.... Rev 19 v9. Before his demise he will work deceptive Power, Signs, and Wonders. What would these look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fake Healings & Resurrections? <input type="checkbox"/> Weather Phenomena? <input type="checkbox"/> Dreams/Prophecies come True Recall that Satan can invoke weather phenomena and he could have healed Job by removing the sores he gave him v10-12. God sends a delusion so the wicked believe "THE LIE" (presumably that the Antichrist is the Messiah) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are people so gullible? <input type="checkbox"/> Is it Willful Ignorance?

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- The remedy from being deceived by others ([Eph 5:6](#); [2Thes 2:3](#)), being self-deceived ([1Cor 3:18](#); [2Cor 13:5](#)), or even deceived by Satan ([Rev 12:9](#); [13:14](#); [19:20](#)) is to be vigilant / disciplined in our faith by studying God's word, seeking wise counsel, diligently praying for God's guidance, and weeding out erroneous biases and assumptions (aka, old wineskins)

NEXT WEEK: 2Thes 2:13-17. We are chosen for salvation through sanctification, and belief of the truth, and called by the Gospel to obtain the glory of Christ – WOW.



Thanks to Benoit Paquette (See 1Thessalonians 4:16) 02-15-1999