

## 7 Sections of 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

**Greetings**

**Believers suffering; punishment for those causing suffering; Paul's prayer**

**Events prior to the Lord's return**

**Affirmation for the believers**

**Request for prayer**

**Warning against idleness**

**Benediction**

# The Coming of the Lord

**1 Thess 4:13-18**

**Restraint**

**Time of peace and security**

**Rebellion**

**Retribution**

**Sudden destruction  
Day of the Lord arrives  
Archangel's call  
Cry of command  
God's trumpet  
Lord descends from heaven  
Dead in Christ rise first  
Living taken up in clouds  
All meet the Lord**

# The Coming of the Lord

	1 Thess 4:13-18	2 Thess 2
Restraint	Time of peace and security	Mystery of lawlessness at work 'now' Time passes, lawlessness restrained
Rebellion		Rebellion <i>much time goes by</i> Restraining one removed Lawless one revealed – empowered by Satan Lawless one opposes and self-exalts Takes seat in temple of God Self-declares to be God
Retribution	Sudden destruction Day of the Lord arrives Archangel's call Cry of command God's trumpet Lord descends from heaven Dead in Christ rise first Living taken up in clouds All meet the Lord	

# The Coming of the Lord

John Stott . . . Message of Thessalonians, pp 156 - 162

The leader of the rebellion:

4 titles: Man of lawlessness

Defiant of moral (*no moral absolutes*) and civil law (*anarchy*)

Man doomed to destruction (Hb: 'his destiny is ruin')

The enemy (who will oppose everything that is called God)

The climber (who will exalt himself over . . . God. Seats himself in God's temple proclaiming himself to be God)

(. . . *but what is 'God's temple in this context? . . .*)

"God and law, religion and ethics, are the two essential ingredients of culture which act as a glue to bond a community together, and are therefore two authorities which humankind have normally recognised. To oppose them is to undermine the foundations of society. More than that, Antichrist's godlessness and lawlessness will go beyond a denial of these basic authorities to demand that worship and obedience be given to him alone. Not anarchy, but totalitarianism is his goal." (p. 161)

# The Coming of the Lord

## Daniel

### Daniel 11:

Prophecy regarding the King of the South and King of the North

### Daniel 12: 1-3

“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky . . .

# The Coming of the Lord

	1 Thess 4:13-18	2 Thess 2	Dan 12:1
Restraint	Time of peace and security	Mystery of lawlessness at work 'now' Time passes, <b>lawlessness restrained</b>	<b>Michael, the protector, arises</b>
Rebellion		<b>Rebellion</b> <i>much time goes by</i> Restraining one removed Lawless one revealed – empowered by Satan Lawless one opposes and self-exalts Takes seat in temple of God Self-declares to be God	<b>Time of trouble</b>
Retribution	<b>Sudden destruction</b> Day of the Lord arrives Archangel's call Cry of command God's trumpet Lord descends from heaven Dead in Christ rise first Living <b>SNATCHED AWAY</b> <b>SUDDENLY</b> in clouds All meet the Lord	<b>Lawless one destroyed by 'breath of Jesus' as Jesus comes</b>	<b>"your people will be delivered"</b>

# The Coming of the Lord

	1 Thess 4:13-18	2 Thess 2	Dan 12:1	Rev
Restraint	Time of peace and security	Mystery of lawlessness at work 'now' Time passes, lawlessness restrained	Michael, the protector, arises	
Rebellion		Rebellion <i>much time goes by</i> Restraining one removed Lawless one revealed – empowered by Satan Lawless one opposes and self-exalts Takes seat in temple of God Self-declares to be God	Time of trouble	<i>(help!!!)</i>
Retribution	Sudden destruction Day of the Lord arrives Archangel's call Cry of command God's trumpet Lord descends from heaven Dead in Christ rise first Living <b>SNATCHED AWAY</b> <b>SUDDENLY</b> in clouds All meet the Lord	Lawless one destroyed by 'breath of Jesus' as Jesus comes	"your people will be delivered"	<i>John's visions came after the death of Paul, so Paul never heard of, heard or read the book of Revelation</i>

## Paul's advice

**So, brothers and sisters, STAND FIRM AND HOLD FAST TO  
THE TRADITIONS THAT YOU WERE TAUGHT BY US**