

“Evil Incarnate”

Sunday, August 15, 2021, 10:30 a.m.
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI
Pastor Jonathan DeCou
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

BIG IDEA: Christ-followers are to be warned, but not worried.

*“Children, it is the last hour.
And as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming,
even now many antichrists have come.”
1 John 2:18 (CSB)*



A Deception. (v1-3a, 5)

- **The Rapture has not yet occurred.** (v1-3a, 5)
- **The Day of the Lord has not yet begun.** (v1-3a, 5)



An Apostasy. (v3b)

- **The nature of the Apostasy.** (v3b)
- **The timing of the Apostasy.** (v3b)



An Antichrist. (v3c-10a)

- **The revelation of the Antichrist.** (v3c, 6b)
- **The character of the Antichrist.** (v3c)
- **The arrogance of the Antichrist.** (v4)
- **The restraint of the Antichrist.** (v6-8a)

- **The destiny of the Antichrist.** (v8b)
- **The inspiration of the Antichrist.** (v9-10a)



A Delusion. (v10-12)

- **Delusion comes as an act of individual choice.** (v10b, 12b)
- **Delusion comes as an act of God’s judgment.** (v11, 12a)

BIG IDEA: Christ-followers are to be warned, but not worried.

READ: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

THINK: Consider Paul’s instruction to the Thessalonians, then ask yourself these questions: *When was there a time you were gripped with fear by believed something you later discovered was not true or real? How does it strike you that Paul had instructed such young believers about these profound matters of prophecy so early in their journey of faith? What do you imagine are the circumstances and conditions that caused the Thessalonians to believe rumors about The Rapture & the Day of the Lord? What is the nature of the misinformation that upset and troubled the Thessalonians? How did Paul remind the Thessalonians they could know The Rapture had not occurred or that the Day of Lord had not begun without their notice? Why & how do people become apostate (how do they “fall away”)? What is especially significant about the time of apostasy to which Paul refers here in his letter? What or who is the restrainer that holds back the full impact of sin and the appearance of the “man of lawlessness”? What is God’s ultimate purpose in allowing the “man of lawlessness” to deceive people? What are the indicators of his (the Antichrist’s) appearing? How will those who refuse the truth respond to this “man”? How does the “strong delusion” God sends differ from the deceptive evil of this “man” (v10-12)?*

DO: In contrast to v10, what do you think would be the result of choosing to “love the truth”? What do you need to do in order to not be troubled and upset in our current life circumstances?