



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:3-8, The Man of Lawlessness

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### Intro

Adolph Hitler and the Man of Lawlessness

From Wikipedia: "We erupted into a frenzy of nationalistic pride that bordered on hysteria. For minutes on end, we shouted at the top of our lungs, with tears streaming down our faces: *Sieg Heil, Sieg Heil, Sieg Heil! (Hail Victory!)* From that moment on, I belonged to Adolf Hitler body and soul".

### Text: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-10 HCSB

1 Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to Him: We ask you, •brothers,  
2 not to be easily upset in mind or troubled, either by a spirit or by a message or by a letter as if from us, alleging that the Day of the Lord has come. 3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. For that day will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction. 4 He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he sits in God's sanctuary, publicizing that he himself is God. 5 Don't you remember that when I was still with you I told you about this? 6 And you know what currently restrains him, so that he will be revealed in his time. 7 For the •mystery of lawlessness is already at work, but the one now restraining will do so until he is out of the way, 8 and then the lawless one will be revealed. The Lord Jesus will destroy him with the breath of His mouth and will bring him to nothing with the brightness of His coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one is based on Satan's working, with all kinds of false miracles, signs, and wonders, 10 and with every unrighteous deception among those who are perishing. They perish because they did not accept the love of the truth in order to be saved.

### I. The Man of Lawlessness: *a future leader appearing just before the time Paul calls the Day of Lord.*

- Description: V4 puts down all other gods and exalts himself as god  
demands worship  
sits in the holy place in God's temple declaring himself as god
- Vs6-7 there will be a restraining influence on him  
when that restraint is removed he will fully unveil his plans
- V9-10 this one is empowered by Satan  
he performs false, or pseudo miracles and wonders  
deception is his constant tool
- V8 the Lord Jesus will personally destroy him at His coming.

### II. Other Descriptions of the Man of Lawlessness:

Daniel 7: 8 another horn, a little one.... it had a mouth that spoke arrogantly.

23 The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, different from all the other kingdoms....The 10 horns are 10 kings who will rise from this kingdom. Another, different from the previous ones, will rise after them and subdue three kings. 25 He will speak words against the

Most High and oppress the holy ones of the Most High. He will intend to change religious festivals and laws, and the holy ones will be handed over to him for a time, times, and half a time.

Daniel 9 26 The people of the coming prince ... 27 He will make a firm covenant with many for one week ... in the middle of the he will put a stop to sacrifice and offering ... the abomination of desolation

Matthew 24: 15 "So when you see the abomination that causes desolation, spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place" (let the reader understand),

1 John 2: 18 Children, it is the last hour. And as you have heard, "Antichrist is coming," ...

Revelation 13 1 And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea. He had 10 horns and seven heads.... 2 ... The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. 3 One of his heads appeared to be fatally wounded, but his fatal wound was healed. ....5 A mouth was given to him to speak boasts and blasphemies. He was also given authority to act for 42 months. ...7 And he was permitted to wage war against the •saints and to conquer them. He was also given authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation.

16 And he (*the false prophet*) requires everyone—small and great, rich and poor, free and •slave—to be given a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark: the beast's name or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom: The one who has understanding must calculate the number of the beast, because it is the number of a man. His number is 666.

Revelation 19 20 But the beast was taken prisoner, and along with him the false prophet, who had performed the signs in his presence. He deceived those who accepted the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image with these signs. Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

### III. Why Will People Follow This Man?

- A. Desperate for Help
- B. He'll Have Help
- C. Given & Permitted

*You and I don't enjoy anything that God hasn't given; we don't suffer anything God hasn't permitted.*

### IV. The Restrainer

6 And you know what currently restrains him, so that he will be revealed in his time. 7 ... the one now restraining will do so until he is out of the way, 8 and then the lawless one will be revealed.

They knew- we don't.

### Close:

Daniel 7:11 As I continued watching, the beast was killed and its body destroyed and given over to the burning fire....13 I continued watching in the night visions, and I saw One like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven... 14 He was given authority to rule, and glory, and a kingdom.... His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.