

April 26, 2026
II Thessalonians 2:6-12
“A Time Of Lawlessness”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The secret power of lawlessness is already at work. This is one of several NT mysteries being unveiled. This mystery is namely, the revelation a future climax of lawlessness in the world. This movement has been in affect for a long time but as bad as it is, it is being restrained somewhat. The spirit of antichrist is already at work, see **I John 4:3**. This restraining will continue until the appointed time for unveiling the man of sin and the climax of lawlessness.

When Christians are removed the world will plunge headlong into lawlessness. At this time the man of lawlessness will come on the scene. This man's name is never given in the Bible but he will be unmistakable by his actions. **Daniel 9:26-27; 11:36-12:1** speaks to this. This powerful person will be destroyed by the mere breath of the Lord Jesus.

Precise identification of the restrainer, **v 6**, is not essential to an understanding of the message of **vv 1-15**. God is ultimately in control of the end times, therefore let not your heart be troubled.

When people refuse to even entertain the truth God lets them pursue the experience and consequences of falsehood, see **Romans 1:18-25**.

There is a coming satanic false religion that will dominate the world like no other in history. Its object of worship will be the most powerful, evil, and deceitful person to ever live, the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist. Like Satan he will clothe himself as an angel of light and he will deceive the whole unbelieving world.

The Holy Spirit cannot be taken out of the world because that is impossible for our omnipresent God. Besides, no one could be saved if not for His regenerating work, see **Titus 3:5; John 3:3-8**. Some say Michael the archangel restrains him now, not so, read **Jude 9**.

Application: The Antichrist is also called the Beast (**Revelation 13**), same person, different name. The Antichrist will sell his soul for 1,260 days, the length of his reign. Hearts are darkened due to, and as consequence of their own sinful choices. Is there anything you would sell your soul to the devil for? **II Pete1:10a**, “Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, . . .”