

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SECOND COMING
II THESS. 2:1-3

Introduction:

- A. This is the heart and core of Paul's second letter.
 - 1. The events mentioned are not easily put into chronology.

- B. This letter is a supplement to his oral teaching.
 - 1. He had heard of the trouble and anxiety caused by misunderstanding.
 - 2. Corrective epistle.

I. PAUL PLEADS FOR CALMNESS. V1

- A. "We beseech you..."
 - 1. beseech = we plead with you.
 - 2. Does not use authority and command them.

- b. "brethren."
 - 1. He knows they are God's people.
 - 2. He counts them as family.

II. THE AREA OF MISUNDERSTANDING.

- A. "the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ."
 - 1. hyper = touching, concerning.

- B. "And our gathering unto him."
 - 1. eriseagoge = and act of gathering together then the congregation.

- C. Two nouns under one article make these to be considered one event under two aspects.

III. THE AIM OF THE APPEAL. V2

- A. "that ye be not soon shaken in mind."
 - 1. Paul is anxious to calm the excitement.
 - 2. soon = reaching hastily or rashly
 - 3. shaken = a rocking motion, like an earthquake, or a ship tossed on a stormy sea.
 - 4. The passive voice points to an outside force. They are being influenced by false information.

- B. "or be troubled."
 - 1. troubled = clamour, tumult, the feeling of fright or alarm.

IV. THE SOURCE OF THE ALARMING NEWS.

- A. "by spirit." = some prophetic utterance.
 - 1. Gift of prophecy still in effect.

- B. "by word." some vocal utterance.
 - 1. The preaching of anyone.

- C. "by letter." a written communication.
 - 1. An epistle, perhaps a forgery.
 - 2. Signs own letter. v3:17.

V. THE ERROR IDENTIFIED.

- A. "as that the day of Christ is at hand."
 - 1. They had been taught that the Day of the Lord had begun.
 - 2. Drew many frightening conclusions.
 - a. We have missed Him.
 - b. Great Tribulation will begin.

- B. What is the "Day of the Lord?"
 - 1. It is an expression for the day when God will intervene in history to vindicate His chosen people, destroy their enemies, and establish His kingdom.

2. It is not one event, but many.
 3. It is a time of darkness, unparalleled judgment, a day of trial, a day of suffering.
 4. Over 1,000 years to the White Throne.
- C. The suffering of these people seem to confirm the false teaching.

VI. THINGS THAT MUST OCCUR BEFORE THE APPEARING OF JESUS. V3

- A. "Let no man deceive you by any means."
1. "Let no one delude you."
 2. New prophetic fads fool many.
- B. "for that day shall not come."
1. This truth will not change!
- C. "except there come a falling away first."
1. apostasia = a deliberate abandonment of a formerly professed position or view.
 2. In Classical Greek it meant a political or military rebellion.
 3. In the Septuagint it was used of rebellion against God.
 4. I Tim. 4:1-4.
 5. II Tim. 3:1-8.
 6. II Tim. 4:3-4.
 7. There has always been times of apostasy, but this is the Great Revolt.
- D. "and that man of sin be revealed."
1. Who is this? "the son of perdition."
 2. This is not his name, but his character.
 3. "man of sin" = sin has complete dominion over him. He is the embodiment of sin.

4. "son of perdition." = he has so fallen under the influence of perdition (destruction or ruination) that he belongs to it by nature.
Perdition = destruction.
5. revealed = to remove a veil, a definite time when an unveiling will occur.
6. He exists prior to his unveiling. Will have lived for years.
7. Some facts:
 - a. He is a man.
 - b. He is not some historical figure resurrected.
 - c. He is not Judas.