

The Christian Arsenal

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GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS BY HAVING A SETTLED FAITH IN A SHAKY WORLD

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Part 1 of 4

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

INTRO: THE STAGE IS SET FOR THE DRAMA OF THE AGES

Many are living in “Last Day” hysteria.
We need a settled faith in a shaky world.

I. WE NEED NOT BE DISMAYED. verse 7

“And to give you who are troubled rest with us ...”

Our Hope is not in politics.

Our Hope is not in sociology.

Our Hope is not in science.

Our Hope is a sure hope based on the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ.

We have a sure hope because of:

1. The WHO of His coming v. 7

“... the Lord Jesus is revealed...”

2. The WHEN of His coming v. 7

“...when the Lord Jesus is revealed ...”

“But to you who fear my name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.” Mal. 4:2

Notice the word, “Sun,” not “Son”

2 things about the “sun”

1. You can't hurry it.

2. You can't stop it.

Jesus' coming is like the sunrise.

3. The WONDER of His coming v. 10

“When He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe...”

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Phillips translation: "... it will be a breathtaking wonder to all who believe..."

WHAT WILL WE WONDER AT:

1. We will wonder at His transforming power v. 9

"... and from the glory of His power..."

2. We will wonder at His Saving grace v. 10

"... to be admired among all those who believe ..."

The message of the Gospel of Grace is gloriously simple, but it is simply glorious.

3. We will wonder at His Keeping power v. 10

"... to be admired among all those who believe ..."

The God who saves you is the God who will keep you.

"That soul upon Jesus hath leaned for repose I'll never, no never, desert to its foe. That soul though all hell should endeavor to take – I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

4. The WITNESS of His coming v. 10

"... because our testimony among you was believed."

The proof that you believe in the 2nd coming of Christ is that you are trying to win souls for Christ.

"...you shall be my witnesses ..." Acts 1:8

II. WE SHOULD NOT BE DECEIVED 2 Thess. 2:1-5

2 Thess 2:3 – *"Let no man deceive you ..."*

NAMES THAT THE ANTICHRIST IS CALLED IN THE BIBLE

1. The Man of Sin – 2 Thess 2:3

History began with the sin of man and it will end with the man of sin.

2. The Son of Perdition – v. 3

Perdition means judgement

Williams translation – *"The one doomed for destruction"*

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3. The Beast – Rev. 13:1
This speaks of his fierce and ferocious nature.

4. The Antichrist – 1 John 2:18

“Anti” means opposed and against

“Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped so that he sits as God in the Temple of God showing himself that he is God.”

Israeli press release: “In the ministry of religion a document concerning this was put forward in which proposals from all over the world were collected. Religious activists are for the erection of the Temple as soon as possible. There is some opposition but everything is urging toward the building of the Temple.”

Israeli wire report: “Temple mount activists are stepping up efforts to regain control of the Temple mount and to begin efforts towards the construction of the third Temple.

The money collected will be traded for gold which must be set aside for the time that the construction would get underway.”

THE TEMPLE INSTITUTE OF ISRAEL IS NOW MAKING:

TRUMPETS
WASH BASINS
ROBES FOR THE PRIESTS
A BOX FOR THE CASTING OF LOTS

The Antichrist is going to be revealed, v. 3

There is something restraining and holding the antichrist now

1. The “what” that is restraining, v. 6

“And now you know what is restraining ...”

The “what” is the church.

2. The “he” that is restraining – v. 7

“... only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.”

The “He” is the Holy Spirit.

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I Thess. 4:16,17

2 Thess. 2:9-12

III. WE WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED v. 8

“And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.”

The 2nd coming of Jesus Christ is in 2 phases:

Phase I – He comes secretly for His church – THE MYSTERY OF THE RAPTURE

Phase II – He comes sovereignly with His church - THE MAJESTY OF HIS REVELATION

In summary, there are Five Factors we need to consider about the 2nd Coming:

1. The Intercession Factor
2. The Soul Winning Factor
3. The Family Preparation Factor
4. The Comfort Factor
5. The Hope Factor