

“And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.” 2 Thess 2:11

2 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 2

1 August 2014

LESSON 23

THE RESULTS OF ABANDONING THE BIBLE AS THE FINAL AUTHORITY

2 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 2 REVIEW:

Verse 1: Our motivation in our Christian life is the knowledge that we’re going to be with Jesus and we’re going to be together as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Verse 2: Bible prophecy should never scare the Bible believer. If the thought of the coming of the Lord shakes you up, then you don’t understand it correctly.

Verse 3: The Christian is commanded not to be deceived. We are to expect a departure from the truth among professing Christians. This will prepare the way for the man of sin; the Antichrist.

Verse 4, 7: The Antichrist can be recognized as one who imitates God and receives worship “as God.” He will teach humanistic doctrines and pass them off as Christianity. He will be religious in his ways and will teach men to be religious, but it will not be according to the ways of the Bible. It is a great mystery how iniquity can pass for Christianity.

Verse 8: Jesus will destroy the Antichrist. This is a comfort to believers.

Verse 9: The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan to deceive men by signs and wonders. Signs and wonders do not prove that a ministry is “of God.” Satan empowers men to deceive many today.

Verse 10: You can love the Lord and love religion, but still be deceived if you don’t love the truth.

Verse 11: If you don’t love God’s truth, God will let you to believe a lie. Let’s examine this truth from the book of Revelation and Ezekiel:

REVELATION: Notice the progression of the churches addressed by the Lord:

EPHESUS: Revelation 2:4, “**Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.**” Their “first love” was not for Jesus Christ. They still love Jesus Christ. The first thing a person has to “love” is the truth of God’s Word—or else they won’t ever learn about Jesus Christ. The first church left their love of the truth. That was their first love.

PERGAMOS: Revelation 2:14, “I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the—**DOCTRINE (!) —of Balaam.**” Balaam’s doctrine was that a person could be immoral and unfaithful and God would be okay with it. Churches today avoid preaching against sin because they want to fill their churches. The result: people think sin is okay.

THYATIRA: Revelation 2:20, “I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to **TEACH...**”

The only reason Christians allow women to preach in some churches is because the Bible has become irrelevant to them. They don’t care what the Bible says.

It isn’t because they don’t love the Lord. They’re serving God, loving others, faithful in their works (vs. 19), but they have ignored what the Bible teaches about women.

If an action is in direct disobedience to what God’s Word SAYS, that proves that God doesn’t approve of it. God will not call a woman to preach because it would be in direct opposition to His Word.

When a woman places herself in a leadership role in the church, her **ACTIONS TEACH**, “*I am more important than the Word of God.*” And since she is violating the Scriptures, she is incapable of correcting YOU when you violate the Scriptures.

EZEKIEL 14: Ezekiel chapter 14 explains 2 Thessalonians chapter 2.

Verse 3 Your iniquity is a stumblingblock. It will prevent you from communing with God. When you disobey the Bible and say, “*God led me,*” according to the Bible, that’s not true.

Verse 4 Even though you’re still going to the church to hear the preaching, if you’ve got idols in your heart (things that get between you and God and prevent fellowship), God will give you the answer you want to hear—even though it will lead you to your ruin.

If you don’t want the Bible to be your authority, God will help you to go the way you want. Then, eventually, you’re going to find out that you messed up.

Verse 5 What you long for in your heart, God is going to give it to you—and take your in your “own heart.” If sin is what you want, your actions will reveal your heart. If righteousness is what you want, your actions will reveal it.

Verses 6-8 Those who want to ignore the Bible and continue in sin, God will separate from His people who want to obey the Scriptures and do right.

Verse 9 When you begin to knowingly speak falsely—God will deceive you more, but true believers will be protected from you.

Verse 10 Punishment awaits those who hate God’s Word. After the Great tribulation, there will be no more deceivers. Only believers who love God’s truth will remain on this earth.
