

## LAWLESSNESS AND THE MAN

LOOKING AT THE SIGN LEADING TO  
THE COMING OF JESUS

### THE RISE OF LAWLESSNESS

- Rom.1:18-32 – God gave them up...
- The mystery of lawlessness is already at work and as more people indulge in it, God gives them up to it, and His restraining grace is removed and the Lawless one is revealed -2Thes.7,8
- Who is the restrainer?

### THE RISE OF LAWLESSNESS

- 2 Thess.2:1-12
- For Paul, all of this is future. As we look back we see waves of evil and revival
- 1Jhn2:18 - antichrists have come... they went out from us - rebellion
- Which comes first? The man or the sin?

### WHO IS THE RESTRAINER?

- Is it the Holy Spirit?
- Jhn.15:26; 16:8-11; 13-14
- Is it Michael? Dan.12:1
- Angelic / other Spiritual being Dan.10:13
- There is a spiritual being whose job it is to restrain evil in this world till he is out of the way

### THE RISE OF LAWLESSNESS

- 3- speaks of the man
- 7-The mystery of lawlessness is already ..
- I believe it is the lawlessness in culture that allows for the coming of the man
- Matt.24:9-12 –increased lawlessness; 24:37 – the days of Noah/Lot
- Lawlessness to persecution to apostasy

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- 2Thes.2:3-8 The rise in lawlessness, the apostasy, the removal of the restrainer, the lawless one revealed.
- The Coming... will be impressive 2:9
- Who is he?
- Dan.7:11,20-22 written 570BC
- Some see double fulfillment

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- Antiochus IV of Seleucia, who styled himself Epiphanes (“god manifest”), invaded Jerusalem, despoiled the temple, commanded the burning of the Scriptures, forbade the covenant rite of circumcision, put to death many faithful Jews, and ultimately instituted pagan sacrifices in the Jerusalem temple (167 BC).

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- Would Jehovah call a new temple in Jerusalem “the temple of God”?
- The first century Jews missed the coming of Jesus because he didn’t fit their system
- Vs.9 –“*parousia*” Coming, presence with
- If you are watching, you will see it. It will be impressive and convincing.

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- Was he the fulfillment of Dan.7 and 11:31, 36-37? He is also a “type”
- Jesus uses v.31 in Matt.24:15 as a future event from Him.
- Was it the destruction by Rome in 70AD?
- 2Thes.2:4 tells us he will take his seat in the temple of God and call himself god.

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- His life will be characterized his opposition to God’s rule and reign
- He will be a deceiver, (miracles) but his true character will be revealed through the fruit

### THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- Does that mean the temple in Jerusalem must be rebuilt before this can happen?
- Eph.2:21-22 says the church is the temple in the Lord, a dwelling place for God
- Could there be a metaphorical view of his session in the temple?

### THE HOLY ONES

How do we equip ourselves for these days?

1. Be sure of your salvation! Phil.2:12
2. Invite the Holy Spirit to be your teacher John.16:8-15
3. Never say Never! 2Thes.2:15
4. Look to the Heavenly Father for purpose, satisfaction and protection 3:3