

THE SIGNS OF THE END

What Will Happen Before
Jesus Comes

OUR BLESSED HOPE

- Titus 2:11-14 – Our Hope in the coming of Jesus
- 2 Thess.2:1-17
- In Paul's day, the problem was false prophets who said that Jesus had already come. 2:1,2

What Do We Watch For?

- 2Thes.2:3-8 lists 3 things that must happen before Jesus will return.
- 1. The Apostasy happens - 3
- 2. The Restrainer is "out of the way" with an increase in lawlessness - 7
- 3. The Lawless one is revealed – 3-5,8
- 4. Christ returns to redeem and destroy

THE COMING APOSTASY

- 1Tim.4:1-3- Doctrines of demons
- 2Tim.3:1-9- times of difficulty...
- 2Tim.4:3-4- not endure sound teaching
- Matt.24:4-12 - will lead many astray
- 24:9-10-12 persecution...many fall away
- Lk.17:26-30 – As it was in the days of Noah - Gen.4:23,24; 6:1-6

THE CONSEQUENCE OF APOSTASY

- They will be deceived, deluded, perish, believe what is false, condemned, 2Thess.2:9-12
- They will be destroyed at the return of Christ by his judgement Gen.6,19;
- Lk.17:33-36 – they will seek to save their life by recanting, but lose their soul

THE RISE OF LAWLESSNESS

- 2 Thess.2:3-8
- Which comes first? The man or the sin?
- 3- speaks of the man
- 7-The mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Removal of the restrainer allows for increase in lawlessness in culture that allows for the coming of the man

THE RISE OF LAWLESSNESS

- Matt.24:9-12 –increased lawlessness; 24:37 – the days of Noah/Lot
- Lawlessness to persecution to apostasy
- Rom.1:18-32 – God gave them up...
- As more people indulge in it, God gives them up to it, and His restraining grace is removed and the Lawless one is revealed

THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- 2Thes.2:3-8 The rise in lawlessness, 1.the apostasy, 2.the removal of the restrainer, 3.the lawless one revealed.
- The lawless one's Coming... will be impressive 2:9
- Who is he? Rev.13:1,2 –His power and authority is from Satan
- 13:3,7-8 Whole earth following this One

THE LAWLESSNESS ONE

- 13:5 For 3.5 yrs he will astonish the world and war on the saints and conquer them 13:9 Here is the call for endurance
- Dan.11:36; 2Thes.2:5 He will speak against God
- 2Thes.2:3,8 The Lord God will come and destroy the beast with a breath!

THE REWARD OF FAITHFULNESS

- Those who remain in the truth:
- 2Thess.2:10 – will see through the delusion and be saved
- 1Tim.4:1-5 will live in freedom
- 2Tim.3:1-10; We will be persecuted for righteousness sake, but truth will make us wise for salvation in Jesus

THE REWARD OF FAITHFULNESS

- 2 Tim.4:6 – there is a crown of righteousness for all who love and look Christ's appearing
- Lk.17:22-37 – As in the days of Noah and Lot, the righteous will be saved
- Matt.24:13 – the one who endures to the end will be saved

WHAT IS OUR RESPONSE?

1. Be looking for it. Matt.24:42
2. Be ready. Matt.24:44; 1Thess.5:1-11
 - A. We should not be surprised -5:1-4
 - B. Stay vigilant 5-7
 - C. Suite up for the battle we are in- 8
 - D. Encourage one another in Christ- 11
3. Grow in grace and knowledge 2Pet.3:18