

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

2 Thessalonians

These questions are for the **February 28, 2016** sermon, "Mystery of Lawlessness." Please read the sermon passage (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

AS WE CONNECT PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE, NOTE . . .

1. **Stage 1: the time of restraint (6-7)**
 - A. There are many anti-Christ's in the world today. There is a final anti-Christ to come.
 - B. Because of this, we know that we live in the last days. (1 John 2:18)
 - C. Beware of the one who wants to destroy the law, emphasizing only "liberty." (Dan 11)
2. **Stage 2: the time of revelation (8)**
 - A. The veil will be lifted and we will see the glory of God when Jesus Christ returns in power.
 - B. Jesus Christ will destroy the sad, counterfeit, anti-Christ "apocalypse."
3. **Stage 3: the time of retribution (9-12)**
 - A. May each believer be ever-looking for the return of Christ, even while we live faithfully.
 - B. This "lawless one" will try to mimic the return of Christ himself. He will come with . . . (9b)
 - i. "all power"
 - ii. false signs
 - iii. false wonders
 - C. The one who is deceived, trusting this lawless one, will be judged and destroyed.
 - D. Love the truth of God and be saved.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We live in a time of restraint. God is patiently awaiting his own fixed time when he will lift his own restraint on the lawless one. How could things be worse than they are today? During these days of restraint, it is the Christian's duty to faithfully teach the law and truth of God's Word. Is your intensity for faithfulness to make disciples where it should be? How ought we pray for each other?
2. Based on #2, above: Every eye will see the true glory of God the Father when Christ returns in power. The veil will indeed be lifted. How can we train our eyes to be focused on and waiting for the return of Christ without wishing away and wasting our last days of influence? How can we be longing for Christ's return while remaining faithful to multiply disciples to the end?
3. Based on #3, above: While the lawless one will put on a counterfeit and deceptive show of power, his ultimate end, and the end of all who follow him is eternal destruction. How can we discipline ourselves to "love the truth of God" while we live in this world of cheap counterfeits? How is your love for the truth of God growing? How can you grow in the discipline of knowing and loving God's Word?