

Daniel (Part 50)
(Significant Motifs – Part 6)

II. The Final Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

Two things must occur before the return of Christ:

-the apostasy must come first (v. 3)

-the Antichrist must appear (v. 3)

What does this refer to?

-Not a future apostasy in the land of Israel, and the coming of the final Antichrist to defile a future, rebuilt temple in Israel

-Not the Roman emperor's defiling of Israel's temple in 70 AD

→A future apostasy throughout the worldwide church, and the Antichrist's influence in the church, which is itself the inaugurated end-time temple of God (Daniel 9:27; 11:31-34, 36, 44, 45; 12:11)

-Not apostasy in Israel, not a literal physical temple in Israel, but the church

- temple of God = the church (1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 2 Corinthians 6:16; 2 Thessalonians 2:4)

-Not a literal sitting (Matthew 23:2; 26:64; Daniel 7:25; 11:36-38)

Practical Lessons

1) Persecution and temptation are coming for the true people of God.

2) Aim by the grace of God to be faithful to Christ.

3) Seek the Lord now while He may be found.