

The Termination and Treachery of the Antichrist.

2 Thessalonians 2:6–12

2 Thessalonians 2:6–12 (NKJV)

⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Introduction

Deception has always been the primary tool of the Devil thru the ages. His desire is to lead you away from the truth and for you to believe lies. As far back as the Garden of Eden, when he deceived Eve by asking, “Has God really said,” the devil has continued to attack the truthfulness and authority of the Word of God. The course of history is littered with bodies of those who believed the lies of the devil.

It may surprise you to know that there are over 4,000 recognized religions in the world. These religions consist of churches, congregations, faith groups, tribes, cultures, and movements. Even though there are so many, three-quarters of the world’s population practice one of the five major religions. These include:

- Christianity (include true Christianity and pseudo Roman Catholicism)
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Hinduism
- Judaism

John 8:44 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Revelation 12:9 (NKJV)

⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Paul warned,
Acts 20:30 (NKJV)

³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Galatians 1:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷ which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Galatians 2:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And *this occurred* because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage),

Colossians 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸ Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:13–15 (NKJV)

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

The Bible also depicts the last days as a growing deception

1 Timothy 4:1–2 (NKJV)

⁴ Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to

deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,
² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own
conscience seared with a hot iron,

2 Timothy 3:13 (NKJV)

¹³ But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

2 Timothy 4:3–4 (NKJV)

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

2 Peter 2:1–3 (NKJV)

2 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction. ² And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³ By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words;....

This deception not only included the attacks from the gospel but even on the return of Christ as we have already noted.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (NKJV)

³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

False prophets or deception are nothing new, but the extensiveness of it today is shocking to say the least,

With the advent of the Internet, the average undiscerning person can easily be led astray. The amount of false teaching and lies available is absolutely astonishing.

Add to this the lack of discernment among the average church attender and the dumbing down of the pulpit ministry and the result is fully fertilized soil ready for mass deception.

One of the most alarming details that I found in my study this past week was that the fastest growing religion in the world was Islam. And it is not primarily due to their proselytizing from other religions but rather due to the simple fact, they have more children and

raise their children with deep involvement in their religion..

..... in the coming decades, **the number of Muslims is expected to increase by 70%** – from 1.8 billion in 2015 to nearly 3 billion in 2060

As of December 31st, 2019, Catholics in the world numbered **1.34 billion**, of a world population of 7.6 billion. It represents an increase in the Catholic population of 15.4 million over December 2018 figures, about a 1 per cent rise, roughly in line with the growth in the global population.

How many evangelical Christians are there in the world? Researcher Sebastian Fath estimates the number at the beginning of 2020 is 660 million.

Evangelicals, according to Fath, represent 26% of the 2.5 billion Christians around the world.

Asia has the highest number of evangelical Christians: 215 million. [China](#) (66 million), India (28), Indonesia (16), Philippines (13) and South Korea (9) are the countries with the biggest evangelical communities.

Africa comes next, with 185 million evangelicals, with [Nigeria](#) (58 million), Kenya (20), Ethiopia (18), DRC Congo (15) and South Africa (15) leading the numbers.

South America has, according the estimates, 123 million evangelicals: 47 million in [Brazil](#), and 5 million in Argentina and 5 in Guatemala.

North America has 107 million evangelical believers: 93 in the US, 10 in Mexico and 4 in Canada.

Europe counts 23 million evangelical Christians, with United Kingdom (5 million), Russia (2), Ukraine (2), Romania (2) and Germany (2) in the first positions.

Finally, Oceania counts 7 million evangelicals (3 in Australia, 2 in Papua New Guinea and 1 in New Zealand).

Sebastien Fath [underlines](#) that these figures are approximate - based on 25 documents analysed which address the evolution of evangelical Christianity in the world. <https://evangelicalfocus.com/print/5119/660-million-evangelicals-in-the-world> <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2015/04/02/religious-projections-2010-2050/>

Matthew 7:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are **many** who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are **few** who find it.

59.11 **πολύς**^b, πολλή, πολύ, gen. πολλοῦ, ἥς, οὔ: a relatively **large** quantity—‘much, great, extensive

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 595). United Bible Societies.

ὀλίγος [ι], η, ον, later ὀλίος (q.v.), of Size, **little, small**

Liddell, H. G., Scott, R., Jones, H. S., & McKenzie, R. (1996). In [A Greek-English lexicon](#) (p. 1215). Clarendon Press.

It is in this context that Jesus adds
Matthew 7:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

The revelation of the Antichrist will propagate this deception on a level that has yet to be seen in the world. His coming will lead to the Great Apostasy where many who associate with evangelical Christianity will fall away, deceived by the lies and the manipulation of the Antichrist.

The Devil will come down with wrath knowing he has a short time and the Antichrist will be his primary means of deception.

Paul says in
2 Thessalonians 2:9 (NKJV)

The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan,

The last time we looked at this text, we considered the Timing of the Revelation of the Antichrist. We saw that there is a certain, preordained time when the Antichrist will be revealed. Although there have

been many antichrist in the past...The Antichrist is yet to come.

According to Paul, he is being held back by the restrainer who is doing his restraining work.

2 Thessalonians 2:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way.

As I told you, over the years there have been various attempts to identify the Restrainer, leaving us with 9 possible views.

My conclusion and opinion is that what best fits the description here of the restrainer, is the Holy Spirit and his work of restraining and retarding the full display and outworking of sin and evil.

Some have said that the view of it being the Holy Spirit is hard to comprehend, Since no one could be saved if the Holy Spirit is removed. But that is simply not what Paul is saying here. He is not saying that the Holy Spirit is Removed but rather, He is taken

out of the way, or the literal rendering of the text.
“ He becomes out of the midst”.

It is not that his presence is removed but the restraining force is removed.

It would be similar to a line of police officer holding back a hostile crowd until they step out of the way and let evil crowd have their way. The police officers don't leave, they just step out of the way and then the full unstrained evil intentions of the crowd are made clear.

The evil that we are witness to in our culture here in America is a result of God giving us over to a Reprobate mind. It is hard to conceive but it is true when I say... You haven't seen anything yet. When God lets you go and the restraint is removed, a society is plunge faster and faster into the debauchery.

What was unthinkable 10years ago is not the common talk of society. What sins and evil we see now will pale into insignificance when we see the speed and degree of evil that men will sink.

The Bible characterizes the last of the last days when we see the rise of the Antichrist as Lawlessness.

Matthew 24:11–12 (NKJV)

11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

The privative prefix and the content of the word νόμος give two shades of meaning to ἀνομία. The ref. is either a. to a fact, “there is or was no law,” “without a (the) law,” or b. the word means “against the (a) law,” with an implied judgment, since it is assumed that there is in fact a binding law. This gives ἀνομία the sense of “wrongdoing,” “sin.

Gutbrod, W., & Kleinknecht, H. (1964–). [νόμος, ἀνομία, ἄνομος, ἔννομος, νομικός, νόμιμος, νομοθέτης, νομοθεσία, νομοθετέω, παρανομία, παρανομέω](#). In G. Kittel, G. W. Bromiley, & G. Friedrich (Eds.), *Theological dictionary of the New Testament* (electronic ed., Vol. 4, p. 1085). Eerdmans.

will abound, 59.68 πληθύνω^a: to increase greatly in number or extent—‘to grow, to increase greatly, to multiply.

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 601). United Bible Societies.

This will set the stage for the emergence of the Lawless one.

According to William Hendriksen, “the principle of lawlessness, always present, will finally become embodied in ‘the man of lawlessness.’ ”

Phillips, R. D. (2015). [1 & 2 Thessalonians](#) (R. D. Phillips, P. G. Ryken, & D. M. Doriani, Eds.; p. 329). P&R Publishing.

Lesson

I. The Timing of the Antichrist

II. The Treachery of the Antichrist

We will skip verse 8 and come back to it in a moment. I will continue the thought of the deception of the Antichrist by looking at this methods.

2 Thessalonians 2:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

⁹ The **coming** of the *lawless one*

parousia: a presence, a coming

Original Word: παρουσία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: parousia

Phonetic Spelling: (par-oo-see'-ah)

3952 παρουσία (from parōn, "be present, arrive to enter into a situation") – properly, coming, especially the arrival of the owner

who alone can deal with a situation (cf. LS). [3952](#) (parousía) is a "technical term with reference to the visit of a king or some other official, 'a royal visit' " (Souter) – "hence, in the NT, specifically of the Advent or Parousia of Christ" (A-S).

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is **according to the working of Satan,**

energeia: working, activity

Original Word: ἐνέργεια, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: energeia

Phonetic Spelling: (en-erg'-i-ah)

Definition: working

Usage: working, action, productive work, activity; in the NT, confined to superhuman activity.

Cognate: 1753 *enérgeia* (the root of the English term "energy") – energy; "power in action" (Wm. Barclay, *More NT Words*, 46). [See 1754](#) (*energeō*).

[1753](#) /*enérgeia* ("divine energy") typically refers to God's energy which transitions the believer from point to point in His plan (accomplishing His definition of progress).

[[1753](#) (*enérgeia*) occurs 8 times – always of God's energy, except at 2 Thes 2:9.]

The term translated *working* implies some form of supernatural activity (2:11; and the verb in 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Thess. 2:7), which in this case is not inherent in "the lawless one" but rather is energized by *Satan*

Green, G. L. (2002). [The letters to the Thessalonians](#) (p. 321). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

The satanic purpose is to accredit “the lawless one” in his *parousia* by means of supernatural signs that will deceive those who have not accepted the gospel

Green, G. L. (2002). [The letters to the Thessalonians](#) (p. 321). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

with all power, signs, and lying wonders,
¹⁰ and **with all** unrighteous deception

1. miracles

with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

Miracles (*dynamēi*) emphasizes the inherent power behind the works he will perform. **Signs** (*sēmeiois*) refers to the fact that they will have significance.

Wonders (*terasīn*) indicates the attitude of awe that they will evoke when people behold them

He will, in short, perform such powerful miracles that it will be evident to all that he has supernatural power, and people will stand in awe of him

Constable, T. L. (1985). [2 Thessalonians](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 720). Victor Books.

The combination of *miracles, signs and wonders* appears in various NT texts (Acts 2:22; 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:4)

Green, G. L. (2002). [The letters to the Thessalonians](#) (p. 321). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

Acts 2:22 (NKJV)

²² “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—

2 Corinthians 12:12 (NKJV)

¹² Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.

Hebrews 2:3–4 (NKJV)

³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

but only here 2 Thess 2 do they refer to satanic activity

Green, G. L. (2002). [The letters to the Thessalonians](#) (p. 321). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

Mark 13:22 (NKJV)

²² For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Revelation 13:11–14 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. ¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

Revelation 19:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Deuteronomy 13:1–4 (NKJV)

13 “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, ² and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods’—which you have not known—‘and let us serve them,’ ³ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴ You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. v 9 with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

Notice in the text it does say lying wonders. It does not mean that the actual power signs and wonders are fake. It means that they lie about whom they give authenticity to.

έν πάσῃ δυνάμει καὶ σημείοις καὶ τέρασιν ψεύδους, “with all power and lying signs and

wonders” (or “wonders of falsehood”; the adjectival genitive may qualify τέρασιν only, or (as is probable) σηναίσις καὶ τέρασιν, “lying signs and wonders,” or even all three datives). The three substantives are used of the works of Jesus, e.g. in Acts 2:22

Bruce, F. F. (1982). [1 and 2 Thessalonians](#) (Vol. 45, p. 173). Word, Incorporated.

Just as the miracles signs and wonders of Christ gave truthful authentication of the real Messiah, these miracles signs and wonders will lie and lead astray regarding the antichrist.

Also, in case you were having a hard time believing that Satan could do a legitimate miracle, first of all do not forget that he has a supernatural being with a great deal of power. The Bible has a number of examples of Satan and demons doing miracles. Things that cannot be explained in the natural realm. The very fact that we have demon possession or someone can be taken over by another spiritual being is in itself miraculous.

You will be hard pressed to find someone who has never heard of some kind of religious miracle. Many Catholics are convinced of the validity of various sightings of the Virgin Mary, stigmata, weeping or bleeding statues, and even “incorruptible bodies.”

There are reported miracles in other religions, as well—Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam all claim to have documented miracles.

A number of ancient texts testify that false miracles accompanied a number of cults, and such were even characteristic of the imperial cult. Such *wonders* included images that could talk and move as well as the production of thunder and lightning. Although the apostle recognized the tricks that “the lawless one” would play, according to the religious conventions of the day, he is careful to note that real satanic power was working in him (cf. 1 Cor. 10:19–20).

Green, G. L. (2002). [The letters to the Thessalonians](#) (pp. 321–322). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

We know that the holy Angels can do miracles.

Genesis 19:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ And they struck the men who *were* at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary *trying* to find the door.

Also it is worthy to know, that the apostles were given the ability to do miracles even to the point of

raising the dead. These were men who had been granted power by God to do such things.

Satan and his demons are only fallen angels. And are permitted at times by God to do things that are miraculous.

Job 1:12 (NKJV)

¹² And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has *is* in your power; only do not lay a hand on his *person*.”

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Job 1:13–16 (NKJV)

¹³ Now there was a day when his sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house; ¹⁴ and a messenger came to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵ when the Sabeans raided *them* and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

¹⁶ While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

Job 1:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, “Your sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, ¹⁹ and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

Job 2:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, he *is* in your hand, but spare his life.”

⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.

Matthew 7:22 (NKJV)

²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’

In this verse Jesus never denies the validity of the miracles or the casting out of demons.

Revelation 13:3 (NKJV)

³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

Revelation 13:12 (NKJV)

¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Revelation 13:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

2. Methods

10 and **with all** unrighteous deception

Antichrist will mislead the world **with all the deception ... wickedness** has at its disposal; he

will muster all of evil's undiluted, unrestrained, seductive power to tempt the world to give him unprecedented influence over it.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2002). [1 & 2 Thessalonians](#) (p. 282). Moody Press.

The NASB translation of v. 10a is more literal: the evil one comes “with all the deception of wickedness.” Deception is the alluring mask worn by evil. Those deceived are led to destruction (cf. Matt 13:22; Eph 4:22; Col 2:8; 2 Pet 2:13). “Every sort” (of evil) translates the same preposition and adjective rendered “all kinds” (of counterfeit miracles) in v. 9b. Paul seems to explain the success of the lawless one by stressing the multitude of counterfeit signs and the varied deception he will

USE. Martin, D. M. (1995). [1, 2 Thessalonians](#) (Vol. 33, p. 245). Broadman & Holman Publishers.

“With evil’s undiluted power to deceive” (Phillips) is hardly a translation, but it conveys Paul’s thought

Morris, L. (1991). [The First and Second Epistles to the Thessalonians](#) (p. 233). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

But the lawless one’s effectiveness is also explained by the fact that his audience has already rejected the truth

Martin, D. M. (1995). [1, 2 Thessalonians](#) (Vol. 33, p. 245). Broadman & Holman Publishers.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, ***because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.***

Rejection of truth opens the door for deception. When you reject the one true God and Christ there is a void that must be filled and it will be filled with lies.

There is only truth and lies. No middle ground. No neutrality with God. Either you believe and you follow Him or you don't and you believe lies and go to destruction.

And this world is on a collision course with absolute total destruction because of its denial of truth. Once a person or society has removed itself from the belief in an absolute truth for the true God. It is destined for obliteration.

Our culture and education system has rejected absolute truth and has called evil good and good evil. Long before the Antichrist has come, It has already believed the lies of Satan

I. The Timing of the Antichrist

II. The Trickery of the Antichrist

III. The Termination of the Antichrist.

. **8** And then the lawless one will be **revealed**, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

revealed, apokaluptó: to uncover, reveal

Original Word: ἀποκαλύπτω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: apokaluptó

Phonetic Spelling: (ap-ok-al-ooop'-to)

Definition: to uncover, reveal

Usage: I uncover, bring to light, reveal.

601 apokalýptō (from **575** /apó, "away from" and **2572** /kalýptō, "to cover") – properly, uncover, revealing what is hidden (veiled, obstructed), especially its inner make-up; (figuratively) to make plain (manifest), particularly what is immaterial (invisible).

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will **consume** with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

the Lord will consume

2 Thessalonians 2:7–8 (ESV)

.⁸ whom the **Lord Jesus** will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

consume

ἀν-αλίσκω: **1.** *to expend; to consume*, e. g. χρήματα (to spend money; very often in Xen.).

2. *to consume, use up, destroy*: Lk. 9:54; Gal. 5:15; 2 Th. 2:8 R G WH mrg. (Sept. Jer. 27 (50):7; Prov. 23:28; Gen. 41:30, etc.) [Comp.: κατ-, προσ-αναλίσκω.]*

Thayer, J. H. (1889). In [A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: being Grimm's Wilke's Clavis Novi Testamenti](#) (p. 39). Harper & Brothers.

Early manuscripts

anaireó: to take up, take away, make an end

Original Word: ἀναιρέω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: anaireó

Phonetic Spelling: (an-ahee-reh'-o)

Definition: to take up, take away, make an end

Usage: I take up, take away the life of, make an end of, murder.

The verb ... *anelei*, “destroy” used by Paul [in 2 Thess. 2:8] does not necessarily mean physical death. It can also refer to relegation to the lake of fire because the literal force of ... *anaireō* [the root

form of *anelei]* is “I make an end of.” (*Revelation 8–22: An Exegetical Commentary* [Chicago: Moody, 1995], 397) MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2002). [1 & 2 Thessalonians](#) (p. 281). Moody Press.

From [ana](#) and (the active of) [haireomai](#); to take up, i.e. Adopt; by implication, to take away (violently), i.e. Abolish, murder -- put to death, kill, slay, take away, take up.

8the Lord will consume with the
breath of His mouth and destroy with the
 brightness of His coming.

Isaiah 11:4 (NKJV)

⁴ ...

He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
 And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the
 wicked.

Hosea 6:5 (NKJV)

⁵ Therefore I have hewn *them* by the prophets,
 I have slain them by the words of My mouth;
 And your judgments *are like light that* goes forth.

Revelation 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance *was like the sun shining in its strength.*

Revelation 2:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

8 …the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

The parallel statement **and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming** adds a slightly different dimension to Antichrist’s destruction. *Katargeō* (**bring to an end**) literally means, “to render inoperative,” “to abolish,” or “to render ineffective.”

καταργέω (*katargeō*), vb. *abolish; set aside; wipe out.*
 fut.act. καταργήσει; aor.act. κατήργησεν; perf.act. κατήργηκα;
 aor.pass. κατηργήθη; perf.mid. κατήργηται.
 Aramaic equivalent: (2) ܠܬܒ.

Verb Usage

1. **to stop (discontinue)** — to put an end to a state or an activity. Sense Antonym: to uphold (maintain). See also παύω. Related Topics: End; Enjoin; Quit; Cease.

1 Co 13:11 ὅτε γέγονα ἄνθρωπος, **κατήργηκα** τὰ τοῦ νηπίου.

2. **to inactivate** — to cause something to become idle, inactive, inoperative, or useless.

Brannan, R., ed. (2020). In [Lexham Research Lexicon of the Greek New Testament](#). Lexham Press.

Not only will the Lord **slay** (destroy) Antichrist's person, He will also **bring to an end** his empire. Christ will annihilate both the man and his enterprise **by the appearance of His coming**, a reference to the visible manifestation of Christ at His second coming

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2002). [1 & 2 Thessalonians](#) (p. 281). Moody Press.

Daniel 7:25–27 (NKJV)

²⁵ He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High,
 Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,
 And shall intend to change times and law.
 Then *the saints* shall be given into his hand
 For a time and times and half a time.

²⁶ 'But the court shall be seated,
 And they shall take away his dominion,
 To consume and destroy *it* forever.

²⁷ Then the kingdom and dominion,
 And the greatness of the kingdoms under the
 whole heaven,
 Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.

His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

Daniel 11:45 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

Revelation 17:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Revelation 19:11–21 (NKJV)

¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should

strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, “Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, ¹⁸ that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great.”

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

²⁰ Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of

Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

The issue, therefore, is not what we know about the Antichrist but where we stand with respect to Jesus Christ. Are we worshiping false gods such as money, pleasure, power, or self? However events are moving forward to the Antichrist, Satan always seeks to lure the unwary into worshiping things over which he wields influence, rather than honoring God alone by surrendering our lives in faith through Jesus Christ. Despite all present evil and dark clouds of darkness on the horizon, the way to live in joyful security is to commit yourself in trusting service to Jesus Christ, who will come on the clouds to save all whose hearts are devoted to him.

Richard Philips closes this section out in his commentary with these words,

“Therefore, though believers know how deadly the deceits of Satan are, we stand securely on the truth revealed in God’s Word, and we rejoice in a sure salvation. Though Satan will marshal violent forces to oppose and oppress us, we lift our hearts in prayer, often with broken hearts, and we rejoice in knowing that Jesus hears us and is coming soon to

wipe away all our tears. Faithful to the Word, fervent in prayer, and loyal in service to Jesus above every other name—all by his sovereign grace alone—we rejoice to know that he will come again. And when that day comes, as Paul long ago declared: “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet” (Rom. 16:20)

Phillips, R. D. (2015). [1 & 2 Thessalonians](#) (R. D. Phillips, P. G. Ryken, & D. M. Doriani, Eds.; p. 335). P&R Publishing.