



# *MORE DISCERNMENT. LESS DECEPTION.*

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Hey, we're gonna open the Bible. Amen. That's what we do here, right? Hey, that's what we're doing. If you guys are new, we're glad to have you. This is the word of God. If you wanna hear a word from God, open the word of God. Amen. Amen. We'll be in, uh, second Thessalonians chapter two. If you're new. My name's Pastor Mark. Glad to have you love you. We're going through a book of the Bible. This is actually my 36th book of the Bible. And, uh, I love helping people learn the Bible. That's one of my favorite things. So if you're new, you can either scan the QR code, they'll put up, or on the way out, you can grab a hard copy of the study guide. This will give you an introduction and overview to this book of the Bible. And then when you come every week, 'cause I know you're gonna come back and you're gonna bring all your friends, bring your enemies too, um, bring 'em all and uh, and then you can be ready as we jump into God's word and kind of start to prepare your mind to receive the word of God. Well, that being said, I have got, uh, one of the most intense, deep, prophetic, complicated, exciting, weird sermons of my entire life. So we should pray first and then we'll see what happens. And I, I, previously somebody said, Hey, where do you think this is going? I was like, I don't know. I'll tell you in about an hour. So that's where we're going. Amen. Amen. Alright, let's pray and get to work. Father, thank you for your word, holy Spirit. We invite you to make this a thin place, a thi a place that is between heaven and earth. And as we open your word, we pray that you would open our understanding to understand not only what your word says, but how to make sense of what is going on in the world in which we live. And so, Lord Jesus, we thank you that you're over it all, and I hope, trust and pray that you'll reveal yourself to these dear people. We ask for this grace in your good name. Amen. Amen. Alright, so in uh, the New Testament where we find ourselves, there's a word, uh, that appears about 13 times. It's lawless or lawlessness or the man of lawlessness who you're gonna meet today. Four of the 13 occasions of that lawlessness appears right here in Second Thessalonians two, one through 12. So that's our big theme and our thesis is what is lawlessness? And ultimately who is the man of lawlessness? So lemme explain to you what lawlessness is. It is a rejection of how God rules the world. You need to know that the Bible has a lot of laws and lawlessness is dishonoring, disregarding, disobeying the laws of God and other rightful authority and laws that God gives. The reason for lawlessness is, uh, largely we don't want to believe in any external authority. We want to be our own authority. And we live in a day. For those of you who are younger, you have been brainwashed to think that there is no external authority, truth or reality beyond you. And it's largely weaponized by a progressive agenda around sex and gender and sexuality. So for example, um, there are facts and then there are feelings. And the question is, which is most true? Well, our culture is decided that it's feelings. Okay, here's the fact. I'm a man. Yeah, okay, I'm a man. Am I a mino tar? No. Am I a radio? No. Am I a woman? No. No. Am I a female Mau radio? No. Okay, so that, but I would say, now you're judging me. That's not how I feel. Now I feel judged and thank you for judging me by the way I needed it. Obviously needed it. So the question is are, are there facts or are there feelings? And when the facts and feelings are not in alignment, which one has authority and our culture is decided, your feelings. And so lawlessness really truly is there is no authority. There's no reality. There's no truth beyond what you feel. And so ultimately what lawlessness is, it's a rejection of the facts. Like the laws of biology would say, I am a man. They'd say, well, let's reject those facts if you don't feel that way. Number two,

lawlessness is often the result of bitterness in vengeance. Someone says or does something that is wrong. And rather than forgiving them and trusting God to deal with them, you get bitter and you invite demonic forces into your life and then you seek to do vengeance. It's like, well, if they did evil, I'm gonna do evil. What that is, that's lawlessness. It's saying they broke the law, therefore I get to break the law. And the result is just a lawless world of anarchy. And number three, when it comes to lawlessness, what happens is those who are lawless are also very clever. So what they will do, they will deny or violate a law, either God's law or the rightful law of some governing authority. And they will have no conscience in breaking the law. But what happens if you break what they perceive to be a law? They're going to hold you accountable to a standard they deny. And this is what happens all the time in our world, people that are soft minded, people that have joined the cult of empathy, people who are on the progressive side of the fight, they will see evil say something. And then those who did the evil will say, you, you, you didn't say it right. You weren't nice, you weren't loving, you weren't kind. You've got some issues in your own life. Oh my goodness, then let's deny all laws altogether and I'll be held to a standard by you that you don't hold yourself to. And the result is just a culture of anarchy. And so this spirit of lawlessness, it is overtaken parenting. Children are literally told, just grow up just dishonor, disregard, disobey your mother and father lawlessness. In addition, this is behind the entire defund, the police movement, which was a disaster. It's like, Hey, let's have less cops and see what happens. Well, I'll tell you, hell comes up, sets everything on fire, and the bad guys take control because evil is real. And if you don't stop it, it never stops itself. This also leads to, uh, the spirit of lawlessness to a weakening of military. So that we have all kinds of progressive ideological agendas that have nothing to do with killing bad guys. And this ultimately as well leads to open borders and just this sense of lawlessness. And uh, and lemme just tell you this, what we're dealing with today is just from top to bottom. It's lawlessness. That's the issue. Three questions. Number one, are you lawless? Before we look at lawlessness and the man of lawlessness, you gotta ask yourself, am I lawless? Am I a person that doesn't like authority, doesn't like to uh, submit to laws, doesn't want to be governed by anyone other than myself. Number two, if you're not a lawless person, is there any error of your life that is lawless? You're gonna meet a man today called the man of lawlessness. And I don't think he begins as entirely lawless. Like most of us, he's probably going to begin with having lawlessness in one area of his life that eventually overtakes all of his life. If you're lawless in your spirituality, your finances, your sexuality, whatever the case may be, eventually lawlessness continues to invade and overtake your life until you're entirely lawless. And three, are you willing to deal with your own lawlessness and recognizing that is sin and giving that to the Lord Jesus. Because here's what happens. If you are a lawless person, eventually the Bible teaches today that you'll end up following the man of lawlessness. Let me set this thesis and theme. Demons are lawless, therefore lawlessness is demonic. Yes, demons are lawless, therefore lawlessness is demonic. The beings that initiated rebellion against God and law are Satan and demons. Therefore, by just being against the law, you're against the Lord. And you need to know this as well. There is a demonic spirit in the Bible that is the prince of lawlessness. His name is AI. And what happens is this, when you see patterns and precedents throughout history, but the people time and places are different, but the same thing is happening. It's because the

same spiritual forces are at work behind the scene of history. It's where the Bible says that the wars we have are not just against flesh and blood, but powers, principalities and spirits. The spirit of lawlessness, the prince of lawlessness in the Bible is named Beal. Their name, uh, the name appears 27 times in the Old Testament. Beal, a Bible dictionary says in apocalyptic lit literature, this figure performs false miracles. You're gonna see all of this in two Thessalonians today, deceives many in order to discourage people from worshiping the true God and persecutes god's people. That's lawlessness the spirit of beil. And again, four times in two Thessalonians two, one through 12 lawlessness appears culminating in the man of lawlessness. Now the the Beil spirit is against Jesus Christ. And you gotta determine which side of the fight you're on. Here's how Paul says it. In second Corinthians six 15, he asked this question, what a accord has Christ with Beal Christ is the one who gives us and fulfills the law. Beil is the prince of lawlessness. And every person has gotta decide, am I with Christ the law giver and fulfiller or with beil, the prince of lawlessness? And what you're gonna learn today is that lawless people paved the way for the man of lawlessness, also called the antichrist. And what he's telling us in two Thessalonians is prophetic. It's God predicting, foreshadowing, anticipating the future, telling us what is going to happen. And what he says is on the horizon in the last day of the last days, just before the end of history, and the second coming of Jesus is the man of lawlessness, we're gonna talk about him today or the antichrist. That being said, throughout the course of history we have had some precursors of this demonic ruler. We have had people like for example, Paul Pod Stalin and also Mao Lord Acton in 1887 says, this power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. And so as we're anticipating the future, what might the man of lawlessness the antichrist look like? We can look back in the past and say, has there been any examples in history that would give us an indication of what awaits us in the future? I'm gonna show this to you, but imagine a man who is a political, spiritual, military economic leader that has a pulpit that gathers people like a church and they worship him like a God. And you'll get a sense of what the antichrist or the man of lawlessness will be like in the last days. That out must by Chilling, haunting. It happened in the past, it's coming in the future. That's what the word of God says in Second Thessalonians two. And what we see in the past is a demonic leader rises up and then declares war on one small nation to eradicate a particular group of people called the Jews. Today we are now seeing the rise of this same spirit and this same tactic and plan for the first time in 50 years, the nation of Israel is at war. We're a few weeks into this war. And what's amazing is historically, uh, Israel has always been attacked, but there are seasons where the spirit of antichrist rises up and we're living in that day. Make no mistake, what you're seeing in the news may be the beginning of prophetic unfolding of the last days, of the last days. In addition, what you need to know is this, that Israel is ultimately only the size of New Jersey and population and size. Yet throughout history, including in our own day, there is this attempt to eradicate the nation and to eliminate its citizens. And so where we find ourselves is looking, the whole globe now has fixation on the nation of Israel. Well that's where Abraham was promised the land from God. That's where the Old Testament largely transpires. That's where the Hebrew prophets right from and to that's where the Lord Jesus Christ comes to as a Jew. That's where he lives, dies and rises. He ascends into heaven. And the Bible says that he's coming back where? To Israel. So there is this demonic war from the

antichrist seeking to secure that nation to prevent the second coming of Jesus. Instead of letting Jesus rule and reign over all creation, Satan is going to rise up as the man of lawlessness and try and for once and all take over all of human history by ruling and reigning on planet earth. Are we there? I don't know. But we may be. The events that are unfolding now, they're incredible. And what we see in Ezekiel 38 39, it's called the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 16, is that as we near the end, the nation surrounding Israel will align together to attack it, to eliminate it as a nation and to eradicate its citizens. We may be in that moment Now what we're seeing now is all of this was triggered by a terrorist invasion from a group called Hamas. They killed at least 1400 people and took 240 hostages. The reason that the news and the politicians don't understand what's going on is they don't understand the Bible and the prophetic importance of what is happening, right in our very day, lemme give you two quotes. The first is from this man, Mosab Hassan, Seth. He is the eldest son of the Hamas co-founder, Shea Kassan Yusef who now worships Jesus Christ, the co-founder of Hamas. The terrorist organization got saved and loves Jesus. Pray for this guy, pray for this guy. He's your brother in Christ. He says, quote, Hamas is a religious movement profoundly, deeply spiritual guided by what we'll understand today as the antichrist spirit. They are a raging religious movement against Israel. The mainstream media cannot say this because they're afraid to ignite a religious war. And what I say it already is, they want to annihilate the Jewish people. They're driven by a dark hatred toward a race, toward a nation. That's what he says. Now as well. I'm gonna share with you in a moment another quote. But what happened when the Hamas terrorist organization evaded Israel and make no mistake this was terrorism. When two armies collide, that's a war. When an army attacks women, children, and civilians. That is not a war. That is an act of terrorism. That is an act of terrorism. And it's damnable cowardice that men would attack women and children. We say here that we build men up to bless women and children. And that's because our God wants men to be strong for the wellbeing and not the breaking of women and children. Amen. And so right now there are some 240 hostages being held, including at least 32 children as hostages. Here are their faces. These 32 children right now are being held hostage and and what is despicable and deplorable and damnable is the outcry that we should not have any military force. And instead, we should just let things take their natural course. I can. I can tell you this, just imagine friends, there were neighbors who lived next door to you. They kept bombing your house, attacking your house, killing your family, and then they abducted your children and the neighbors way down the street said, you know, I just think you should wait it out and see what happens At the same time that these children are being held. Here's another quote from the Hamas official Gazi, Hamad, we must remove that country. Country. The end game is to destroy the Jewish people and eliminate the nation of Israel. And he says, we will do this when again and again. He said it this week while they're holding 32 children hostage underground in tunnels, we are called a nation of martyrs and we are proud to sacrifice Martyrs. Nobody should blame us. Everything we do is justified. That's the spirit of il, that's the spirit of lawlessness. And what they're saying is everything we're doing is justified. And if you don't stop us, we'll do it again and again and again. And what they say is the civilians are martyrs. Hear me in this. Part of the pain in Palestine as we speak is this. There are terrorists and then there are civilians and the terrorists are hiding behind the civilians. They have many of their fortified

compounds underground underneath hospitals, mosques and schools. And that means if you want to go get the bad guys, you gotta go through the civilians. This is horrifying and this is awful. God loves all the people on the earth. God does love the Jews and the Palestinians. They all do need Jesus. But when you have men who are evil, hiding behind women and children and then people are saying, don't attack the men because you'll hurt the women and children. I wish there was as much pressure on the men to stop using women and children and civilians as a human shield because that is demonic and evil and that is lawlessness and that is the demonic spirit of beil. And what it is ultimately saying is this, you need to abide by laws. And we do not. And these are not innocent civilians. They are martyrs and we're proud that they would die for the cause. Let's go a lever deeper. Um, Hamas is an Arabic word that means zeal established this a few weeks ago. It's also a Hebrew word in the Bible that means violence. Jesus says that when he returns, it will be like the days of Noah. So the theme we're gonna look at today is the second coming of Jesus. Jesus says when he returns, it'll be like the days of Noah. Well, what was going on in the days of Noah Genesis chapter six, the earth was corrupting God's sight and the earth was filled or possessed like a demon with violence. The Hebrew word, Hamas, the terrorist organization took its name from the scriptures. Hamas is an ancient demonic spirit that is now risen in the earth. Two things working together. Beal lawlessness, Hamas, violence. In addition, the same spirit, demonic spirit of Hamas. This is why the politicians don't understand the same demonic spirit of Hamas was at work, not just in the days of Noah, but in the next book of the Bible, the book of Exodus. And what happened in that day, the government decreed infanticide, murder against the Jewish Hebrew boys, slaughtered them en mass. And here's what God says in Joel three 19, Egypt shall become desolation for the violence or Hamas. They have shed innocent blood. God said, you know why they hurt the children? Because they were Hamas. The same demonic spirit that right now is holding 32 Jewish children is the same demonic spirit back in the days of the Egyptian empire that took the lives and terrorized baby boys who were Jewish. See, here's what I'm telling you. The Bible doesn't just tell us what happened, but what always happens. And furthermore, we don't just look at the Bible, we look through it and ask what is going on? Because as we see wars, Paul says that our war is not just flesh and blood, but behind those people are powers, principalities and spirits. That being said, two things I want you to see. Number one, beil the spirit of lawlessness. True or false is rising. Today our world is a lawless world. You know what's crazy too? I didn't say this last service. There is the UN Human Rights Council. Guess who they just gave a senior post to Iran. Woo Iran that is the puppet master of global terrorism. So you can fund and train the terrorists and then decide who's right and wrong. That's Al. And we're also seeing a rise in the spirit of Hamas violence. Okay, that's my introduction. You ready to get into the text? Second Thessalonians chapter two. Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and or being partnered together to him, we ask you brothers not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed either by a spirit or a spoken word or a letter seeming to be from us to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. The day of the Lord is the day of the second coming of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He goes on to say, let no one deceive you in any way for that day will not come until the rebellion comes first. And so what Paul is saying is Paul is saying is that history is coming to a conclusion with a second coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus came the first

time as God become a man to live without sin, to die for our sin, to rises our savior all in Israel and then as sin back into heaven. And the Bible says that he will return to the place that he departed from. So the next major event in human history, second coming of Jesus Christ, the time between the times is called the last days or the end times. It's also called here the day or the day of the Lord. And so Paul is here prophesying, he is looking into the future. And God's children 2000 years ago are wondering, how close are we to the end of the world? And how near are we to the second coming of Jesus? So let me tell you this. Seven signs of the last days, of the last days. They were wondering 2000 years ago, is it time? Is Jesus coming back? And a lot of people today are like, are we close? I don't know. We're closer than they were. I'll tell you that for sure. But as we get to the last days of the last days, Paul here gives us seven prophetic signs. Number one, God promises. And this is such good news. Our Lord Jesus Christ is coming. Woo woo. This is our good news. Amen. So here's the hope of the believer. Jesus is coming. He will raise the dead. He will open heaven and hell, he'll reward the saints, he'll lift the curse. He'll end Satan in demons. He'll wipe every tear from our eye until Jesus comes back. We got a lot of problems. When Jesus comes back, all the problems are no more. Amen. That's our hope. That's our hope. Number two, believers will be quote gathered together with him at the second coming. He told us previously and one Thessalonians that we will be together forever with the Lord. Ah, you know what heaven is? It's just being with Jesus. I don't know about you, I just love the idea of being with Jesus forever. What are you doing today? I'm hanging out with Jesus. That's what you do every day. I know. That's why every day is a good day. And and so what happens when it comes to the study of last things, people get on all kinds of rabbit trails. Is there a rapture? And when is this coming and what's the mark of the beast and who's the anti? And it's like Jesus, here's what I tell you. Here's here's the big idea, Jesus. And you let him work out the details. Jesus, you come back when you want, where you want, how you want, do what you want. Here's what I'm just wanting to do. I just want to be with you so we can discuss and debate and dialogue all the secondary issues. Here's the big idea. Jesus comes back. If you belong to Jesus, you're hanging out with him forever. Let him follow through on the details. Number three, Christians are more likely to be shaken in mind or alarmed as the end Nas. What he says is, we get near the end, Christians are gonna feel very uncertain. How many of you right now you're like, where are we going in history? Are we, are we looking at the nations aligning to attack Israel, which is a prophecy that triggers the end times and the second coming, where's the economy going? Where's the election going? Where's our nation going? Where are we going? Like what is happening? Right? Boys are girls and terrorism is justified. And you know like where what is happening? You can be alarmed, shaken, stirred. What he says is as we get near the end, believers are gonna have more anxiety. And here's what he wants you to know, that Jesus is over it all and Jesus is coming. Yes. So you don't need to have fear, you can have faith. That's right. And as you're looking out, you need to also be looking out. Yes. Number four, um, there will be increased efforts to deceive quote, either by a spirit or a spoken word or a letter seeming to be from us. So what happened was Paul planted the church in Thessalonika in Acts chapter 17. He went to the synagogue and he argued from the Jewish scriptures that Jesus was the fulfillment. Many got saved, there was a bit of a revival. And then there was a riot for all ministry. There's anti ministry, a a, a mob rose up. And so Paul had to

leave town, otherwise Christians probably would've been killed in the crossfire. They sent Paul a series of questions. So he writes a letter called First Thessalonian stands to the questions hearing this, his critics, they wrote another letter pretending to be him. This is the beginning of fake news. And so what happens is the, the critics here, oh, Paul's not there. He wrote a letter and then they got the church together and they read the letter. Let's write another letter, sign it from Paul pretending to be him and then we'll undo everything he taught. So they got the letter and they were very confused, right? Okay. It seems like Paul's changed his mind about Jesus. So Paul writes Second Thessalonians to tell them believe the first letter, not the second letter. What he's saying is this, as we near the end, even those who claim to be believers, they'll have spirit and prophecy. They'll have hidden books of the Bible and new interpretations and it'll be all quote to deceive. Deceive. And so you just need to know as we get near the end, just because somebody went to Bible college, just 'cause they went to seminary, just 'cause they're called a pastor doesn't mean they're a truth teller. Amen. And people ask me this all the time, they're like, will there be pastors in hell tons like a whole section. I call it the VIP section, the very ignorant pastors section of hell. It will be filled. Okay, deceivers in addition number five. Uh, and lemme say this too, what that means is that the greatest threat is not outside, but inside. See people who pretend to be for Christ but are antichrist people who quote the word of God but they're really weaponizing the word of God. In addition, number five, apostate rebellion will become fashionable. The word here, rebellion is also in the original language. Not to get super nerdy, it's the word apostasy. And so what he's saying is, uh, it's not non-Christians, but fake Christians that are the problem. non-Christians, do you believe in Jesus? I don't believe in the Bible. I don't believe in Jesus. Okay, lemme tell you about Jesus. Lemme buy you a Bible. It's the people who say no, I believe in Jesus and I believe the Bible. But they don't. They're counterfeits and they're fake. The language of apostasy comes from battle. So just imagine there were two kings and two kingdoms and they were headed for war. And you are a citizen of one kingdom and your allegiance is supposed to be to your king. So you're in the military, you drill and train and now the day of battle comes. So you and all of your comrades, you get ready for battle, you're on the field of battle, there's your enemy king and kingdom our army against their army. And you start marching out to war and your general says halt. And you're supposed to hold the line and everybody does except for one guy next to you. And he runs out in the field of battle, right toward the enemy. And your first thought is this is a suicide mission. And they don't attack him. And he runs right to the front lines of the enemy and they're cheering for him and they embrace him. And then he takes his uniform off and he's wearing the uniform of your enemy. He was a double agent the whole time he was used to infiltrate your ranks. Now he's telling them where your secured fortified positions are and what your battle plan is. And now he's threatening your life. That's an apostate. The first apostate was Satan. He was in heaven as an angel and turned against Jesus and then caused a third of the heavenly hosts to join him in demonic cosmic rebellion in Jesus' own team of 12 disciples. Did he have an apostate? Yes. Who was that? Judas. You're like, well he must be one of Jesus guys. He's with Jesus, he's taking notes, he's singing the songs. And then at the very end, nope, he's working for Satan. He's filled with Satan. He brings the religious and political leaders together to oppose Christ. He's literally anti-Christ. And what he says is as we get near the end, there'll be more of that. We're dealing with massive



generational apostasy on issues of sex and marriage and gender and sexuality and truth and heaven and hell and Jesus whole denominations are apostate, whole traditions of Christianity are apostate and then there will be many counterfeit Christ. Everything God creates Satan counterfeits. Matthew 24 gives us some themes that Jesus preached that then Paul echoes, I'll read it to you, counterfeit Christ meaning there's as we get near the end, there'll be a lot of people who are like, I'm the answer. I'm the hope, I'm the hero. I'm the savior, I'm the deliverer. Trust me, follow me. Vote for me. And it's all counterfeit. Here's what Jesus says and you'll hear it echoed in a moment in two Thessalonians two, Matthew 24, as he sat on the mount of olives and Zacharia says That's where Jesus is returning. And when his feet hit the mountain, it'll split into the disciples came saying, tell us when will these things be and what will the sign of your coming in the end of the age, you're like, okay, when it's all at the end and you're coming back, how do we know Jesus answered them. See to it that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name saying I am the Christ, the Savior, the deliverer, the answer, the hero. And they will lead many astray. And you'll hear of wars and rumors of wars. Sound familiar? See that you are not alarmed for this must take place but the end is not yet for nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. We may be there. We're right on the precipice of this. Now it may not happen but it may. We may have 1500 years left. We may have 15 days left And there will be famines and earthquakes statistically in the last a hundred years. These are at the highest point in human history. All these are the beginning of the birth pains. This language Paul adopts in one Thessalonians five when he says that as we're approaching the coming of Jesus, it's like a woman in labor. The the birth pains increase in frequency and intensity until eternity is birth. Then if anyone says to you, look here is the Christ or there he is. Do not believe it for false Christ and false prophets, lemme say this, for every false Christ there's a false prophet. For everybody who says I'm the answer, there's someone who says I'm here to defend them, Will arise and perform great signs and wonders, counterfeit miracles so as to lead astray if possible. Even the elect that's God's children, he says for his lightning comes from the east and shines on the west. So will the coming of the son of man Jesus' second coming will be like a sudden lightning strike. All the tribes of the earth will see the son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. This is from the book of Daniel. And let me say that we live in the position of human history where we alone could see Jesus coming on the clouds previous to the internet technology and the smartphone, the prophecy that everyone from all the nations would see. The return of Jesus could not have been fulfilled. But now it is. We can just watch what is happening and the stage is set and it says, and he will send out his angels. But concerning that day, the day of the Lord, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven nor the son of man but the Father only. They're like, okay Jesus, how do we know you're coming back? He's like, okay, here's all the things that are gonna happen. They're like when he's like, I'm not telling you. And he says, you know what? The father knows and he hasn't told anyone. Now let me say this. No, no one knows. Okay. And somewhere you're like, I do. Okay. No one would include you. Like I I got chart. I got chart. We all got a chart. Okay, that's great. You got a chart on an ammo box guest out in cran and we love you for it. And it may or may not be right but no one knows. So here's the big idea. If we don't know when is coming, but we know the signs of his coming, as we get closer, we need to make sure that we're in charge

of what we can be in charge of. And that's us being prepared to meet the Lord. Seven, the antichrist or the man of lawlessness will arise. Uh, marking the last days of the last days, some scholars would say that the man of lawlessness is mentioned by 38 different titles in the Bible here he's called the man of lawlessness elsewhere. He's called the anti-Christ. Anti means this remove and replace Christ. This is what Satan tried to do in heaven. Jesus is on the throne and says like I wanna remove him and replace him with me. And so as we get into it, I wanna show you four times in one John that he talks about the antichrist who is also the man of lawlessness. Uh, one John two 18 children, you're the children of God. It is the last hour we're getting near the now. Again, this was written how long ago, roughly 2000 years ago. People are like, are we close? Closer than he was? And he called it the last hour goes on to say, um, children is the last hour. And as you've heard that antichrist is coming. So now many antichrist have come, therefore we know it is the last hour. What he says is, throughout human history there would be a parade of lowercase a antichrist, politics, government, education, entertainment, economics. Everywhere you go it's like you guys hate Jesus. You don't like Jesus and and you're lawless like what the Bible says you're against. In addition, what he says is that this same demonic spirit of antichrist, he's actually gonna call it the spirit of antichrist, eventually leads to the antichrist. Now here's, that's what I'm telling you. I don't believe that the antichrist starts as the man of lawlessness. I think it just starts as a lawless man. He's just a regular old sinner that gets more dark and sinister and evil. And next thing you know, he's filled by the power of Satan. And now suddenly he is the man of lawlessness. Make no mistake, friends, our world is governed by the spirit of antichrist. If you're on a university and you're trying to get good grades by talking about Jesus, it's probably not gonna work. If you go through all of the brainwashing at your corporate job where they're telling you about all the pronouns and nonsense and you just start quoting Bible verses, you're gonna see that they're anti you 'cause they're antichrist. And if you don't know what I'm talking about, just wait till the month of June. Everywhere you go it's like it's lawlessness and it is antichrist. Number two. Two John one, seven. Many deceivers have gone out into the world. Uh, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh such is such a one is deceiver and the antichrist. It's like, well how do you know who the antichrist are? They deny that Jesus Christ is God, become a man. Jesus is fully God, fully man come to live and die and rise for sinners to reconcile men and women to God. And anyone who says Jesus is not God. In the flesh is the spirit of antichrist. This would include Jehovah's witnesses, Mormons and other false teachers. Those who would just say Jesus is a good man but he's not the God man. That's the spirit of antichrist. Number three, one John 2 22. Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ, the savior, the messiah, the hope of the nations. This is the antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. And number 4, 1, 4, 3, every spirit. What we're here, here's what I'm telling you. It's not just professions but it's spirits. When you hear someone deny Christ, Satan, the father of lies has whispered in their ears and they're echoing him. It's a spirit. That's why we don't need to just tell people about Jesus but pray for them that God would open their understanding. He says every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. That is the what? The spirit. It's a demon of the antichrist which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Lemme just unpack now we're at three. Number one, beil, the rise of lawlessness. Number two, Hamas, the rise of violence. Number three, antichrist. The rise of the

spirit of antichrist. These three are the beginning of birth pains marking the nearing of the end of history and the second coming of Jesus. True or false? Are we seeing more lawlessness, more violence and more antichrist? Yes. Yes, yes. Because we're getting nearer to the end. And lemme say this, the end is really the beginning. People are like, it's getting darker. Great. The light of the world is coming. People are like, oh my gosh, history is going to end. No, no, no. It's going to begin. Oh, the end is drawing near. No, Jesus is coming sooner than anticipated. Alright, this is the big I, this is the hope of the believer. Okay, so second, that's okay. That's the first two verses. Okay? Uh, second Thessalonians two, three and the man of lawlessness is revealed. This is the next major movement in human history. The son of destruction who opposes and exalts himself, that's remove and replace antichrist against every so-called God or object of worship. So that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be what? God. God in the history of the world, there's only one major world religion where the founder says he's God, that's Jesus Christ. The second will be the antichrist. Do you not remember that when I was with you I told you these things and you know what is restraining him now he's like a pit bull on a leash. Eventually he's gonna be off the leash so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then here's what's coming in the future, friends the lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth will deal with that in a moment and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. So here's how we know what's going to happen next. The coming of the lawless one. It's not just the antichrist, this is the antichrist. The lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing because they refuse to love the truth. It doesn't mean they don't know it, they don't love it. Some of you know the word of God but you don't love it. It's not just enough to know the truth. You need to love the truth so that they may believe what is false in order that they may be condemned who did not believe in the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. So eight marks of the antichrist. Who will this person be when they step onto the stage of human history? How will we as God's children know that it is the antichrist, not the real Christ? Number one, he is the man of lawlessness and the son of destruction. This means that we're dealing with a human being. This is not an extraterrestrial being or artificial intelligence. He is a son and a man. So it is a human being. Second Thessalonians two also in the King James and the new King James says this, it says that he is quote the son of perdition. The same thing is said in John 17 about another guy named Judas Iscariot. He's the son of perdition. What he is, he's the, he's the worst Judas, he's worse than Judas. Both are demonic and evil and antichrist. But the antichrist comes in an effort to finish what Judas started. Um, you need to know this as well. Jesus lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. The antichrist lives by the power of Satan. It says that he is the son of perdition and it says that Judas was the son of perdition and it says that Judas was filled by Satan. He is the counterfeit of Christ. Number two, the antichrist he quote opposes and exalts himself against every so-called God or object of worship. He wants to remove all other religions and all other worship. And he alone wants to be worshiped as God. He wants to globally rule the earth. He doesn't want Christ to return and be worshiped. He wants Christ not to return and instead he wants to be worshiped. Let, let me rabbit trail. Um, so eschatology, so eschatology, escha tos is the end or last things

and theology of study. So eschatology is this category, the study of the end or the last things or the end times. Christians have an eschatology. Jesus is coming, the dead will rise heaven and hell will be occupied forever and ever. That's our eschatology. Muslims also have an eschatology. And their eschatology is the exact same as the antichrist. The eschatology of the Muslims is this, that Islam will ultimately rule the world and that all the nations will be governed by the Quran and their demon God, Allah and their false prophet Muhammad. And that's why they keep entering into nations and they keep having children because they have the long view of things. The result will be that their goal is to have Islam rule the world and there'll only be one religion Islam. And they believe that when that happens their leader will arise, rise and he will be the prince of peace. And that's the antichrist. I'm not saying that the antichrist is Muslim but it wouldn't surprise me because if that eschatology happens, it perfectly paves the way for the antichrist. Finally a global world religion. And I am here to rule and reign as the counterfeit and antichrist number three. How many of you're spooked right now? I could see it. I wish you could see your faces. I feel like I'm giving you guys a Scooby-Doo episode and you're like joints. Yeah, just here. Just stick with me. Okay, number three, he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. So here's the question. Which temple is it that he goes to? So there are two ways that Christians answer this. So there was the first temple that was destroyed and then it was rebuilt and then it was destroyed again in 70 Ad. Here's why We don't have a temple, we don't need it. If you follow the directions to a destination and you arrive at that destination, you no longer need the directions. The temple was a series of signs directing us to Jesus. So it was the connecting point between heaven and earth. Well then God comes down as Jesus Christ. Now we don't need the temple 'cause we have Jesus in addition. In the temple was the high priest who then interceded between the sinless goodness of God and the sinful people on earth. We don't need a priest 'cause we got Jesus, our great high priest. And the priest would offer a sacrifice for sin. Well we don't need a sacrifice 'cause Jesus Christ is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. He was sacrificed in our place for our sins. So all of the temple was a series of directions to get us to Jesus. Once Jesus comes, we don't need the directions anymore. We don't need the temple. So now if the antichrist comes to the temple, there's only two options. Number one, this happened in the past that whoever this person is had to come before the temple was destroyed in 70 ad some Jesus loving Bible believing Christians believe that the other option is they're gonna rebuild the temple. They already rebuilt it once. Why not twice? Now this is gonna be a thing if it happens. This is what I believe is going to happen. I believe they're gonna try and rebuild the temple. And right now the temple mount is controlled by the Muslims, not the Jews I preached there. And and ultimately to try and get the Jews and the Muslims to build something together for religion that's gonna take a lot of demonic delusion and power. But some would postulate that they're gonna rebuild the temple and then the Jews will think finally we get to go back to our Old Testament system 'cause they've missed Jesus Christ, his Savior. And then what will happen is the antichrist will enter in and he will rule and reign from Jerusalem, the very place that Jesus Christ is supposed to return to and rule and reign from. Number four, as we get near to the end regarding the antichrist and the man of lawlessness, he will no longer be held back by the quote unquote restrainer. This will shock you. History right now could be much, much worse

because right now the restrainer is holding back the spirit of al and lawlessness, the spirit of Hamas and violence, the spirit of antichrist. And there is coming a day when it says that the restraint will be lifted. Let me say this, the worst thing that could happen is if God lets you do exactly what you want to do. In Romans it talks about the active and the passive wrath of God. The active wrath of God is where God involves himself and just stops you. The passive wrath of God is where God releases you to be evil and to do evil without stopping you. What we're seeing here with the restrainer is the passive wrath of God. All the demonic forces and evil doers in the world are just pressing and pressing and pressing. And finally, God says, as you will, the question is, what is the restrainer? My belief is the restrainer is God. The Holy Spirit working through the church. If you remove the church, you remove those of us who believe in the rule of law, the sanctity of human life. Male, female, gender, children are a blessing. Killing an onboard child is not the will of God. The parents have rights over government. We are the restraining force in the world. Make no mistake, if you take the church out of culture, you're going to get a decline in recognition of sanctity of human life. An increase in the killing of unborn children, mutilation of generations, absolute suicidal ideation and self-destruction. Jesus says this word, he says that the church is like the salt of the world. You know what salt does? You put salt in meat and it slows the rot. You know what this world is? It's rotting. Do you know what happens when you remove the church? The people of God, the presence of God, the word of God. It just rots. This'll be offensive. But you know, um, if you go to Seattle, it's rotting. You go to Portland, it's rotting. You go to San Francisco, it's rotting. You go to la it's rotting. You go to Chicago, it's rotting. You go to New York, it's rotting. Why the church is not there in large strength or number. There is apostasy. There are a few churches that know and love God and preach the word, but there's not enough salt to keep the meat from rotting. That's what he's saying. I can see you're very encouraged. We'll continue. Um, number five, the antichrist. He brings the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders. This antichrist, when he shows up, he may raise the dead, prophesy the future, heal the sick, have evangelic visitations and people will think, oh my gosh, that must be the Christ. He's so powerful. But it's, it's counterfeit. It's delusional. Uh, as I was praying for you this week, I just feel like I'm supposed to tell some of you this when you're sick or ill or dying or someone you love is you're very susceptible to demonic deception and counterfeits. And some people are like, I just want healing and power. But is it the holy spirit or an unholy spirit? Is it the real or the counterfeit? 'cause here's what I know about Satan. He will heal your body to damn your soul. So be careful that you don't just chase signs and wonders and powers but Jesus Christ. And so Satan shows up with lots of supernatural paranormal authority. And then number six, he brings quote, wicked deception to those who are perishing because they refuse to love the truth and be saved. Wicked deception. Lemme ask you this, are we living in a day of deception? Okay, this is the time in human history where deception is most powerful and prevalent. Before the advent of technology and the internet and the smartphone and artificial intelligence and DeepFakes and algorithms, it was really hard to deceive the world. Now, in an instant, in an instant, deception is everywhere. How many things in the news have we been told? This is what happened six months later. Like, yeah, that's not what happened. A, a report came out said that fake news, misinformation, disinformation, deception to use the biblical language travels seven times faster than the

truth. Charles Spurgeon, he was an old Baptist preacher, he once said, he said, A lie can get around the world before the truth can get its shoes on. It feels that way, doesn't it? Yes. The deception. And just think of the day in which we live. If part of the end times is this global massive deception, we are positioned in prime like no period in human history to have disinformation and deception globally instantly. Number seven, we're getting near the end. He leads the condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure and unrighteousness. Some of you ask, what in the world does this have to do with me? Here's the big idea, Jesus or pleasure. What he says is, those who are lawless and follow the man of lawlessness, they started by just seeking, pursuing, desiring, prioritizing pleasure. True or false? Is that still an issue? I mean is sex an issue? Porn an issue, drugs and alcohol, eating food. Self-consumption, dopamine hit on the front of the brain pretty much driving all of Western culture. Yeah. And what they're deciding is, I'm not choosing Jesus, I'm just choosing pleasure. Now let me say this. Ultimately I want you to enjoy your life. But if your pleasure comes at the forsaking of your soul and the surrendering to Jesus, you need to say no to your pleasure so you can say yes to your savior. Now let me set all of this up. You're not very, um, you're very quiet. Um, did I spook you? Do you got a headache? How are we doing? Can you give me just a few more minutes? Would you please let me just summarize where history is going. There are only two ways to view our position in history. One is called nationalism, the other is called globalism. Lemme explain all this to you. Nationalism is, this is my country. These are our borders. We're gonna look after our own interests. We love and align with other people. But our first priority is to our people and our nation. It comes with something called borders. Crazy stuff like that. Like this is our land, not your land. These are our citizens, not your citizens. The opposite of that is something called globalism, where it is this powerful delusion. That's what he uses the word delusion. And it is, we're all good. And if we all just came together and if all the religions came together and all the languages came together and all the nations came together and all the economies came together, we don't need Jesus to come back. We'd have heaven on earth without him. If we just all pulled together, we'd get rid of our divisions. This was tried in Genesis 11. It was the first human experiment in globalism. It was in a place called Babylon, which is modern day Iraq. And the people were one nation, one language, one economy, all living in the same proximity. So they came together and they decided, you know what? We don't need God. We can make heaven on earth by ourselves if we just pull together globalism. So they started in Babylon making a tower of Babel. And God looked down and here's what God said. They are unified. They have the same language and they're pulling together as one. Nothing will be too hard for them. Therefore, God scattered them intonations and gave them different languages for their nationalities. And what God said is nothing will be too hard for them. Here's the big idea. Unified unbelievers are more powerful than divided believers. That's why we don't wanna work with apostates, but we do wanna love all our brothers and sisters in Christ and argue and fight over secondary things. That's right. The demonic spirit of Babylon. And it is a demonic spirit, tried globalism and God said, no nationalism. It's really weird in our culture today. 'cause you keep hearing like, oh those Christians, they're all nationalists. Like, ah, well the option is globalist. And God said no to globalism and God created nationalism. So lemme say this, the spirit of Babylon is a spirit of globalism. How do I know Babylon continues through the Old Testaments

mentioned over 200 times. It appears in the book of Daniel, where Babylon literally takes Daniel captive and invades and overtakes the nation of Israel. The spirit of Babylon closes the church, it cancels the worship of God and then it castrates the young men. The spirit of Babylon and the spirit of Babylon continues all the way to the last book of the Bible. Revelation three times in Revelation it says fallen is Babylon the great. Let me just say this to you friends, there there is a rise. Number one spirit of Beal lawlessness, rebellion, hatred for authority. Disregard, disregard for the word of God. There is a rise in Hamas violence, carnage, evil, injustice, tyranny. And what we're now seeing is with the rise of al and violence, or excuse me, of lawlessness and Hamas and violence, then people are wondering, how do we get peace? How do we get order? How? How do we stop the chaos? Spirit of Babylon. Let's just do globalism. Let's just do one big nation. Let's just do one religion. Let's do one economy. Let's do one governance structure. That spirit is arising and that paves the way for who the antichrist. Because if it all comes together, someone needs to rule in reign. And if it's not Christ, it's antichrist. And it says in the scriptures that this is where history is going. I won't get into all the details, but just at that moment when Al in the spirit of lawlessness triggers Hamas in the spirit of violence triggers the spirit of Babylon and globalism. And then the whole world comes together under a great delusion. And the antichrist begins to rise. Jesus Christ begins to descend and it promises us that he is coming back and that he will rule and reign. And so let me just close with this lastly, number eight, the lawless one will be revealed. Here comes the antichrist. When the Lord Jesus, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. What's going to happen at the end? The nations will align. The military forces will equip themselves for battle in war. And for one last time, Satan and the antichrist will come against the Lord Jesus Christ. And then Jesus Christ will descend. He will not speak a word. He'll just breathe and by the breath of his mouth, he will destroy the nations. He will take down the dictators. He will end the wars. He will destroy the antichrist. He will raise the dead. I'm telling you this, friends, I have such good news for you. Jesus Christ is coming and he came the first time as a lamb. He's coming the second time as a lion. He came the first time in humility. He's coming the second time in glory. He came the first time to shed his blood. He's coming the second time to shed their blood. He came the first time to endure the wrath of God. He's coming the second time to pour out the wrath of God and what we are going to do, we're gonna stand in faith and we are gonna worship Jesus until we see him by sight. Why don't you stand and join me in that right now?