



2 Thessalonians 2:1-12  
The Man of Sin—Part 3  
From Sermon 6.12.22

Read *2 Thessalonians 2:8-12*

Review from Sunday's sermon: In the previous study, we learned that both the spirit of antichrist and the coming person of Antichrist are masters at Deception, Discord, and Division. Because the topic of division is so prevalent and dangerous in the church, today, we covered that aspect first. Now, we return to see his effective use of Deception and Discord. But, there is also another agent/force at work. Part of this study is seeing both agents have been at work in deluding influences from the beginning. However, their purpose and goal could not be more different.

1. In our key text, it stated that Satan uses false signs power wonders. Additionally, God sends powerful delusions at the same time, so they believe the lie. Give your personal thoughts on this teaching. Does it trouble you? Are you confused? It is a deep theological reality that God can use even the evil of the world, for His own purpose and glory, without compromising His Holy nature or condoning sin. See *Luke 8:10*.

[Note: Also consider the events of the cross and how they apply here...*Acts 2:22-24*]

2. Part of the false signs and delusions are the things and qualities people use for evidence of value, meaning, truth, authority, & blessing. Consider and discuss each.

Sciences: \_\_\_\_\_ See also *Colossians 2:8*

Stardom/Fame: \_\_\_\_\_ See also *1 Samuel 16:7*

Size/Crowd/Followers: \_\_\_\_\_ See also *John 6:65-66*

Signs, Wonders, & Accurate Predictions: \_\_\_\_\_  
See *Matthew 24:23-25* & *2 Chronicles 18:18-21*

2a. Can you think of false causes of support and value? Various Personal Answers

3. Another part of God's righteous judgment and provided delusion is: "Give them what they want" = only good news, guilt-free sin, worldly solutions, remove absolutes, a human hero. Also: Removal of restraints; conscience, family, government/death penalty, & the church. What is/will the consequence of a world without restraints? Unparalleled sin. A lawlessness so vast, many will isolate and grow emotionally cold. Back to Jesus' words in *Matthew 24*. See verse 12.

4. For an ingenuine a hero to be accepted & work, you first need crisis/chaos. How are our culture and the powers-that-be setting the stage for just such a scenario? Various answers and observations.  
[Also review the account of Saul becoming king]

5. Final important truth review:

Satan uses the false signs & chaos to advance his goals & be welcomed in.

God uses the false signs & chaos to display His glory, holiness, and execute judgment. See *Isaiah 45:7*