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Faith Bible Church  
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<http://www.fbcweb.org/doctrines.html>

## Personal Study of the Bible-58 2 Thessalonians 2: More on Antichrist as the Man of Lawlessness

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12:

Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and **the man of lawlessness** is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who **opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship**, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, **displaying himself as being God**. 5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he may be revealed. 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 that **lawless one** will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of **wickedness** for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in **wickedness**.

In the word “displaying” (*ἀποδείκνυμι*) there is the idea of showing off or making a public display. The Antichrist will, no doubt, be magnificent in appearance and abilities. He will present a strong, attractive, appearance. The people of the world will be awed by him like no other person who has ever lived. He will be more popular than any Hollywood or athletic star who ever existed. Not only that, he will be the world’s greatest military general. He will come on a white charger, conquering and to conquer, and equipped with a bow, as he rides into one victory after another to capture and hold the crown that he wears—read Rev. 6:1-2. His brilliant persona and skills will be such that the whole world of unregenerate men will marvel at him, and worship him—read Rev. 3:3, 4; 17:8.

As a military genius he will offer peace (as per the white horse of Rev. 6:2), but will bring great destruction: red war, black famine, pale death, and religious persecution follow him; however, his career is ever one of ascension. Even the wound “unto death” does not hinder his progress upward. When he is healed, the people of the earth cry out, “Who is like the \_\_\_, and who able to make \_\_\_ with him?” (Rev. 13:3-4). Again, the Antichrist will become the astonishment and wonder of the world as he cleverly manipulates the political strings of the world and wins a following by his astounding attractiveness, talent, intelligence, and victory over a “fatal wound” (Rev. 13:3).

As we have seen in our previous studies, he will be a very religious man. However, instead of the incarnation of truth, justice, humility, and love as our Lord Jesus Christ (read Philip. 2:3-8), the Antichrist will be an incarnation of human sin, pride, arrogance, rebellion, and

ambition. Instead of testifying to the glory of the Father as per our Lord Jesus Christ (read John 17:1-11), the Antichrist's mouth will be filled with blasphemies of the God the Bible along with his arrogance words about himself, exalting himself above God—read 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:1, 5, 6. It is obvious that the Antichrist hates God and hates Bible doctrine and believers. This hatred takes the form of rejection of the doctrinal truths of God the Father and the incarnate God-man, Jesus Christ—read 1 John 2:22; 4:3; 2 John 7.

The Antichrist will be the greatest lawbreaker of natural law the world has ever seen by perverting laws of divine establishment and natural law—calling good evil and evil good. Note how many times anti-law-like characteristics described of him: “man of sin” (Read 1 John 3:4 with 2 Thess. 2:3), “mystery of lawlessness” (2:7), the “lawless one” (2:8). He will be intolerant of all natural laws (like laws of divine establishment), the only law he will impose (positive law/man-made law) will be according to his own wicked and sinful desires.

After his program of denigrating and then finally “discrediting” the true God of the Bible and believers, he will compel the people of the world to worship him as he displays himself as God (through the power of Satan) as indicated above in 2 Thess. 2:4, 9-11. He will force the world to worship him, or suffer the penalty of death—read Matt. 24:15; Rev. 13:14-17.

*In 'Ehyeh,  
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