

The Coming of the Man of Sin, Part 3

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: 2 Thessalonians 2:3-5.

B. The Thessalonians new that there would be a rapture, but some false teacher came along denying it.

C. Paul affirmed that the Thessalonians could not be in the Day of the Lord yet because there were certain things that had to happen first.

D. To eliminate fear about the coming of Christ, there are certain things one needs to avoid.

II. Deception.

A. Deception is always a danger in the church. Satan's messengers are disguised as angels of light.

B. Theology should rise above circumstances.

C. For the sake of accountability, joy and purity we must not be deceived about the Second Coming of Christ.

D. The great apostasy, the salvation of Israel and the return of Elijah must happen before Jesus Returns. (Zechariah 12:1; 13:1; 14)

E. The rapture will be before the Day of the Lord, but the apostasy (revolt, rebellion) must come first. It is the abandonment of a formerly professed religious position.

F. The key person is the man of lawlessness--the consummate one. The antichrist will come and do something inextricable. (1 John 3:1, John 17:12, Daniel 7-9)

G. The antichrist will rise to world power. He will set himself up as god. (Revelation 13, Matthew 24:15)

III. Forgetfulness.

Application Questions:

1. Why is it so easy to be deceived about end times?

2. What order of end time events might a Christian expect?

3. How would you counsel a friend fearing the Day of the Lord?
