

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: February 25, 2024
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

1. What, according to 2:1, is Paul going to talk about now? _____
2. What, according to 2:1-3, is Paul asking of the church?
 - a. Do not become easily unsettled or alarmed.
 - b. Do not become concerned about the teaching “allegedly from us.”
 - c. Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way...
3. How, according to 2:3, are people trying to deceive the Thessalonian church?
 - a. It seems that people have written letters in Paul’s name.
 - b. It sounds like people were trying to predict the end (or the return of Christ).
4. What does Paul say about the end, according to 2:3-4?
 - a. Paul tells about some things that will happen before the end comes, which seems to discredit the early end that others were trying to proclaim.
 - b. Paul says that there will be a rebellion, and somebody will claim to be above God and set himself up in God’s temple proclaiming himself to be God.
5. Has Paul told them this before, according to 2:5? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____

6. What does Paul mean by “holding him back” in 2:6?
 - a. I don’t really know.
 - b. Maybe he is saying that Christ will not come back until something else happens and that something is said to be holding him back.
 - c. Wait, can anything really hold Christ back?
 - d. It might be that he is actually saying that Christ is holding the “man of lawlessness” back until the proper time.
7. What is the man of lawlessness that Paul speaks of here?
 - a. It must be Satan himself.
 - b. Some thought it was the Roman empire and the emperor who was ungodly, but Paul would not write that in the letter.
 - c. Perhaps it is an individual who will work as Satan does, masquerading as an angel of light, but living wickedly and deceiving.
 - d. Well, verse 7 says that the secret power of lawlessness is already at work, so perhaps it is any of us who pretend to be righteous, but live for ourselves, deceive others, lead people astray.
8. Why, according to 2:10-12, will/do people perish?
 - a. Because they are deceived.
 - b. Because they refused (read chose not to!) love the truth and be saved.
 - c. The delusion in this text follows the refusal, this is an important point.
 - d. They did not believe the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

What about you?