

- Order of Service -

Call to Worship

Welcoming Prayer

Scripture Reading 2nd John

- 248, *Jesus! What a friend for sinners!*
- *Hymn of the Savior*
- 247, *And can it be?*

Bible Quiz

Announcements and Prayer requests

Greeting

**Message in the Word – *The letter of 2nd John, Sermon 4*
*Who is the Anti-Christ, the Man of Lawlessness?***

2 John 7, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Sending prayer

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

The Lord loves a cheerful giver. God's grace and provision motivate His people to give generously to His work and the needs of His Body, as He enables, not under obligation or social pressure.

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

Grace Bible Fellowship

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“We are identified with Jesus Christ in his crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and heavenly seating”



Teaching -

Eric Peterman

The letter of 2nd John, Sermon 4

Who is the Anti-Christ, the Man of Lawlessness?

2 John 7, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

- April 4th, 2022 -

The letter of 2nd John, Sermon 4

Who is the Anti-Christ, the Man of Lawlessness?

2 John 7, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Almost everyone has heard of the Anti-Christ! But who and what is he? Here in 2 John and also in 1 John we get a sense of the theology and Christology of the spirit (demonic person and force) behind the Anti-Christ. If we pair that with 2 Thess 2:1-12 we begin to get a picture of the One whom Jesus said in Matt 24 would bring about “the Abomination that causes desolation” spoken of by Daniel the prophet.

A reminder: Any study of Anti-Christ is not so that we focus on him and his coming, but that we look to God in Christ, walking in His Spirit in joy, resisting the spirit of Anti-Christ who works evil in this age. 

Look at 2 John 7: What are the identifiers that John gives for the Anti-Christ?

1. Many _____
2. Have already _____ out into the world (so the spirit of anti-Christ is already active and at work in this age).
3. Deny that Jesus Christ is God coming in the the _____
4. Ultimately this culminates *in the One deceiver and AntiChrist.*

Now look at 1 John 2:18-: Notice the same pattern as 2 John 7, but expanded.

1. V18, The Anti-Christ is coming.
2. Many lesser Anti-Christ's have appeared.
3. This helps us know that this age in which we live is “the last hour” on God's clock.
4. V19, they depart from the apostles' true doctrine of Christ and offer something else, a replacement.
5. V22-23, Denies that Jesus is God in the flesh. The result is...

... that that teacher and all who follow them do not have a grasp on God, Father and Son, and v20, the Holy Spirit. ***They do not have a grasp on reality!***

Let's now turn our attention in 2 Thess 2:1-12 to the timing, nature and acts of the final Anti-Christ, the Man of Lawlessness

1. Remember that in the previous passage, ch 1, Paul teaches about the rapture of the church.
2. In 2:1-3 Paul assures them that they won't see either the Day of the Lord or its Man of Lawlessness (note his character)!
3. V4, The acts of the Anti-Christ.
 1. Opposes established spiritual knowledge about God. (See also Matt 24:15-28)
 2. Centers spiritual activity and worship around himself as the object, displacing God in religion.
 3. V9, Activated by Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders.
 4. Leads and deceives the mass of humanity in rejecting the love of the truth – Christ and truth.
 5. Results in the judgment of his followers.

Setting our minds and heart at peace: 2 Tim 2:20-26

Prayer Requests, Praises - Hebrews 4:16

- Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
- Remember those who are ill or aged and cannot meet with us.
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