

- (6) interlocking into various categories of the Cosmic Systems,
  - (7) degenerating through the stages of reversionism accompanied by participation in a shrinking Pivot, and
  - (8) responsibility for national discipline, cultural decline, and destruction of the Client Nation.
5. The expanded translation of our passage for verses 1–10 reads as follows:

**2 Thessalonians 2:1** - Now we urgently request you, fellow believers, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ [ the Rapture ] and our gathering together around Him [ resurrection of “the dead in Christ” and “those who are alive and remain” (1 Thessalonians 4:16c–17a ),

**v. 2** - that you be not easily shaken in mind or disturbed, neither by a spirit [ demon influence ], nor by a message [ false doctrine ] nor by a letter [ false corrigendum ] as if from us, alleging that the day of the Lord [ Κύριος (Kúrios): 2d Advent ] is near.

**v. 3** - Let no one deceive you according to any rhetorical method, for that day [ the 2d Advent ] shall not come until after the Rapture occurs first, and the man of lawlessness [ Beast-Dictator ] will then [ post Rapture ] start the process of having his identity revealed, the son of destruction.

**v. 4** - The Lucifer-indwelt Beast-Dictator opposes God and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, with the result that he symbolically takes his seat in the Holy of Holies of the temple of God in the form of a self-commissioned statue, asserting that he himself is God.

**v. 5** - Do you not remember what you previously understood, that while I was last with you I was teaching you these doctrines?

**v. 6** - And now you know what thing [ the power of the Holy Spirit ] restrains [ under rules of engagement ] him [ Lucifer & later the Beast-Dictator ] now [ Church Age ] so that he will be revealed in his dispensation [ Tribulation ].

**2 Thessalonians 2:7** - For the mystery of lawlessness [ **mystery doctrines of the Church Age related to satanic strategies** ] is already operational. Only He Who restrains [ **the Holy Spirit** ] will continue that ministry of restraint until He is taken out of the way [ **at the Rapture** ].

**v. 8** - At that time [ **international notoriety** ], the lawless one [ **Beast-Dictator** ] will be revealed (**Whom<sup>2</sup> the Lord will later annihilate with the breath of His mouth [ virtuous violence ]**). In fact, He shall neutralize him by means of the sudden appearance of His Second Advent.),

**v. 9** - whose presence [ **the Beast-Dictator's** ] in history shall be according to the modus operandi of Satan with all power and by means of extra natural phenomena and pseudo wonders through propaganda.

**v. 10** - and by means of all delusion [ **ἀπάτη (apátē)** ] of unrighteousness to those who are being led astray, deprived, ruined, destroyed [ **Operation Apóllumi** ] because they have not received the love of the truth so as to be saved. (EXT)

1. Rejection of truth leads to believing the lie. This results in loss of *exōteriké harmonía* among the people.
2. Minus spiritual recovery, the culture loses its foundational strength, societal standards diminish, and the nation declines into parvanimity.<sup>3</sup>
3. Nevertheless, throughout the Church Age, the Pivot will always be a restraining influence on Lucifer's modus operandi and strategy for achieving global domination.
4. It is the removal of all believers from the earth that causes the termination of the restraining ministry of the Holy Spirit.

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<sup>2</sup> The sentences in blue indicate a parenthetical comment by Paul who jumps to the Second Advent and the Lord's victory over the Beast-Dictator.

<sup>3</sup> "Parvanimity, [Latin *parvus*, small, and *animus*, mind.] the state of having a little or ignoble mind; littleness of mind; meanness" (*Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged*, 2d ed., 1962), s.v. "parvanimity."

5. This signals the beginning of the Tribulation where there will be a large number of Europeans who will join forces with the Beast-Dictator.
6. Rejection of the gospel in the Church Age results in many being led astray into the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics.
7. Rejection of truth in any dispensation results in God honoring human free will and allowing this poor decision to take its natural course.

**2 Thessalonians 2:11** - For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false. (NASB)

1. This verse describes and reveals the free will possessed by every member of the human race.
2. It begins with the continuative conjunction **καί (kai)** followed by the preposition **διὰ (diá)** and the causal accusative of **οὗτος (hóutos)**: “And because of this,” which refers to rejection of truth with emphasis on the gospel.
3. Rejection of the gospel results in a mentality that is incapable of subscribing to establishment truth while functioning in an environment absent divine viewpoint.
4. All doctrinal thought has been evacuated into heaven. The devil’s world is organized to reject all remnants of divine order and replace it with human viewpoint, human good, and evil.
5. Israel’s responsibility in its dispensation is to guard the truth as it is revealed in the Tanakh and communicate its content to the lost. Its failure will result in great apostasy which is addressed by the 144,000 Jewish evangelists that are first revealed in:

**Revelation 7:4** - I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

**vv. 5–8** - twelve thousand were sealed from each of the tribes of Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin.

6. NOTE: The tribe of Dan is missing from this inventory. He is not included since the false prophet is from the tribe of Dan.
7. These evangelists will be commissioned to evangelize the myriad of unbelievers that populate the earth.
8. Into this void, God will initially send chaos into the mentalities of men: “God will send”: ὁ Θεὸς πέμπω (*ho Theós pémpō*): “God shall send.”

**Present tense:** Static; it represents a condition which is assumed as perpetually existing. Here it refers to the status of reversionism which will exist throughout the Tribulation. It also takes on aspects of the futuristic present as it relates to the Lord’s Second Advent:

**Revelation 14:1** - Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb [ Jesus ] was standing on Mount Zion [ Temple Mount in Jerusalem ], and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name [ Ἰησοῦς (*lēsóús*): the One that executes the plan of God ] and the name of His Father [ Θεός *Theós*: the Author of the divine plan ] on their foreheads [ priestly metres: these men take the place of the missing priesthood and function as evangelists ].

**Active voice:** Jesus produces the action under the principle that He controls history. Divine justice demands that the result of an individual’s rejection of truth will be characterized by Operation *Apóllumi*: “led astray, deprived, ruined, destroyed because they have not received the love of the truth so as to be saved” (2 Thessalonians 2:10).

9. **Indicative Mood:** Declarative, a statement of historical fact: prophetic with reference to the Tribulation and historical for the Church Age.

10. Next is the dative of disadvantage of the indirect object from the intensive pronoun **αὐτός (autós)**: “And because of this, God sends to them.”
11. It is to the disadvantage of anyone that rejects any category of truth. Having done so, an immediate vacuum opens in the soul into which is sucked the lie. (Ephesians 4:17-19)
12. Next is the accusative singular direct object of the noun **ἐνέργεια (enérgeia)**: action, work, operation. The concept here has to do with “kinetic energy” that is strong and powerful.
13. This is followed by the descriptive genitive of **πλάνη (plánē)**: delusion. Together the terms refer to the “active operation of false opinions.”
14. This makes reference to Lucifer’s genius system of controlling the souls of men throughout *cosmos diabolicus*, here defined by Lewis Sperry Chafer:  

The *cosmos* is a vast order or system that Satan has promoted, which conforms to his ideals, aims, and methods. It is civilization now functioning apart from God. This system ... is that sphere in which man lives. It is what he sees, what he employs. To the uncounted multitude it is all they ever know so long as they live on this earth. It is properly styled *the satanic system*, which phrase is in many instances a justified interpretation of the so-meaningful word, *cosmos*. It is literally a *cosmos diabolicus*.<sup>4</sup>
15. In verse 7, this system is already operational in the Church Age although restrained by the Holy Spirit functioning through the invisible impact of the Pivot.
16. In verse 9, we learn that in the Tribulation, the Beast-Dictator will rise to power through the utilization of this system’s power.
17. With endowed power from Satan, this dictator will have the ability to perform miracles of both visible and verbal deceptions.

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<sup>4</sup> Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology: Angelology-Anthropology-Hamartiology* (Dallas: Dallas Theological Seminary, 1947), 2:77-78.

18. The word in verse 9 for miracles is **σημείον (sēmeíon)** which refers to “sleight of hand” by which the performance of visible deceptions are performed.
19. The words for “wonder miracles of the lie” are **τέρας plus φεῦδος (téras plus pseúdos)** which refers to “sleight of tongue.” This is the power to delude the masses by telling people what they want to hear as he conceals while he advances his hidden agenda.
20. We have borrowed two words from the English dictionary to amplify the deceptive, evil, and insidious works of Lucifer which according to verse 7 are already operational in the Church Age, one of which is:

**Prestidigitation, the performance of tricks by quick, skillful use of the hand; sleight of hand; legerdemain.<sup>5</sup>**

**Prestidigitation. Sleight of hand, legerdemain. Prestidigitator, One who practices sleight of hand or legerdemain; a juggler; hence figuratively a juggler of words, a trickster.<sup>6</sup>**

21. Therefore, the deception of prestidigitation can occur by tricking the eye or tricking the mind. The eye is tricked by an apparent skill referred to by the idiom, “the hand is quicker than the eye,” while the mind is tricked by deceptive speech which we have classified as Rhetorical Veils of propaganda.
22. Verse 9 refers to this as “wonder miracles of the lie.” We have used prestidigitation and legerdemain to define the methods of deception and delusion faced by the believer in the Angelic Conflict.
23. Every believer is going to be challenged to defect from the plan of God by the insidious schemes of Satan and his cosmic system.

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<sup>5</sup> Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary, s.v. “prestidigitation.”

<sup>6</sup> The Oxford English Dictionary, s.vv. “Prestidigitation,” “prestidigitator.”