

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

2nd Thessalonians

Feb 2017

Model for Living: *Trials of Faith*

INTRODUCTION

Why do you think that there is so much lawlessness when electricity goes out in a large city?

EXPLORATION

Note: Those who heard Paul's first letter may have misunderstood its point. Paul replies that the future "day of the Lord" is coming but the timing is unknown.

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

1. What subject was Paul addressing? v. 1
2. What reaction had Paul's previous letter caused among his readers? v. 2
3. What must happen before the day of the Lord comes? v. 3
4. Who is the "man of lawlessness?" v. 4; **Rev 13:5,6;**
5. What kind of person will the man of lawlessness be? (v. 4)
6. What (who) is delaying the coming of the man of lawlessness? Vv. 6, 7; **Dan 10:10-13**
7. What will happen to allow the man of lawlessness to be revealed? v. 7
8. What will happen when the man of lawlessness encounters the Lord Jesus? v. 8
9. How will Satan's power be evident during the time of the man of lawlessness? Vv. 9-10
10. Why will people perish? Vv. 10-12
11. How should a Christian react to any predictions about Christ's return?
12. How close do you think we are to the end times and the return of Christ? Why?
13. What can a person do to get ready for Christ's return?
14. What gives Christians confidence as they face the end times and the forces of the antichrist?
15. How can you decide if a miracle or a miracle worker is from God or from Satan? **1 John 4:1-3**

APPLICATION

- How can you strengthen your faith today so that you are ready to face any evil days that will come?
- What can you say to a loved one or friend this week that will lovingly draw them away from wickedness and unbelief?

Dr. Rawlings, a devout atheist, "considered all religion "hocus-pocus" and death nothing more than a painless extinction". But something happened in 1977 that brought a dramatic change in the life of Dr. Rawlings! He was resuscitating a man, terrified and screaming. "Each time he regained heartbeat and respiration, the patient screamed, "I am in hell!" He was terrified and pleaded with me to help him. I was scared to death. . . Then I noticed a genuinely alarmed look on his face. He had a terrified look worse than the expression seen in death! This patient had a grotesque grimace expressing sheer horror! His pupils were dilated, and he was perspiring and trembling — he looked as if his hair was "on end." Then still another strange thing happened. He said, "Don't you understand? I am in hell. . . Don't let me go back to hell!" . . .the man was serious, and it finally occurred to me that he was indeed in trouble. He was in a panic like I had never seen before." Dr. Rawlings said, no one, who could have heard his screams and saw the look of terror on his face could doubt for a single minute that he was actually in a place called hell!

Beyond Death's Door