2Thess #103

Continued rejection of God’s plan opens a flood gate of darkness.

Please keep storm victims in places like Texas in our prayers.

I would like to keep my buddy Pete’s friend Pat in prayer as well. He is facing a heart value surgery and as we know… that is very serious.

Also, please keep James and Lisa in prayer. James’s father has deteriorated a great deal and the coming months are probably his last.

James has been very faithful from the beginning of this ministry.

By that I mean faithful in every aspect, promoting the ministry on FB, lifting me up with encouraging words and generous financial support.

Our current study in 2Thessalonians has us digging deeper into verses 11 and 12, now more specifically into verse 12.

/2Thes 2:11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that **they will believe what is false**, 12 in order **that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth**, but took pleasure in wickedness.\

The deluding spirit is when GOD opens a flood gate allowing Satan and his cosmic system to infect the mind of either an Unbel or a Bel.

For the Believer we noted a result of this in the life of King Saul.

The Bel becomes deeply influenced almost seeming possessed.

For the Unbeliever, a great example may be a study into the stubbornness of Pharaoh. During the time Moses and Araon called for the release of God’s people, Pharaoh revealed his true nature.

Pharaoh was probably possessed by a demonic force – Bels cannot be possessed but can become influenced.

/For GOD to allow the flood gate open for a deluding spirit, it takes a great deal of arrogance for the Bel or the Unbel concerning their lifestyle and motivation. That high level of arrogance can be from pride, bitterness, jealousy or many MA sins accumulating. The Unbel is already walking in darkness and this happens much quicker, it escalates in incredible fashion over a short period of time. For the Bel it is a longer journey.\

Turn to the OT Jeremiah 22 RF.

After a period of rejecting the plan of GOD and refusing to get serious toward Bible Doctrine, reaping what the Bel sows happens first. It will eventually turn into discipline when the stubbornness is increased.

Refusal to adjust to the justice and plan of GOD leads into a darkness of the soul and scar tissue builds up, which can lead to God releasing the flood gate of a deluding spirit even for a Bel.

 REPEAT

/In this build-up into the Tribulation, you will witness more of this deluding spirit that will simply refuse to accept the truth of Jesus Christ and adjust themselves toward the righteousness of GOD. (2Tim 3:1-5)

2Tim 3:1 But realize this, that in **the last days** difficult times will come.2 For **people will be lovers of self,** lovers ofmoney, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, \

PEOPLE WILL BE LOVERS OF SELF…that statement right there, speaks volumes to the stubborn Unbels as well as the lukewarm Bels.

/People remain Unbels because of a higher sense of pride or a focus on self in the temporal. Bels who backslide are also more self-centered and focused on the temporal. Because whether it is salvation or spiritual growth, you have to completely concede to the person and work of Jesus Christ. That is your new reality and if it is not, it will manifest in focusing on self or the temporal.\

The fall of Jerusalem was seen through the prophet Jeremiah – this prophecy has several layers to it. It pointed ahead to Babylonian captivity.

Yet it is also a warning of a great TRIBULATION about to come.

This is also a call to people today, before the Rapture – it is a wake-up call before the Tribulation.

Extremely pertinent in the coming Tribulation period.

Prophecy is so rich and deep when you truly peel it back and study it!

/Jer 22:21 “**I spoke to you in your prosperity**; But you said, **‘I will not listen!’** This has been your way from your youth, That **you have not obeyed My voice.**

The time to learn and grow is during the mundane times, the periods of blessings of peace, prosperity and routine.\

If a person (Bel or Unbel), will not adjust to the plan of GOD during the times of routine and prosperity. During adversity they will simply grasp onto whatever is built in their soul.

Most will panic or become confused.

You can not apply what you do not have.

 REPEAT

During the times a client nation unto GOD has any level of peace and prosperity, even just a mundane routine is GOD giving them opportunities for real growth.

The arrogant statement that you will have time for God later, you will study Bible Doctrine later - is a satanic myth.

Satan loves apathy – especially apathy toward the things of God.

/[Jer 22:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jer/22/22/s_767022) “**The wind will sweep away all your shepherds**,And **your lovers** will go into captivity;Then you will certainly be ashamed and humiliated **Because of all your wickedness.**

Shepherds are usually related to spiritual leaders (teachers). The lovers, speak to all the people and materialism of the temporal world that kept you occupied.\

The time just before the Rapture will probably bring a drought of truth across the land.

It is highlighted in prophecy that real Biblical teaching will dissipate in the time when the Tribulation begins.

What most people will follow will be a false system under the One World Religion.

/Amos 8:11 “Behold, days are coming,” declares the Lord GOD, “When I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread or a thirst for water, But rather for hearing the words of the LORD.\

[Jer 22:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jer/22/23/s_767023) “You who live in Lebanon,Nested in the cedars,How you will groan when sharp pains come on you,Pain like a woman in childbirth!

The birth pains points us to what the build-up to the Tribulation looks like.

Lebanon, Bashan and Abarim were all regions rich with resources, yet lacking in truth.

In fact, the leaders of the Southern tribe of Isael looked to these regions to follow some of their wicked ways.

Many of the tribes and cultures in these regions were BAAL worshippers.

/[Jer 22:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jer/22/24/s_767024) “As I live,” declares the LORD, “even if Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah **were a signet *ring***(*ḥôṯām*) **on My right hand, yet I would pull you off**;

This is a reference to a client nation unto GOD, a special ring. An absolute symbol of power and protection, it also symbolized wealth.\

HAW-THON, comes from an Aramaic root word, but in the ancient Hebrew it often symbolized Royality and power.

The right hand is the seat of authority.

Jehoiakim was the 18th king of Judah and basically a puppet king under Egyptian authority.

/[Jer 22:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jer/22/25/s_767025) and **I will hand you over to those who are seeking your life**, yes, to those of whom you are frightened, that is, to **Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the Chaldeans**.

Babylon is seen in prophecy as the evil power of Satan on earth. Israel is owed the finishing of the 5th cycle of discipline. There is also a type of judgment on earth for continued rejection of God’s perfect plan. (Tribulation)\

God handing the earth over in the Tribulation, is the flood gate that HE allows to open, because evil has become so prevalent on the earth.

God often resolves several problems and fulfills incredible prophecy with one sweeping action.

 REPEAT

God has a perfect plan; we are born in sin and we have an opportunity to spend eternity with HIM by a simple one-shot decision.

It is incredibly fair even for the fallen angels – Satan and his army will have no case to stand upon in the final verdict.

If mankind did not have free will, it would be an unfair plan for humans and angels.

/2Thes 2:12 in order **that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth**, but took pleasure in wickedness.

All sin natures were judged on the cross, the perfect plan of the FATHER is that only the righteousness of Christ can enter the heavens. The Great White Throne Judgment is designed to give Unbels an opportunity to prove their own righteousness on merits or intellect.\

The lie that GOD is unfair or cruel, comes from the mouth of ignorance or evil.

When you truly step back and look at the whole plan of GOD, encompassed within the angelic conflict… it is perfect. God even gives allowances for the age of accountability and mental disabilities.

True spirituality and maturity only happen with a spirit of humility willing to submit to the mind of Christ.

Spirituality and maturity do not come by wishing, praying or deeper meditations.

The only avenue for SM and true spirituality, is found in the accuracy of the completed canon of scripture.

We will close in Ephesians chapter four today RF.

We will begin a short study on the doctrine of scar tissue of the soul.

/Believers who refuse to take their relationship with GOD to a higher level, by becoming dedicated students of the WORD. Are leaving a doorway open for cosmic distractions and counterfeits. Which can lead to backsliding and eventually scar tissue of the soul. Time spent away from truth, is time Satan can tempt and distort your thoughts.\

Ephesians was written as a clarification on the pre-designed plan of GOD. It was during a time the Apostle Paul was coming off of backsliding himself, during his 3rd missionary journey. It was one of the 4 prison epistles, which are extremely profound concerning the full plan of GOD for the CA.

In fact, in Ephesians 4:11, the Apostle Paul reminds all of us of the importance of the gift of pastor-teacher.

Because we have the completed canon of scripture and we have pastor-teachers, the Apostle Paul then warns;

/Eph 4:14 As a result, **we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of people, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but **speaking the truth** in love, we are to **grow up in all aspects** into Him who is the head, *that is,* Christ,\

This is a warning for CA Believers.

Your growth is dependent upon how serious you are within your Bible study.

Eph 4:16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

A scattered group of Bels who are all studying different religious dogma and even falling for false doctrines is a victory for Satan.

Unity happens in the mind long before it happens in the overt actions.

/Eph 4:17 So I say this, and affirm in the Lord, that you are to **no longer walk just as the Gentiles also walk**, in the futility of their minds,

The reference here for Gentiles are those Unbels, who were outside the groups of Bels that the Apostle Paul had established. Those you become intimate with will rub off on your life!\

[Eph 4:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/18/s_1101018) being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

The original language here, points to Unbels as strangers to GOD – outsiders with a hard heart, a darkness of mind.

This speaks to a deluding spirit – because they had the truth! They had family and friends among these congregations evangelizing to them.

 REPEAT

Many would have been well aware of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, yet they remain dark toward the gospel.

/[Eph 4:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/19/s_1101019) and **they, having become callous** (*apalgeō*),have given themselves up to indecent behavior for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

To lack feeling and lack understanding, they practice and give themselves over, speaking to free will and lifestyle.\

APP-AH-GAYO, means to be beyond reason, to be beyond feeling anything.

These are people who have gone so far that GOD has allowed the flood gate to open, it opens for a deluding spirit of the cosmic system to enter that soul structure.

[Eph 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/20/s_1101020) But you did not learn Christ in this way,

[Eph 4:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/21/s_1101021) if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,

/[Eph 4:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/22/s_1101022) that, in reference to your former way of life, **you are to rid yourselves of the old self,** which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

Your OSN was nailed to the cross – walk in your position (new nature). The old nature continues to be corrupted.\

Notice – take your own free will and turn toward the new nature, rid yourself – remove it, that is your daily responsibility Believer!

We will pick it up here next lesson, looking at the doctrine of scar tissue.

/[Eph 4:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/23/s_1101023) and that you are to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,

[Eph 4:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/24/s_1101024) and to put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.\