

LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT—16

“God’s Prophetic Agenda”

2 Thessalonians 2:1-7

Introduction: _____

I. FIRST, THE CHURCH HAS TO BE REMOVED BEFORE THE DAY OF THE LORD (2 Thessalonians 3:1-3b).

A. First, just ignore all phony predictions. (Matthew 24:23, 26).

1. First, he encourages them not to be disturbed. (2:2a. “That ye be not soon shaken in mind . . .”
2. Secondly, he then encourages them not to be deceived (2:3a). “Let no man deceive you by any means . . .”

B. Secondly, note on of the most intricate words in the letter (2:3c). “. . . a falling away first . . .”

1. First, there is the majority view held by those who believe this is speaking of a spiritual departure.
2. Secondly, there is the minor view held by some who believe this is a spatial or physical departure.
 - a. First, there has always been doctrinal departures.
 - b. Secondly, the definite is “a” before the word is the Greek word for “the.”

c. Thirdly, the Greek noun *Apostasia* can refer to a physical departure.

d. Fourthly, the physical departure view is held by credible scholars.

3. Thirdly, there is the both view held by some.

II. SECONDLY, THE ANTICHRIST WILL BE _____ TO COMMENCE THE DAY OF THE LORD (2 Thessalonians 2:3c-4).

What does the Bible say about the Antichrist?

- A. First, he will be a _____. (Daniel 9:26-27).
- B. Secondly, he will be a _____ (Matthew 24:15, 21).
- C. Thirdly, he will be a _____ (Revelation 13:5-7).
- D. Fourthly, he will ultimately be a _____ (Revelation 19:11-21).

III. THIRDLY, THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL BE THE _____ TO CONSTRAIN THE DAY OF THE LORD (2 Thessalonians 2:5-7).