

Study 3 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

How will the world end? Will there be nuclear war? An evil empire? The destruction of civilisation? Paul advises us that Satan has yet to attack us with the worst he has, and when he does, it will be a fearful time to be alive. However, Paul also promises that God will always be in control.

1. What potential threats to the safety of the world do you see right now (for example, attitudes, weapon building, warfare and so on).
2. In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 we saw how Paul responded to the fears of the Thessalonians, that if they died before Christ returned they would miss the joy Christ had for them. Apparently, after Paul sent the first letter, someone tried to convince the Thessalonians that the day of the Lord had already come. Considering the misconceptions they already had about Christ's return how would this have affected them?
3. What is Paul's proof that the day of the Lord has not come (v3 & 9)?
4. What can you learn about the "man of lawlessness" from this passage? (v3-4 & 7-10)
5. In what ways have you noticed the "secret powers of lawlessness" (v7) to be already at work?