

Notes for 2 Thessalonians chapter 2:6-8

Reference	Doctrine	Implication	Cross References	Notes
2 Thess. 2:6-7	The Antichrist restrained	Paul speaks of a restraining force holding the Antichrist in check at that time. This would be seen as Christ through the Word.	<i>Passages that use the Greek word katecho in the sense of "restrain":</i> Luke 4:42; Romans 1:18; 7:6	κατεχω (katecho) means: "hold back, restrain, or possess" – Paul uses this word twice in these two verses: once in a neuter form (v.6) and once in a masculine form (v.7). The thing and person work together, to hold back the Antichrist.
2 Thess. 2:6-7	The Antichrist not yet revealed but still at work	In the time of the apostle Paul the Antichrist had not yet been revealed - this would take place at some point in the future prior to Jesus' return. But while unseen it was already at work.	Colossians 2:18-23; 1 John 2:18; 4:3	μυστηριον (musterion) means: "a hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding" This meaning corresponds with "revelation" (v.6). What was hidden would be revealed.
2 Thess. 2:7	"The Restraining One"	The clause at the end of verse 7 can be difficult to understand. Who is "taken out of the way" and by whom? The one restraining the Antichrist will in the future Himself "step out of the way" and stop restraining.	<i>Other passages where the Greek word ginomai is in the Mid. voice:</i> Matthew 10:25; Hebrews 2:17;	The Greek verb in this clause (ginomai = to be) is in a Middle voice. This voice carries the idea of acting on oneself, and not being forced "out of the way" by someone else. The restraining one is still in control (compare translations here).
2 Thess. 2:8	The destruction of the Antichrist	We should not be discouraged by the power of the Antichrist or by the fact that the Lord has stopped restraining the Antichrist. The Lord Jesus will return and will destroy the Antichrist at His coming on the Last Day.	<i>Passages dealing with the destruction of the Antichrist:</i> Daniel 7; Revelation 19:15-21 <i>Similar pictures of God's destruction used in Scripture:</i> Isaiah 11:4; Hosea 6:5; Revelation 1:16; 2:16	ανελει (anelei) means "kill" and is used regularly in the sense of "murder" καταργεω (katargeo) means to render inoperative; put an end to, abolish. <i>"While the Word blasts the lawless one, the actual appearance of the Lord Himself will abolish him completely."</i>