

LESSON 3
JUST CHECKING
2 THESSALONIANS 2:1–17



1 How do you verify . . .

a telephone number? _____

a quotation? _____

a destination? _____

historical facts? _____

2 Why might it be important to verify something?



Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1–17 and the following notes:

☐ 2:2 ☐ 2:3ff ☐ 2:10–12 ☐ 2:15

3 What is the “day of the Lord” (2:1, 2)?

4 Why did some Thessalonian Christians think that the day of the Lord had already begun (2:2)?

5 How could they have avoided being fooled (2:3, 5, 15)?

One snare that all Christians must avoid is deceivers. In Thessalonica certain people were saying (wrongly) that the day of the Lord had already begun. And many Christians believed them. “Don’t be fooled by what they say,” Paul told them (2:3), explaining how the day of the Lord would come about. Many people have claimed to speak for God. Because false prophets or teachers often sound convincing, even Christians can be fooled. We can avoid being led astray by measuring what a teacher says by the Word of God (2:15).



6 Why is it important to hold fast to the truth about God and what he wants?

7 What has God given his people to keep them from being fooled?



8 What makes people vulnerable to deception?

9 To what kinds of deception are Christians vulnerable?

10 What steps can a Christian take to keep from being fooled?

11 What could you do to understand God's Word better?

12 For whom might you pray that God will keep from being fooled?



13 This week, pray that God will point out errors in your thinking, beliefs, life-style, or actions.

A What does it mean that “this lawlessness is already at work secretly” (2:7)? In what ways was it at work when Paul wrote? In what ways is it at work today?

B Why does God send some people “great deception” so that “they will believe all these lies” (2:11)? How can you guard against this?

C God saves us by grace (2:16). How or why are we undeserving of God’s special favor? What are some reasonable responses to God’s special favor?

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