



Title | Beyond Belief
Series | Standing Firm When Shaken
Text | 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12
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Sermon Notes

2 Thessalonians 2:10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, 12 in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. *ESV*

Big Idea:

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. This passage raises difficult questions. How can God condemn someone for not believing in Jesus when God himself facilitated the unbelief? How can God send people to hell for being deceived, when he himself is complicit in the deception? How would you answer these questions? What triggered the sending of the strong delusion?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. At some point before death, as a means of judgment, God may send deception to seal the rejection already chosen. To what extent is this idea reflected in the text? How do you feel about it?

Wednesday:

Read 1 Kings 22:1-40. What parallels do you see between this passage and 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12?

Thursday:

If it is true that, at some point before death, as a means of judgment, God may send deception to seal the rejection already chosen, what difference does this make in your life? If you have not yet believed in Jesus, what does this suggest about the urgency of believing? If you have already believed in Jesus, what does this suggest about the urgency of evangelism?

Friday:

Read 2 Peter 3:7-9. How does this help put into perspective 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you that you are patient toward us, not wishing that any should perish. Help me not to abuse that patience. Amen.

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