

“SPIRITUAL MYSTERY SERIES”
 Delivered to DANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
 Lord’s Day Night Aug. 28th and Sept. 4th 2016
 Elder Jeff C. King Th.M.

Eighth Mystery: Iniquity

'Mysterium Iniquitatis'

2 Thess. 2:7

7. For the **mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.**

Now...for our last two mysteries, and for sure to be; the least of all the mysteries.

By least, I mean the negative mysteries. They are to be understood but not advanced by our hand. Fought against and guarded against but not cooperated with. Most probably the most mysterious of all the mysteries.

2 Thess. 2:1-10

1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by our gathering together unto him,*

2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.

8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

9 *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Mystery of iniquity:

It has everything to do with that evil empire, the Kingdom of Satan.

He has a chosen course and its effect upon the Lord’s House is often devastating.

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Vs.1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by (concerning) the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by (concerning) our gathering together (rapture) unto him,

Vs.2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand (is present). ἐνίστημι - enistemi

Note: In other places at hand can mean (has come nearer than before) ἐγγίζω - eng-id'-zo

Example: **Mt. 3:2** And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Vs.3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day* (of redemption/2nd coming) shall not come, except there come a falling away (ἀποστασία/apostasy) first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition (antichrist);

Note: Remember that these has to happen before the 2nd coming and Paul is assuring them that it hasn’t happened yet.

This is the actual way/plan that Satan has held to since early Babylon. He continues to follow the government empires to Rome. Here it is where the Seat of Satan moves from Pergamos eventually to Rome and the First Baptist Church in Rome (Book of Romans) falls away apostatizes. (And many more in the first 300 yrs.)

Note: Paul doesn’t imply that these are the only two events. Also, Herod’s Temple and Jerusalem will be destroyed and the 10 horns will rise to power (see verse 7- only he who now letteth will let).

Vs.4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he (Antichrist/Pope) as God sitteth in the temple of God (Baptist church at Rome), shewing himself that he is God.

Note: The Lord’s church is also called a temple.

The word "temple" here is "naos."

This word "naos" is used figuratively a New Testament church.

It is used of a New Testament church in:

1 Corinthians 1:2

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 “Know ye not that ye (Plural) are the (A) temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

2 Corinthians 1:1

2 Corinthians 6:16

It is also used literally of Herod's temple in Jerusalem. **Luke 1:9 & 23:45**

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Eph. 2:19-22

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building [or, better, every building] fitly framed together groweth **unto a holy temple** in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Vs.5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

Vs.6 And now ye know **what withholdeth** (no name given then but now we know who was that withheld the revealing of the Pope) **that he might be revealed in his time.**

Now we are to see the purpose for the “Mystery of Iniquity”.
It makes a way for the Antichrist to be revealed.

Vs.7 For the mysterie of iniquitie doeth already worke: onely he which nowe withholdeth, shall let till he be taken out of the way. (Geneva)

Vs.7. For the **mystery of iniquity** (the system of producing the antichrist before the 2nd coming-that had infiltrated the church at Thessalonica and manifest itself in the Church at Rome) **doth already work: only he who now letteth** (hinder) **κατέχω - katechō will let** (same as letteth), **until he** (The last Caesar/Romulus Augustus) **be taken out of the way.**

Note: In verse 7, he that **hindereth** is grammatically in the neuter and masculine.
 Emperor is neuter and who ever fills the office is masculine.

Q.) How, exactly, does the Antichrist appear? **10 horns** will rise to power when **He**
 -See verse 7- **only he who now letteth will let**) is not hindering anymore.

A.) He is the last Caesar- **Romulus Augustus**= the last emperor of Rome **476 AD.**

Rev. 17:8-12

8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, **when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.**

The Bottomless Pit is Satan’s headquarters now like in the Millennial Reign.

The Vatican is the headquarters of the Antichrist.

The Throne on the right hand of God is Christ’s headquarters as he rules the Kingdom.

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9 And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and **one is, and the other is not yet come**; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is **the eighth**, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

12 And **the ten horns** which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour (in a short time) with the beast. That's going to occur in 754-756 AD. (This is when the Pope began to rule over the Papal States as a Political King-this is a fulfillment of vs.8.).

Note: This is the unique characteristic of the 7th head; he is a revival of the Roman Caesar just like in 476 AD when he (Romulus Augustus) died.

In summary, we are given a picture of this whole mystery/system in Revelation.

Rev. 13:1

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea,
having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns,
and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

We are no help to anyone if we are not of the godly sort.