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**The Main Point:** Because the Day of the Lord *must* be preceded by certain events, the Thessalonians should not be shaken by claims that it has already occurred.

**Four Questions**

- What is the Rebellion?
- Who is the Man of Lawlessness?
- Who or What is the Restrainer?

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Daniel	2 Thess 2:1-12
Michael is opposing powerful, spiritual forces and protecting his people from their effects (Dan. 10:13-12:1)	The restrainer is “currently restraining” and is “now restraining” the mystery and man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:6-7)
Michael will eventually “arise/stand aside” from his present post (Dan. 12:1a)	The restrainer will get “out of the way” (2 Thess. 2:7b)
When Michael arises/stands aside, an unprecedented time of trouble will occur (Dan. 12:12b)	When the restrainer is out of the way, the “rebellion comes,” and “the man of lawlessness is revealed” (2 Thess. 2:3-4; 8-10)
After the time of trouble, the faithful will be delivered unto everlasting life and the faithless to everlasting shame and contempt (Dan. 12:1c-2)	After the rebellion and the revelation of the man of lawlessness, God will save those who loved the truth and kill the man of lawlessness and eternally condemn his followers (2 Thess. 2:8, 10-

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#### Four Questions

- What is the Rebellion?
- Who is the Man of Lawlessness?
- Who or What is the Restrainer?
- How do we harmonize these necessary precursors with the imminent expectation of Christ’s return (e.g., 1 Thess. 5:2-3)?
  - Regarding the timing and nature of prophesied last things, the two-fold, divinely intended purpose for the tensions present in Scripture is 1) to communicate the precursors to the end **so that we might not be deceived**, but 2) to reveal them *historically* in a mystery form whose fulfillment may not match our expectations, **so that in our lack of certainty we will always be prepared.**

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