

Roadblocks to Power

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 24:15-22.

B. Revolt and violence are never far beneath the surface today.

II. The Holy Spirit acts as a great restrainer of evil today.

A. Wherever Christians reflect Jesus, they are acting as salt in society.

B. There will come a day when evil will not be restrained with the coming of the Anti-Christ.

C. The removal of the church marks the removal of the restraints of evil in the world.

D. Two rival powers must be dealt with first--the political power Russia and the religious rival the false church. (Ezekiel 38-39, Joel 2, Isaiah 10)

1. This political power will be defeated.

2. However, the philosophy of materialism and socialism will rule when the church is removed.

3. The false church is characterized by Babylonianism. (Revelation 17, John 13, II Thessalonians 2)

a. It is the hunger for world power and prestige.

b. Its goal is to form one great church, but this can never be fulfilled while the body of Christ remains on earth.

c. Attitudes that mark the false Christian.

1) He has a false set of values. (Philippians 3)

2) He has a false sense of ministry. (Matthew 7)

3) He has a false sense of power. (Revelation 3)

4) He has a spirit of self-reliance.

d. The false church will be abolished. (Revelation 13)

1) This knowledge is given to us that we might be aware of the times.

2) Believers are to examine themselves to prove whether they are in the faith or not.

Application questions:

1. What is Babylonianism?

2. What is the role Christians play with regard to their culture and society as a whole?

3. Which attitude marking a false Christian stands out to you? What strikes you about it?
