

2 Thessalonians 2:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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:

Analysis

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—**then** (after restraint removal) **that Wicked** (ho anomos, ὁ ἄνομος, 'the lawless one') is unveiled. But his reign is brief—**the Lord shall consume** (analōsei, ἀναλώσει, totally consume) him **with the spirit of his mouth** (pneumati tou stomatos autou, πνεύματι τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ).

This echoes Isaiah 11:4: Messiah slays the wicked with His breath. **Destroy with the brightness of his coming** (epiphaneia tēs parousias, ἐπιφανεία τῆς παρουσίας, 'appearance of His arrival')—Christ's mere manifestation annihilates the Antichrist. No battle occurs; Jesus speaks and Satan's masterpiece collapses. The 'man of sin' meets the God-man and perishes instantly.

Historical Context

Revelation 19:11-21 provides parallel imagery: Christ returns as conquering King, speaking the word that slays His enemies. The beast and false prophet are cast into the lake of fire. Ancient Jewish expectation held that Messiah would destroy evil supernaturally, not through conventional warfare.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's effortless destruction of Antichrist comfort believers facing evil's apparent triumph?
2. What does 'the spirit of his mouth' teach about the power of God's Word?
3. How should the certainty of Christ's visible, victorious return shape your current priorities?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	τότε	ἀποκαλυφθήσεται	ὁ	ἄνομος	ὃν	ὁ	κύριος
And	then	be revealed	G3588	that Wicked	whom	G3588	the Lord
G2532	G5119	G601		G459	G3739		G2962
ἀναλώσει	τῷ	πνεύματι	τοῦ	στόματος	αὐτοῦ	καὶ	
shall consume	G3588	with the spirit	G3588	mouth	G846	And	
G355		G4151		G4750		G2532	
καταργήσει	τῇ	ἐπιφανείᾳ	τῆς	παρουσίας	αὐτοῦ		
shall destroy	G3588	with the brightness	G3588	coming	G846		
G2673		G2015		G3952			

Additional Cross-References

2 Thessalonians 2:3 (Parallel theme): 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;

Isaiah 11:4 (Evil): But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Revelation 20:10 (Evil): And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 19:15 (Parallel theme): And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Titus 2:13 (Parallel theme): Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Revelation 2:16 (Parallel theme): Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

1 John 5:18 (Evil): We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

Hebrews 10:27 (Parallel theme): But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

2 Timothy 4:8 (References Lord): Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

2 Timothy 1:10 (Parallel theme): But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: