

11. He is identified in verse 3 as “the man of lawlessness.” After the “departure” of Church Age believers, this man’s personality will ascend dramatically as an international power player. This is described by the structure of the verb “revealed.”
12. The aorist tense is ingressive which signifies a state or condition while denoting one’s entrance into that state or condition.
13. Therefore the public perception of this individual will “begin to be revealed.” Unknown to anyone before the Rapture, he will begin to be revealed following the Church’s “departure.”
14. The passive voice indicates that this personality will receive the action of being revealed. The subjunctive mood indicates that his identity is totally a matter of speculation.
15. We know that the Beast-Dictator is a historical figure, he is prophesied in numerous biblical passages and his strategy and tactics are discussed by John in the Revelation.
16. However, during the Church Age, this man’s identity is concealed, hidden, and veiled. The attempt by some to attach the title on any present-day political, military, or popular personality is a futile shot in the dark.
17. The Beast-Dictator is further described as “the one doomed to destruction.” The King James Version uses the term “son of perdition.” The word is the noun **ἀπώλεια (apóleia)**: “destruction.”
18. The translators of the King James Bible chose the word “perdition” to translate *apóleia* on eight of 19 uses and “destruction” on six occasions. *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary* defines “perdition” as “utter destruction,” “eternal damnation,” and “hell.”

19. Once the Rapture occurs, historical events will begin to advance rapidly leading to the identity of the Beast-Dictator.
20. Here is our expanded translation for as far as we have gone in our exegesis:

2 Thessalonians 2:1 - Now we urgently request you, fellow believers, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ [the Rapture] and our gathering together around Him [resurrection of “the dead in Christ” and “those who are alive and remain” (1 Thessalonians 4:16c–17a),

v. 2 - that you be not easily shaken in mind or disturbed, neither by a spirit [demon influence], nor by a message [false doctrine] nor by a letter [false corrigendum¹] as if from us, alleging that the day of the Lord [κύριος (kúrios): 2d Advent ²] is near [ἐνίστημι (enístēmi)].

v. 3 - Let no one deceive you according to any rhetorical method, for that day [the 2d Advent] shall not come until after the Rapture occurs first, and the man of lawlessness [Beast-Dictator] will then start the process of having his identity revealed, the son of destruction ... (EXT)

20. A personality sketch of this Satan-possessed man begins to be revealed in:

2 Thessalonians 2:4 - who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. (NASB)

¹ “Corrigendum: An error in a printed work discovered after printing and shown with its correction on a separate sheet (Latin: *corrigerere* to correct” (*Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 2d ed. s.v. “corrigendum”).

² The King James Version’s translation of *kúrios* is “Christ,” as if the Greek text used the word *Χριστός (Christós)* which it does not. “Day of Christ” refers to the Rapture of the Church, but “Day of the Lord” refers to the Second Advent. What the false corrigendum asserts is that the Second Advent is near. It is not, but the King James Version’s incorrect translation of “Christ” leaves that impression that it is the Rapture that is near. This is true, but that is not the claim made by the false corrigendum. It insists it is the Second Advent is near. The false corrigendum combined with the KJV’s erroneous translation causes unnecessary confusion.

1. The pronoun “who” continues the discussion of the Beast-Dictator. And his mental attitude in seizing power over Western Europe is described by two words: “opposes” and “exalts.”
2. The word “opposes” is the present middle participle of the verb **ἀντικείμεαι (antikeímai)** and “opposes” is a good translation.
3. The word is a compound of **ἀντί (antí)**: “instead of” and **κείμεαι (keímai)**: “to lie down and rest.” The Beast-Dictator will go into action; he will do the opposite of lying down and resting.
4. He will be an arrogant, pompous, despot whose mission is to execute liberticide,³ yet he will have the personality and intellect to disguise himself to the masses who will follow him into slavery.
5. Satan’s objective is to gain unlimited control of the human race. However, he must accomplish this through a human agent.
6. This human agent will “exalt himself” but in a way that the people will buy in to his propaganda. The word “exalt” is the present middle participle of the verb **ὑπεραίρω (huperaíro)**: “to lift up, elevate, exalt.”
7. A concept that includes mental attitudes of arrogance, insolence, and conceit. He thinks too highly of himself but somehow convinces the people that he is anything but or attracts those who identify with him in their arrogance.
8. Question: How is it possible for a leader to gain so much power over people that he is able to convince them he is God?
9. The population must be willing to grant him the time and the permission to consolidate his gains.

³ “Liberticide: The destruction of liberty, or a person who destroys liberty: <a democracy is constantly in danger of liberticide, but most greatly so when freedom of the press is threatened>” (J. N. Hook, *The Grand Panjandrum and 2,699 other Rare, Useful, and Delightful Words and Expressions*, rev. ed. [New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1991], 203.

10. There is a tendency to have compassion for those who live under tyranny. However, dictators simply express permission of the people to be enslaved.