

In the second stage, when he has been converted to believing the lie in place of the truth, he has been brainwashed by the persuasion of propaganda.

The long-range objective is to produce a follower who, no matter what the circumstances, can be depended upon to make decisions based on the lie.

PRINCIPLE: Propaganda is what they do to you. Brainwashing is what you do to yourself.

Disinformation: Another “wonder miracle of the lie” which is designed to manipulate people into supporting an idea, a cause, a solution, or a benefit and then winning their support, participation, or their investment. We have used the term “rhetorical veil” as a synonym.

All religions and much of Christendom use disinformation, or rhetorical veils, to conceal while advancing a hidden agenda. The rhetorical veil may promote works, rituals, programs, missionary trips, or a combination of these to acquire salvation, spirituality, or blessings. The hidden agenda is to keep people busy, involved, and regularly sitting in the chairs.

The visible “miracles” are well-known and include speaking in tongues, faith healing, performing miracles, exorcising demons, channeling the dead, and visions of the virgin Mary all of which are hoaxes pawned off on the benighted.

2 Thessalonians 2:9 - whose presence [the Beast-Dictator’s] in history shall be according to the modus operandi of Satan with all power and by means of extra natural phenomena and pseudo wonders through propaganda. (EXT)

Principles from 2 Thessalonians 2:1–9

1. The first nine verses of chapter 2 explain the problem which is stated in verses 10–12.

2. The emphasis so far is on the future reality of unrestrained evil in the Tribulation.
3. Verses 10–12 bring us back to the Church Age where we will learn essential and critical applications for believers.
4. One of the most important principles we will observe is that every unbeliever you know is in immediate danger of facing the devastating events of the Tribulation.
5. The Rapture may occur at any moment. The beginning of the Tribulation's opening days is almost as imminent as is the Rapture.
6. Any unbeliever you know and love – family, relative, or friend – is in danger of facing horrible consequences for their rejection of Christ as Savior.
7. Verses 10–12 are sobering reminders of our commission to inform them of the mystery of reconciliation: faith alone in Christ alone.
8. Our motivation is tied to two concepts we have learned: (1) the system of mind-control used by Lucifer through his "mystery of lawlessness" and (2) that it is "already operational," both found in verse 7.
9. The techniques noted so far are devices of Satan designed to capture our thinking.
10. His objective is to deceive, delude, and seduce us into believing that his lie is in fact the truth.
11. He will use visible physical deception or he will use invisible mental deception. Whatever weakness we harbor in our souls is what Lucifer will use to defeat us.
12. Unbelievers in the Tribulation are victims of their own poor decisions made in the Church Age to reject grace salvation through faith in Christ.
13. Unbelievers we know live in potential danger of facing this future reality for it reads in verse 7, "the mystery of lawlessness is already operational."

14. The word mystery is the subject of the sentence, the neuter, singular noun **μυστήριον** (*mustérion*) which refers to information that is hidden from the uninitiated.
15. *Mustérion* has several applications: (1) “the mystery of lawlessness” in 2 Thessalonians 2:7 which refers to the Dark Side’s agenda. It began in secret, but is not disclosed to those without the spiritual inventory of ideas to discern it, (2) Divine knowledge revealed only to believers under the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 4:1; 15:51; Colossians 2:2–3; 1 Timothy 3:16), and (3) the mystery of the relationship between Christ and His church (Ephesians 5:32).
16. “Lawlessness” refers to the rejection of truth. The Greek word is **ἀνομία** (*anomia*) with has an alpha privative prefix which negates the word **νόμος** (*nómos*) which is the word for “law,” thus “lawlessness.”