

We will continue to look at who is in the house of darkness and who is in the House of God. I want to focus on this word, *nomos*.¹ It is the Greek word for “law” or “order.” *Oikonomia*² is the terms *oikos*³ and *nomos* put together—*oikonomia*: *oikos nomos*. The word *nomos* is order or law, and it relates to the structure, the governance, the procedure, and the paradigm of order. So the *oikonomia* is the order of the house—*oikos* is house; *nomos* is order or law.

God gives forth an economy which is the order of His House, because the house is ever increasing in glory, the house is ever increasing in maturity. With the increase in maturity, the economy, the weight, the power that is now being available to the house is greater and greater. This principle is established for us in the Book of Galatians, the 4th chapter, which says, “The son, while he is yet a child, is subject to tutors and governors, although he owns the whole house. And he is subject to tutors and governors until the time set by his father.”⁴ When the announcement of Jesus was prophetically made in the Book of Isaiah, it says, “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given” (Isaiah 9:6a). The child who is born is not given at the point where He is born; He is given when He comes to maturity. So indeed is the picture of Christ who is born as a babe in Bethlehem, but when God gives Him to the world—“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17)—He is at the age of 30.

A child is born to become the son who is given, so he grows up into his role, and he grows up to take on his full and complete function. One of the functions of this Son is to be the radiance of His Father’s glory.⁵ I want to look at that word, “the light” or “the radiance” of His Father’s glory. There are many words for light or brightness or radiance:

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See *nomos*, Strong’s Greek 3551 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/3551.htm>

² See *oikonomia*, Strong’s Greek 3622 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/3622.htm>

³ See *oikos*, Strong’s Greek 3624 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/3624.htm>

⁴ See Galatians 4:1-2: “Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father.”

⁵ See Hebrews 1:3a (NIV): “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.”

1. One is the word *phóteinos*⁶—we get the word “photo” from that—and it means bright, full of light. We are familiar with that in regard to photography.
2. There is *lampros*;⁷ it also means bright and shining, as in clear, goodly, godly, even sumptuously. A derivative of it is *lamprotés*⁸ which is akin to brightness.

But that is not the one that is used in Hebrews 1:3 defining the Son. It says, “For the Son is the brightness of His Father’s glory and the image of God’s expression.” These are very critical things because they play exquisitely into the picture of how God means to overthrow Satan with the “brightness of His coming.”⁹ He overthrows the man of lawlessness with the brightness of His appearing. We are going to look at those words.

This word for brightness is not *lamprotés* or *lampros* or *phóteinos*; it is the word *apaugasma*.¹⁰ What it means is a shining forth. It is light or luminous coming from a body, such as in Christ. That is the reference in Hebrews 1:3—*apaugasma*: the effulgence, the shining forth, the reflected brightness. Consider that term as it is used in the following Scripture defining the man of lawlessness, because we are coming down to this conflict between “those who dwell on earth” and “those who dwell in heaven”—between the beast and the Son.¹¹ The Son consists of those who dwell in heaven; the kingdom of the *kosmos*¹² rules over those who dwell on the earth. Look with me at the Book of 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2, and I want to read verses 8-11. Actually, let us go back up and read from the mystery of lawlessness, verse 7. “For the mystery of lawlessness...”

Again, we talked about the word for “lawlessness” which was the word comprised of two terms, *a* and *nomos*: *anomia*.¹³ The word for “law” is the word *nomos*; the word for “lawless” is the word

⁶ See *phóteinos*, Strong’s Greek 5460 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/5460.htm>

⁷ See *lampros*, Strong’s Greek 2986 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/2986.htm>

⁸ See *lamprotés*, Strong’s Greek 2987 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/2987.htm>

⁹ See 2 Thessalonians 2:8: “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.”

¹⁰ See *apaugasma*, Strong’s Greek 541 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/541.htm>

¹¹ See Revelation 13:5-8

¹² See *kosmos*, Strong’s Greek 2889 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/2889.htm>

¹³ See *anomia*, Strong’s Greek 458 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/458.htm>

anomia. You just add the term *a* to it, which is a common construction in both the Greek and the English language—anormal, asymmetrical—and it produces the opposite.

- “Asymmetrical” means there is nothing symmetrical about it. Asymmetrical warfare is more like warfare where you use roadside bombs to detonate as convoys are passing. Military leaders began to refer to that tactic as “asymmetrical warfare,” as opposed to going up where the enemy is and dropping in troops where there are front lines and well-defined lines of conflict. Asymmetry means it will come at you from any direction.
- *Anomia* means “lawless,” “without order,” “the lawless one;” “wicked hands” being another reference to doing what is unlawful—the flagrant defiance of the known will of God. These are some of the meanings of *anomia*.

“For the mystery of lawlessness (*anomia*)...”—It is a mystery because we are primarily familiar with the conventions of order and governance and right conduct (it will behave in a certain way); it is by that that we hold people accountable. But *anomia*, lawlessness, is a mystery. We do not know quite what it will do. We are, of course, setting up a discussion of the second beast of Revelation, chapter 13, who arises out of where he dwells: the earth. He arises out of the earth, and he causes people to worship the beast and to make an image of the beast,¹⁴ which contrasts to the image of Christ. They are two very different words. The image of Christ is the word *charaktér*;¹⁵ the image of the beast is an *eikón*¹⁶—very different meanings. Let us deconstruct the mystery of lawlessness. It says,

*For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one [the antinomian, the *anomia*] will be revealed* (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8a NKJV, comments added in brackets).

So there is a revealing of the lawless one. Again, if you are thinking primarily, “Is some political figure the lawless one or not?” you are basically missing the point. Because, when the lawless one

¹⁴ See Revelation 13:11-15.

¹⁵ See *charaktér*, Strong’s Greek 5481 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/5481.htm>

¹⁶ See *eikón*, Strong’s Greek 1504 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/1504.htm>

is revealed, it is an environment of speech and sound. This horn is waging war against the saints, and he is saying great things and blasphemous things.¹⁷ So it is propaganda warfare.

Those who dwell in heaven understand the spirit of the conflict. They understand what is behind what is being said, not only what is being said. How are you going to understand that unless your own mind has been renewed?¹⁸ Unless the name of the Father is on your forehead,¹⁹ unless you are spiritually minded,²⁰ you are going to be deceived. It is not just about quoting the Scripture; it is not knowing the Bible. It is knowing what it means by revelation.

Look, when Satan came to tempt Jesus, did he not quote the Scriptures? “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread” (Matthew 4:3) was his opening bid. Jesus said, quoting the Scriptures, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone’” (Matthew 4:4). He takes Jesus where Jesus is—at the moment He is hungry, having been in a state of fasting for forty days. But because Jesus quoted the Scriptures, what does the enemy do immediately? The second temptation, he quotes the Scriptures: “It is written.”²¹ So we know he is going to quote the Scriptures. If you are a dweller on the earth, you will say, “Hmm, well, he has to be right because he is quoting the Scriptures.”

I had a fascinating example one time. I was dealing with an evil spirit in a person. The person in question was emaciated because he had developed a disdain for food. The way this worked was,

¹⁷ See Revelation 13:5: “And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.”

See Daniel 7:8: “I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.”

¹⁸ See Romans 12:2: “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

¹⁹ See Revelation 22:4-5: “They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.”

²⁰ See Romans 8:5-7.

²¹ See Matthew 4:5-6: “Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: “He shall give His angels charge over you,” and, “In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.” ’ ”

when he was a boy, his father always used the dinner hour to bully the family. This man said it was extremely unpleasant at dinner time. He would only move his food around on the plate and not eat much of it because his mind was too occupied with defending himself against the railings of his father. So he developed a hatred for food because he associated food with the berating of his father in that environment.

When I was dealing with this man, I said to him, “We are dealing here with a spirit that means to kill you through starvation; you are not getting enough nourishment.” Promptly, the spirit spoke back to me. I was doing a demonstration in a group of people I was training to discern spirits. The spirit spoke back to me using the voice of the man and said, “You know, the word does say, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”²² I paused, and I said to the people, “What do you think? What are you discerning here?” Different ones said, “He has to be right because he has quoted the Scripture.” In general, the whole group was stumped; there may have been fifteen people. The person had volunteered to have the blockages removed in his soul, and that had all been previously arranged. No one was taking advantage of him; it was a training exercise, but the benefit would have been that he himself would be released from whatever spirit was discerned. Most of the people said, “Yes, I guess that is right.” At that point I just laughed. I said, “When you are in an environment dealing with an evil spirit, one of the common tricks for evil spirits is to quote the Scriptures.”

I reminded them how, when Jesus had quoted the Scripture to Satan, “Man shall not live by bread alone”—which, by the way, was the same Scripture that the demon quoted—I said, “When Jesus did that, the next temptation that Satan presented Him was in a quotation of Scripture, taking Him to the pinnacle of the temple and saying to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God,’ quoting Psalm 91, ‘cast Yourself down. For it is written, “He will give His angels charge concerning you, and they will bear you up lest you should dash your foot against a stone.”’”²³ Satan knows the Scriptures. If you dwell on the earth, he will stump you with Scripture. How did Jesus respond? Jesus

²² See Deuteronomy 8:3: “So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.”

²³ See Psalm 91:11-12: “For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.” See also Matthew 4:5-6.

responded, “You shall not tempt the Lord your God” (Matthew 4:7). In other words, “You are the servant—all angels are ministering servants; I am the Lord. It is not your place to tempt Me.” Jesus restored the *nomos*, the order, in an environment of *anomos*,²⁴ antinomian—against the order.

Look again,

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work... (2 Thessalonians 2:7a).

The mystery of lawlessness, in principal part, is to change the truth into a lie. That is why the evil one, the lawless one, will speak blasphemous things and great things. The great things are the Scriptures; the blasphemous things are the ways he turns the Scripture as a weapon. Religious people will have no way of escaping this entrapment. He will trap you if you are just religious. That is why the Scriptures say over and over and over again, “In the last days,” the Lord Jesus Christ Himself saying, “take heed that no one deceives you.”²⁵ Deception is the order of lawlessness. The intent of lawlessness is to deceive by reference to the truth without any intent to obey but rather to license the behavior as if the lie is the truth.

Let us go on. Verse 8,

*And then the lawless one will be revealed, [For our purposes, here is a critical understanding:] whom the Lord will consume with the breath [the “spirit”—it is the word *pneuma*²⁶ that has been translated here, “breath”—with the spirit] of His mouth... (2 Thessalonians 2:8a, comments added in brackets).*

What comes out of the mouth? Words. The Lord will destroy him with the Spirit, not the letter of the law.²⁷ The letter of the law will be used in an antinomian fashion because this is the lawless

²⁴ See *anomos*, Strong’s Greek 459 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/459.htm>

²⁵ See Matthew 24:3-4.

²⁶ See *pneuma*, Strong’s Greek 4151 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/4151.htm>

²⁷ See 2 Corinthians 3:6 BSB: “And He has qualified us as ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

one. He is *anomia*—lawless. He does not play by the rules; he cites the rules for his own benefit with no intent to obey.

Have we now come into that time in the world where everyone tells ‘their truth’? And what is their truth anyway? It is that portion of the narrative that gives them the advantage. They frankly do not care about the truth. Even the things they are saying that are masquerading as truth are *anomia*, lawless. They do not care about the truth. There is a distinction between truth, meaning things that are true, and the Spirit of truth. The Holy Spirit is described as the Spirit of truth. “When He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth” (cf. John 16:13a). Today there is no Spirit of truth present in public discourse. You know what the Spirit of truth would require you to do as a speaker? The Spirit of truth would require you to give, redundantly, all the information necessary on all sides of the issue so that your listener is sufficiently informed and can make a decision consistent with the truth.

When I was a young man, I would say things like, “a number of people showed up at the meeting.” Well, that is if I wanted to give an impression that a larger number showed up than actually did. This was my attitude when I was in law school because I learned in law school how to shade things to your end, to the outcome you want. When the Spirit of the Lord got a hold of me—in fact, I was baptized in the Spirit after I graduated from law school—I would spend a large amount of time making sure that the information I gave was accurately conveyed because I began to see how I would say the truth, I would say things that were true, but it was devoid of the Spirit of truth. I wanted people to conclude what I wanted them to conclude, and I told them only enough to get them to that conclusion; and moreover, I told them in such a way as to get them to that conclusion. When I said, “a number of people,” I would always reserve the right to defend myself. So if somebody said, “You know, I later found out there were only, like, four people there.” I would say, “Well then four is a number, is it not?” That is the difference between facts and the truth.

The reason I am hammering this distinction is because this is what the post-truth era looks like. You cannot rely on what you hear on television; you cannot rely on what you hear on Fox News, any more than you can rely upon what you hear on MSNBC, because they both shade the truth to the end that they already have. Some of these newserators, which is opinionators, their deceptive

skill is in placing the issue as a question: “Is it not true that...?” or “Would you say that so and so did such and such or said such and such?” Their purpose for doing that is to appeal to an audience that already has an appetite for deception. This is how serious this is.

This is lawlessness; this is the lawlessness that you are looking at. Now I understand I am just a voice crying in the wilderness, and you may or may not choose to listen to me because you like your pundits. You like the people who fan the flames of your soul’s arrogance. If you do, if you love these people who tell you what you want to hear and do so with the cunning craftiness of defending themselves while deceiving you—“Is it not true that so and so did such and such, said such and such?”—if you love that, you are already deceived.

Here is what it says.

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming (2 Thessalonians 2:8 NKJV).

That is where I want to focus the next broadcast.

I am Sam Soleyn. I will see you then. Bye-bye.