

tabernacle of God, will be in heaven, far above the tumult and the terror of the Tribulation.

The church is translated to heaven at the secret coming of Christ—when he comes as the Bridegroom.

13. The beast will persecute the saints (the believing ones on earth) after the translation of the church; those among Jew and Gentile who believe the "Gospel of the Kingdom," which will then be preached instead of as now, the Gospel of *Grace*.—v:7.

14. He will rule over nations.—v:7.

15. All who are not of the elect of God on earth will worship him—give him their allegiance.—v:8.

16. The second beast is not Antichrist.

He is the prime minister of Antichrist.

The proof that he is not the Antichrist is in the fact that he leads the whole world to worship the first beast. He fills the same function that the Holy Spirit does in relation to Christ. The Holy Spirit is here not to speak of himself, but to lead men to faith and service in Christ. Just so, this second beast does not speak of himself; he does not seek to lead men to believe in himself, but the first beast, the head of the Roman empire. Antichrist, we are told on the absolute authority of the Son of God, will "come in his own name." That ought to settle it beyond all dispute. *The second beast does not come in his own name, he comes in the name of the first beast.*