

come in an hour when "ye think not," and as a "thief in the night." The thief, as a rule, comes after midnight, in the hour of deepest darkness, and the time of heaviest sleep, comes softly, unexpectedly, suddenly, secretly. As a church we have passed the midnight hour, the cry has been sounded, "Go ye out to meet him." There is gross darkness upon the people, and it is the time of heavy sleep. Any moment the Bridegroom may come for those who are really his.

This imminency is emphasized by the preparation for the parliament of nations. Every hammering sound of events which tells that the stage is being put together for the final and climacteric display of the world's sin and wickedness, is a terrific and faithful witness that the Coming of the Lord draweth nigh, that it is even now "at the doors," and should inspire us to be awake, alert, and ready, lest, coming suddenly, he find us asleep.

AN ANALYSIS OF REVELATION THIRTEENTH.

1. The beast is the symbol of the revived fourth, or Roman, empire, divided among ten kings, and heading itself up in the rulership and power of a final Caesar—the Antichrist. v:1.

2. This final Caesar is called by the general kingdom name, "The Beast." Just as Nebuchadnezzar stands for Babylon the kingdom, so