CH. xx. 5] EXPOUNDED 519  
  
city. There it is “ the throne of God and of the Lamb ”  
(xxil.1). It must be, then, in this chapter, xx.4. There  
the throne of the Christ is set up, and favoured ones  
reign with Him.  
The elders, when Christ takes the book, confess  
His worthiness, because of His death, and acknowledge  
those whom He has made priests and kings, and who  
will reign over the earth. v. 9, 10.  
This is nowhere asserted or beheld,if not fulfilled in  
xx. 4. For after it, the earth is wholly destroyed.  
5. When the seventh trumpet sounds, “ The kingdom  
of the world becomes that of our Lord and of His Christ ”’  
(xi. 15). And the elders describe further the results  
which ensue. God exerts His power and reigns. The  
nations are wroth, and God’s wrath descends. Neither  
of these is the case now. ’Tis the time of mercy: the  
nations are indifferent. °Tis then the time of reward  
to God’s people, and of destruction to the destroyers  
of earth. Neither of these things is going on now. “Tis  
the evil day, as yet, of the combat with Satan. Eph. vi.  
10-18. °’Tis not the destruction of the wicked now.  
But God is “reconciling the world to himself, not  
imputing their trespasses to them” (2 Cor. v. 19).  
The kingdom has come to heaven, when favoured  
saints, awaking from the dead in resurrection-bodies,  
are caught up to God’s throne, and are rapt thither  
that they may rule the nations with rod of iron. xii.  
5-12. They reign, after Satan is cast down, first  
from heaven, and then into the pit. Neither of these  
things has yet been effected. Not yet is it “ Woe to  
earth, because Satan has but a short time!” Or else  
“‘ woe also to the saints :”’ because the day of the Lord, the  
great and very terrible,is uponthem! Against this the  
Holy Spirit comforts His watchful ones. The pre-  
sence of the Lord will gather us to itself ere the falling  
away from Christianity takes place, and the great