162 ST. MATTHEW. XXIV.   
   
 came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these   
 things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and   
 of the end of the world? \*And Jesus answered and said   
 bs Thee. unto them, > Take heed that no man deceive you. 5° For   
 awit” many shall come in my name, saying, I am \* Christ ; 4 and   
 “" ghall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and   
 rumours of wars : see that ye be not troubled : for all these   
 \*1cbrea. things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For   
   
   
 i,33,, nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against king-   
 Hing, 23,   
 ® render, the Christ.   
 tory, is one key to the interpretation the millennial ones of the <A; 0.   
 this chapter. Treo parallel inter- How untenable this view is, I hope the   
 ‘ations former part following notes shew ; but to be con-   
 ie ver. 28 ig mid of Jerusa. tinually meeting it, the office eines   
 lem and the final ju t being both not of exegetic 4, 6.]   
 enwrapped in the words, but the former, Lord does not answer the when, but by   
 in this part the chapter, predominating. admonitions not to be deceived. See a   
 Even in this however, we cannot question similarly Luke xiii.   
 how applicable the warnings given may 24. For many... ] This was the   
 be to the events of last times, in first danger awaiting not of being   
 apparently Jerusalem is again to play 80 drawn away from Christ, but imagini:   
 ditinguished a part. From ver. 28, the that these were Himself. Of sack   
 lesser subject begins to be swallowed up before the destruction Jerusa-   
 by the greater, and our Lord’s second , we have no distinct doubtless   
 coming to be the theme, with there were such : but above) I believe   
 however certain hints back as it the prophecy and warning to have a fur-   
 were at the event which was immediately ther reference the latter in which   
 in question: till, the latter of the ite complete fulfilment be looked for.   
 chapter and the whole of the next, the The persons usually cited fulfilling   
 second advent, and, last, final judg- (Theudas, Simon Magus, Barchochab,   
 ment ing on it, are the subj are all too early too late, and not cor-   
 (2) Another weighty matter for undor- dent to the condition, My name,   
 standing of this prophecy is, that (see «with My name as the grownd of their   
 Mark xiii, any obscurity or conceal- pretences.’ See Greswell the Parables,   
 ment concerning the time of the Lord’s 880 note. St. Luke gives addition (ver.   
 second coming, must be attributed to the 8) to the speech the false Christs, and   
 right cause, we know from His own the time is at hand.” 6—8.] wars   
 mouth to be, that the divine Speaker and ramours of wars there certainly   
 Himself, in His humiliation, not know during this period; but hecy must   
 the day nor the hour, All that He had be interpreted rather those of the   
 heard of the Father, made known unto Hebrew Christians would be most likely   
 His disciples xv. 15): but which to hear as a cause of terror. Such un-   
 the Father kept in His own power (Acta doubtedly were the three threats of war   
 i. 7), did not in His abased humanity against the Jews by Caligula, Claudius,   
 know. He told them the attendant cir- and Nero; of the first which Josephus   
 cumstances of His coming; He gave them says, “that it would have brought exter-   
 enough to guard them from error in sup- mination to the Jewish nation, had it   
 ing the day to be close at hand, and been for Caligula’s Luke couples   
 Rom carelessness in not expecting it as with wars “commotions,”—and to this   
 near. Regarding Scripture prophecy as I nation against nation seems also to point.   
 do asa whole, and the same great process There were serious disturbances,—(1) at   
 of events to denoted by it all, will be Alexandria, which gave rise to the com-   
 but waste labour to continually issue, plaint against and deposition of Flaccus,   
 in the notes of this and the succeeding and Philo’s against him (a.D. 38), in   
 chapter, with those who hold that the which the Jews as a nation were the   
 Gospel prophecies are inconsistent, in especial objects of persecution; (2) at   
 their description of the end, with those ia about the same time, in which   
 after the Ascension, those again with more than 50,000 Jews were killed; (8)