21—29. ST. MATTHEW. 167   
   
 is in the secret chambers; believe it not. 7 For as the   
 lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto   
 the west ; so shall [4a/s0] the coming of the Son of man   
   
 be. 28\* For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the tJob xxx.   
 eagles be gathered together. ‘a Tes. 10.   
 °9 Immediately after the tribulation of those days " shall   
 the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her 4   
   
 ‘ 4 omit.   
   
 enthusiasm or superstition, seeing and times of Gentiles be shall the   
 looking for Him who is invisible. the coming of the Lord Himself happen. On   
 signs and wonders, see 2 ii. the indefiniteness this assigned period   
 Deut. xiii. 27, 28.] The coming in the prophecy, note on ver. (The   
 of the Lord in the even as that in expression Mark is equally of   
 t was, shall be a plain unmistakeable @ considerable interval: those days,   
 fact, of all;—and like that after that tribulation.”) fact of His   
 also, sudden all-pervading. But here coming, and its attendant circumstances,   
 in the full of the words is being known to Him, but the-exact time   
 to be found in final, of them. unknown,—He speaks without the   
 The lightning, lighting both of hea- interval, which would be employed in His   
 ven at once, seen all beneath it, only waiting till all are put under His   
 find its full similitude Hrs Personal feet: see Rev. i. 1; xxii. In   
 ing, Whom every eye shall see, i. in the literal this ver. the slight   
 7. 28.) The stress is wherescever and indirect allusions the His great   
 and there, pointing out the universality. of Jerusalem ;—as were in are former   
 In the similar Luke xvii. 37, part to the great of which that isa   
 fore this the disciples ‘ Where, reshadowing :—but no direct mention.   
 Lord?’ The answer is,—first, Jeru- The contents of the rest of the chapter   
 salem: where the corrupting body lies, may be set forth as follows: (rer ao   
 thither shall vultures (see gather signs which shall immediately   
 themeelves together, coming as they do (ver. 30) the coming of Lord to judg-   
 from far on the scent of prey. Secondly, ment, and (ver. 81) to salvation to   
 in its final fulfilment,—over the wool His elect. The certainty of the event,   
 world ;—for that is the carcase and and its intimate connexion with its   
 the eagles the angels of vengeance. See monitory signe (vv. 32, 33); the endur-   
 Deut. xxviii. 49, which is probably here ance (ver. 84) of the Jewish people till   
 referred to; also viii. 1: Heb. i. the end—even till Heaven and Earth   
 ‘The interpretation makes the car- (ver. 85) pass away. But (ver. 36) of   
 case our Lord, and the eagles the is the day and hour none knoweth. Its   
 quite beside the Neither is any suddenness (vv. 87—39) and decisiveness   
 allusion to the i» eagles to for s (vv. 40, 41),—and exhortation (vv. 42—   
 moment thought of. The birds by 44) to be ready it. A parable setting   
 the original are the oulfures (vultur Sorth the blessedness the watching, and   
 percnopterus, Linn.), reckoned by misery of the neglectful (vv. 45—   
 the ancients belonging to the eagle end), and forming a point of to   
 29. Immediately] All the difficulty parables in the next chapter.   
 which this word has been supposed to in- shall the sun be darkened] The darkenii   
 volve has arisen from confounding the of the material of this world is   
 partial falfilment the prophecy with its in prophecy as a type of the occurrence   
 ultimate one. The important insertion in of trouble and danger in the fabric of   
 Luke (xxi. 28, shews us that the human societies, v. 80; xiii. 10;   
 lation includes wrath upon this people, xxxiv.4: Jer. iv. 28: Ezek. xxxii. 7, 8:   
 which is yet inflicted and the Amos viii. 10: Micah iii. 6. But the   
 ing down of Jerusalem by the Gentiles, type is not only in words of the pro-   
 sti goin on (see note and imme- xy, but also the events ther ives,   
 diately that tribulation which shall Buck prophecies are to be understood   
 happen when the cup of Gentile iniquity rally, and indeed such understand-   
 Sull, and when the Gospel shall have been   
 preached in all the world for a witness,