

24. When the revelation of the public revelation of the Beast-Dictator's identity occurs is indicated in the following prepositional phrase: ἐν τῷ ἑαυτοῦ καιρῷ (*en tōi heautou kairōi*): "in his time."
25. All the major English versions of the Bible translate the noun καιρός with "time." There are two Greek words that refer to periods of time: (1) καιρός and (2) χρόνος (*chrónos*).
26. *Kairós* refers to time as an epoch or an era, a chronological order or system, a period of time characterized by distinctive development within that period. This word is used to depict the organization of historical events into dispensational categories.
27. *Chrónos* refers to time as a succession of events. It is used to present the chronology of historical occurrences.
28. In our context, the subject is the Beast-Dictator whose public identification cannot occur until after the Rapture has occurred.
29. The Rapture terminates the dispensation of the Church. This is followed closely by the dispensation of the Tribulation. The Beast-Dictator cannot be revealed until the Rapture has occurred and the Tribulation has begun.
30. With these things in view, we are able to develop an expanded translation of verse 6:

**2 Thessalonians 2:6** - And now you know what thing [ the power of the Holy Spirit ] restrains [ under rules of engagement<sup>1</sup> ] him [ Lucifer & later the Beast Dictator ] now [ Church Age ] so that he will be revealed in his dispensation [ Tribulation ]. (EXT)

<sup>1</sup> "Restrain: to prevent from doing; to limit, restrict, or keep under control; to limit the force, effect, development, or full exercise of; suggests holding back by force from acting or going to extremes" (*Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed., s.v. "restrain").

31. The imminency of the Rapture is reflected here since Paul expected the event to occur in his lifetime.
32. Since the divine decree contains the precise timing of the Rapture, but keeps the date of its occurrence a mystery, then it may be assumed that the Beast-Dictator could be alive “now.”
33. Yet it is impossible for anyone to predict, calculate, or expect his physical presence to be made known at any point in the Church Age.
34. At the same time, everyone may be confident that Lucifer is actively prosecuting the Invisible War at all times during the Church Age.
35. Consequently, there are rules of engagement by which Lucifer and the fallen angels—demons—are restrained in the Church Age.
36. Primarily, no believer can be indwelt by a demon, but through ignorance of and failure to inculcate and apply biblical principles, he may be demon influenced by one.
37. The believer’s defense against demon influence is spiritual growth which enables him to defend his soul against the “tactics of the devil” (Ephesians 6:11).
38. Lucifer nor his demons have the power to overrule the integrity of God. Spiritual growth is the process of acquiring the principles of divine integrity.
39. The greater the inventory, the greater the believer’s ability to withstand Lucifer’s tactics.
40. Paul, in Ephesians 6:11–18, gives a synopsis of how this power enables the believer to defend his soul.

**Ephesians 6:11** - Wear for yourselves the full armor from God that you might be able to hold your ground against the tactics of the devil.

**v. 12** - Because your combat is not against blood and flesh, but against demon generals, commissioned officers, ambassadors of darkness, and the spirit forces of evil in the first and second heavens.

**v. 13** - Because of this angelic conflict, pick up and put on the full armor of God, in order that you might have the ability to resist in the evil day, even after having achieved everything, to oppose the forces of the Dark Side.

**v. 14** - Stand fast, therefore, after having buckled around your waist the belt of doctrine in the soul, also having put on the body armor of righteousness which is the inner virtue of biblical integrity.

**v. 15** - Also put combat boots on your feet with the equipment of the gospel which is the doctrine of reconciliation.

**v. 16** - In addition to these, take up and put on the shield of faith, with which shield you will have the ability to destroy all flaming missiles from the evil one.

**v. 17** - Also receive the helmet of salvation, also the sword from the Holy Spirit which is the Word of God.

**v. 18** - On every occasion, by means of every prayer and petition, be praying in the filling of the Holy Spirit, also with reference to this prayer, be on alert with all persistent determination and petition on behalf of all the saints. (EXT)