

7. What they know is which power is involved in restraining the Beast-Dictator. The word “what” is the singular neuter article **τό (tó)**: “the thing.” This refers to the power of the Holy Spirit Who is identified in verse 7.
8. His power is said to “restrain,” the present active participle of the verb **κατέχω (katéchō)**: Literally, “to hold down”; to suppress, quash, restrain.
9. This same verb is found in:
Romans 1:18 - For anger from God is being revealed from heaven [the Supreme Court of Heaven] against all ungodliness [heathenism] and unrighteousness [rejection of the gospel] of those who suppress [κατέχω (katéchō)] the truth [presentation of the gospel] through unrighteousness [false gospel]. (EXT)
10. Where false teachers “suppress” the truth in Romans 1:18, it is the Holy Spirit Who “restrains” the rise of a Beast-Dictator type personality in 2 Thessalonians 2:6.
11. Principle: Pretenders to the throne of the Beast-Dictator during the Church Age are restrained by the Holy Spirit. Once he is selected by Lucifer this restraining ministry will continue until post-Rapture.
12. This ministry is in play by the Holy Spirit beginning with the Church Age in Acts 2 and will continue until the Rapture of the Church.
13. This is supported by the present tense of duration which denotes action begun in the past but which continues to the present time.
14. The active voice indicates that the restraining ministry indicated is the power of the Holy Spirit.

15. The participle is circumstantial. That circumstance recognizes the fact that this ministry remains in effect as long as the delay of the Rapture continues.
16. Following the Rapture, the Holy Spirit's function in the lives of believers and upon the activities of the Dark Side is removed.
17. The dispensation of the Church is completed while the dispensation of the Tribulation begins as the final heptad of Daniel's prophecy.
18. Until these events occur, the Holy Spirit will restrain Lucifer, control history with regard to the protection of believers, the client nation, and the pivot.
19. In addition, those whom Lucifer will be vetting in his evaluation of the Beast-Dictator's personality quotient will be restrained as well as the Beast-Dictator himself once selected by Lucifer.
20. The fact is that at some point the man selected by Lucifer will be identified but concealed until after the Rapture of the church.
21. This is brought out by the aorist passive participle of the verb ἀποκαλύπτω (*apokalúptō*): "might be revealed."
22. The aorist tense is culminative thus making reference to the end of the Church Age. One of the results will be the removal of the Holy Spirit's restraint against Lucifer's strategies related to the Tribulation.
23. This includes restraint of the formation of the Revived Roman Empire over which Lucifer will place the Beast-Dictator as its ruler.