on. ii. 14] EXPOUNDED 47  
  
Jesus glorifies the name of His martyr. ‘‘ ANTIPAS,  
my witness, my faithful one.” Tis a name not noted  
elsewhere. But it is the real name of one who suffered  
unto death for Christ. Unknown to men, ’tis enough  
that Christ has named him with terms of endearment.  
“ Right dear, in the sight of the Lord, is the death of his.  
saints.”” He will remember such a one in His kingdom and  
glory. The life lost shall then be found. Not ANnTrPas  
alone, but all His martyrs will then shine as the sun.  
Again, our Lord notes the peculiarity of the situation  
of PerGamos. There, Satan not only held his throne,  
but dwelt. We must not marvel to find broken bones,  
and traces of blood, near the lion’s den. Let us praise  
God, that we are not in a post of such danger! What  
a difference there is in the moral character and atmo-  
sphere of different places on earth! Satan, no doubt,  
would choose as his habitation one of the worst; and  
his presence there would make it worse still.  
  
14. “ But I have a few things against thee, that thou hast there  
them that hold fast the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to  
east a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things  
offered unto idols, and to commit fornication.”  
  
The Saviour will not pass by just occasions of reproof,  
even in those found worthy of praise. There were  
those in the Church who ought not to be tolerated there.  
They held the doctrine of Balaam. He instructed the  
king to seduce the tribes to fornication and idolatry  
by means of the Moabite women.  
Satan has two chief plans of mischief against the  
people of God. He seeks to raise against the Church  
the anger of man. Tf that avail not, and the Church  
stand firm, he endeavours to raise against it the displeasure  
of God, by alluring it into sin. ’Tis often a very efficient  
plan. Smyrna resisted his assault in force. The wall  
of Pergamos begins to fall by secret mining.