310 ST. LUKE. III.   
   
 III. } Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius   
 Cesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Juda, and Herod   
 being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch   
 ayommsi.i9, Of Iturea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias   
 si the tetrarch of Abilene, 2\* Annas and Caiaphas being the   
   
   
 He alleges John vii. 7), the world was only Procurator of Judea: the word   
 hateth, because I testify of it that its governor being used promiscuously the   
 deeds are evil;”? we can hardly con- leading officers the an government.   
 ceive such testimony, in the years Pontius Priate was the sixth procurator   
 thering vigour zeal, wil from the deposition Archelaus, and came   
 The incident of ch, 28, 20 oa ecarcely to Judsa about the year of Rome 779.   
 have arisen osly from the anger of the He held the province ten years, and was   
 moment. sent to Rome to answer for his conduct   
 Cuap. III. 1—82.] Prracnine snp by Vitellius, of Syria, in 789, the   
 Baptism or Joux. Divine TESTIMONY ear of death of Tiberius. See   
 to Jesus at His Baptism. Matt. iii, ical table in the Introduction to the   
 1—17. Mark i. 1) These Acts, Herod] See note on Matt.   
 dates are consistent with the accurate xiv. 1. Hxrop Antipas became tetrarch   
 tracing down which St. Luke predicates of Galilee after death of his father   
 of himeelf, i. 3. In Matt. iii. have Herod, in the year Rome 750, and con-   
 the same events indicated as to time tinued till was d in 792.   
 only “ In those The fifteent! Philip] Son of Herod the Great by Cleo-   
 ear of the sole principate of Tiberius patra, a woman of Jerusalem. le was   
 Aug. 19, in the of Rome 781, ight up at Rome, and after his   
 and reckoning backwards thirty from father’s death in was made tetrarch   
 that time (see ver. 23), we should have Batanza, Gaulonitis, Trachonitis,   
 the birth of our Lord in 751, or about Auranitis (Batanwa and Auranitis make   
 then; for “about thirty” will admit of up Itura), and continued till death in   
 some latitude. But Herod the Great died 786 or 787. He built Caesarea Philippi.   
 in the beginning of year 750, and our He was by far the of Herod’s and   
 Lord’s birth must be some months at ruled his portion and well. He must   
 least before death of Herod. If then not be confounded with Ais half-brother   
 it be placed 749, He would have been Philip, whose wife Herodias Anti   
 at least thirty-two at the time of His seduced. This latter disinherited his   
 baptism, seeing that it took some father, and lived in privacy. See note   
 time after Feginning of John’s minis- Matt. xiv. the tetrareh   
 try. This difficulty led to the ef Abilene] AniLEne, the district round   
 tion that this year is not to be Abila, a town eighteen miles north of   
 dated from the but from the Damascus, now, according Pococke, Nebi   
 principate of Tiberius, commenced Abel. It must not be confounded with   
 most probably at the of 764. Accord- Abila in Decapolia. Josephus mentions it   
 ing to this, fifteenth of Tiberius as among the districts Claudius gave   
 begin at the end of 779—and our Lord’s to king Agrippa I. the uame of Abila   
 birth would be 749 or 760: which will oY Tarantas, and in another place as the   
 agree with the death of Herod. This ‘ingdom called that of Lysanias. See   
 latter has usually adopted. farther in note in my Greek Testament.   
 Our present wera was fixed by Dionysius It seems to have been a district:   
 Exiguus, in the sixth century, aces nially in possession rulers bearing.   
 the birth of our in 764. It may be name. 2.] Annas (Ananus, Josephus)   
 doubted, however, whether in all these the high priest, was dey by Valerius   
 reckonings more accuracy has not been Gratus (in the year of Rome 779), and   
 sought than the Gospel warrants after several Joseph or Caiaphas,   
 any expectation of finding. The “about his son-in-law (John xviii. was made   
 thirty” is a wide expression, and might high priest. It would appear from this   
 cover any age from thirty (see note on verse (and the use of the singular—see   
 ver. 23) to or thirty-three. margin—renders the inference more strin-   
 See on Matt. ii. 2, it appears pro- gent. Compare also St. own phrase,   
 bable from astronomical considerations, Acts iv. 6) that as ex-high priest,