378 ST. LUKE. XII.   
   
 whomeoever much is given, of him shall be much re-   
 quired: and to whom men have committed much, of him   
 they will ask [\* ¢ke] more.   
   
 b ver. 402 T Yam come to send fire on the earth; and ® what will   
 iMstixs. I, if it be already kindled? 5 But ‘I have a baptism to be   
 baptized with ; and how am I straitened till it be accom-   
   
 k Matt. 34. plished | 51\* Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on   
   
 X omit. Y render, came.   
 ® render, what will 1? would that it were already kindled! See note.   
 is in vain the sinner encourage him- parently Origen’s, And what will I?   
 self in sin such a declaration this: Would that it were already kindled!   
 for the very knowledge of the declaration This abrupt ejaculation seem unlike   
 excludes him from the exemption. “Qur the usual of our Lord’s :   
 ears have heard the voice divine; but we have a similar in John xii.   
 cannot be as they.” (Christian Year.) 27, and under corresponding   
 much is given .... shall be much of wish soul were already k And ! how   
 required] The second much is not the this, is adopted by Theophylact, and   
 muoh that has been given, but a propor- some distr that the Salt chief   
 tionable amount of result of diligence, caer not bear it: see in my Greek   
 much which he is to render. more] (83) That of Euthymius, Beza, and the   
 bape, more than from others: but A.V. What will I, if it be already   
 ikely than had been deposited kindled 1 i.e.“ What more do I await in   
 with him, viz. that, and the interest the world, seeing that it alread aie   
 of it;—see Matt. xxv. 15 ff. dled?” But this presents great di   
 49—58.] The connexion appears to be as regards the context; for, ver. ny z   
 ‘this immense and awful difference evidently was not kindled: and even if   
 between the faithful and unfaithful ser- this were overcome, the expression,   
 vants brings our Lord to the ground of dently a deep one a ‘sonal anxiety   
 that difference, its necessai cpap. (and be it remem! who said it),   
 ment in the of His kingdom on be vapid and unmeaning in the extreme.   
 earth. B: ire] It is extraordinary All things then being considered, prefer   
 that the official of the Bap- the first 60.] The sym-   
 tist (ch. 16)—“ He shall baptize you bolic nature Baptism is here be borne   
 with the Holy Ghost and with —con- in mind. Baptism is equivalent Death.   
 nected with the of a baptism here, The figurein theSacrament isthe   
 —with the promise Acts i. and the ap- —the burial, in water, of the mas   
 pearance Acts ii. 80 strikingly and the resurrection the new man: see   
 as “cloven (divided, the very same word 1 Pet. iii. and notes. The Lord's   
 in the original) as of fire” Baptism was His death, in which the   
 not kept the Commentators in general ly inherited from the first was   
 (Bleek is an exception) from fulling buried, and the new Body raised again:   
 the blunder of imagining here that the see Rom. vi. 1—11, but especially 10.   
 Jire is synonymous with, and means no And He was straitened (the ible   
 more than, the discord division which rendering) till this smonpthed   
 follow, The fire is, gift of the Holy i.e. in and trouble of   
 Spirit,—the crowning result of the The but here implies but first, before   
 sufferings aud triumph of the Lord Jesus. that fire can be shed abroad. Here we   
 To follow this out in all its references have then, as Stier it, a “   
 belongs to another place :—see notes on ning of the passion” of our Lord; the   
 Mark ix. 49, Acts ii. This fire, first of that ish,   
 its purifying separating effects the afterwards broke forth so tifully,:   
 mass of mankind, causes the division but -coupled at the same tithe aly   
 afterwards spoken of. The construc- zeal for e great work to be   
 tion of the latter in this verse a] The work of thie as   
 been ever a matter of dispute, the it burns | in the world, will not   
 meaning is onall nearly agreed. The be peace, but division; see Mal. iii 3,   
 three prevalent explanations it are: (1)   
 That adopted in margin, which is ap-