654 THE ACTS. IH.   
   
 their lots ; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was,   
 numbered with the eleven apostles.   
 8 Lev. 15. II. 1 And 4 when \* the day of Pentecost was fully come,   
 Deut. xvi.   
 ch. xx.   
 © literally, voted in amongst.   
 4 titeratly, while the day of Pentecost was being fulfilled.   
   
 I think these words may be interpreted two this. — Stier was disposed to question   
 ways: 1. that Judas deserted this our whether this step of electing a twelfth   
 place, our office and ministry, to go to his Apostle was altogether to the then   
 own place, that part which he had chosen waiting position Church, and whether   
 for himself, viz. office and character of Paul was not in reality the twelfth,   
 a traitor and enemy of God; 2. reg: by the Lord Himself. But I do not see   
 the former word place as being selected to that any of his seven queries touch the   
 correspond to the more proper and dreadful matter. We i the precedent, ot! all   
 use of the word here, that Judas deserted others most applicable, of the twelve tribes,   
 his appointed place, here among us, that he to shew that the number, though ever   
 might go to his own appointed pluce else- nominally kept, was really excceded. And   
 where, viz. among the dead in the place of this incident would not oceupy a prominent   
 torment. Of these two interpretations, I place in a book where St. Paul himself has   
 very much prefer the second, on all ae- so conspicuous a part, unless it were by   
 counts; as being more according to the himself considered as being what it pro-   
 likely usage of the word, and as more befit- fessed to be, the filling up of the vacant   
 ting the solemnity of such a prayer. At Apostleship.   
 the same time, no absolute sentence is pro- Cuar. I]. 1—4.] Tue Ovrrovnrine oF   
 nonneed on the traitor, but that dark sur- ne Hoty Sprit ON THE DISCIPLES.   
 mise expressed by the phrase his own place, 1.) while the day of Pentecost was being   
 which none ean help feeling with regard fulfilled: “during the progress of that   
 tohim. To understand “he” of Judas’s particular day :” necessitated by the pres.   
 suecessor,—that he (the new Apostle) might tense. In sense, it amounts to ‘when the   
 enter on his own place of dignity destined day of Pentecost was fully come, as A.V.   
 Sor him by God, (1) is contrary to the form the day of Pentecost] The fiftieth   
 of the sentence in the original ; (2) is in- day (inclusive) atter sixteenth of.   
 consistent with the words, which are un- the second day of the Passover (Levi   
 exampled in this sense; (3) would divest 16),—called in Exodus xxiii. ‘the feast   
 a sentence, evidently solemn and pregnant, of harvest,—in Deut. xvi. ‘Yo, ‘the   
 of all point and meaning, and reduce it to of weeks ’—one of the three great feasts,   
 a mere tautology. It appears to have been when all the males were required to appear   
 very early understood as above; for Cle- at Jerusalem, Deut. xvi. 16. At this time,   
 ment of Rome says of Peter, “ Thus having it was simply regarded as the feast of   
 borne a martyr’s testimony, he went to his harvest: among the later Jews, it was   
 appointed place of glory,” an expression considered as the anniversary of the giving   
 evidently borrowed from our text. Light- of the law from Sinai. This inference was   
 foot quotes from a Rabbinical work on apparently grounded on a comparison of   
 Numb. xxv. 25, “Balaam went to his Exod, xii. 2 and xix. 1. Josephus and   
 own place,” i.e. “to hell.” 26. they Philo know nothing of it, and it is the   
 cast lots for them] These lots were pro- best very uncertain. Chrysostom’s reason   
 bably tablets, with the names of the per- for the event happening when it did is   
 sons written on them, and shaken in a probably the true one: “It was fitting   
 vessel, or in the lap of a robe (Prov. xvi. that this should take place on the reeur-   
 33); he whose lot first leaped out beiug rence of a feast: that they who had been   
 the person designated. was voted in present at the cross of Christ might see   
 amongst the eleven apostles] The Jot this also.” The question, ow what day of   
 being regarded as the divine choice, the the week this day of Pentecost was, is beset   
 suffrages of the asseinbly unanimously with the difficulties the question   
 given (not in form, but by cheerful ac- of our Lord’s last passover; see notes on   
 quiescence) to the candidate thus chosen, Matt. xxvi. 17, and John xviii. 28. It   
 and he ‘voted in’? among the eleven appears probable however that it was on   
 Apostles, i.e. a twelfth. That St. Luke the Sabbath, —i.e. if we reckon from   
 does not absolutely say so, aud never after- Saturday, the 16th of Nisan, Wiescler   
 wards speaks of the ¢welve Apustles, is supposes that the Western Chureh altered.   
 surely no safe ground en which to doubt the celebration of it to the first of the