37—48. THE ACTS.   
   
 of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words   
 might be ¢ preached to them the next sabbath. 8 Now   
   
 when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews   
 and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who,   
 speaking to them, ® persuaded them to continue in °the™®   
 grace of God. 4! And the next sabbath day came almost “1   
 the whole city together to hear the word of God. 1 Pet, ve13,   
 But   
 when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with   
   
 envy, and ? spake against those things which were spoken iy tik a.   
 by Paul, contradicting and )laspheming. 46Then Paul ade 10.   
 and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, 4I¢ was necessary ¢   
 that the word of God should first have been spoken to you:   
   
 Jut ‘seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves \*£:04,xsxi,   
 unworthy of everlasting life, lo, ‘we turn to the Gentiles.   
 47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, 'I have , tom   
 set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest , i"!   
 be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.   
 48 And when   
   
 the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the   
 word of the Lord: "and as many as were 4 ordained to weh.i.s.   
   
 © render, spoken. 4 render, disposed : see note.   
   
 and great fulfilment of all the promises of unworthy of eternal life: the Gentiles, as   
 grace and all the threats of wrath, by whieh many as were disposed to eternal life, be-   
 every prophetic word shall be exhausted. lieved. By whom so disposed, is not here   
 42.] The insertions in the text fol- declared: nor need the word be in this   
 lowed by the A. V. have been made partly place further particularized. We know,   
 perhaps to remove the ambiguity in the that it is Gov who worketh in us the will   
 “they” and “them,? and to shew who to believe, that the preparation of the   
 they were that besought, &e. But they heart is of Him: but to tind in this text   
 confuse the sense. As they (the con- pre-ordination to life asserted, is to force   
 gregation) were going out, they (the same) both the word and the context to a mean-   
 besought. 43.) See a similar expres- ing which they do not contain. The word   
 sion ch. xi, 23. There too, we have the in the original is the same as in 1 Cor.   
 grace of God similarly used of the work of xvi. 15, where it is said that the house of   
 the Gospel begun in the hearts of the Stephanas “have addicted themselves to   
 converts. 44, came .. . together] the ministry of the saints,” and in Rom.   
 «In the synagogue ;’ it was the sight of avii. 1, where it is said that “ the powers   
 the Gentile crowds in their house of pr that be are ordained of God: in both of   
 which stirred up the jealousy of the J. which places the agents are expressed,   
 45. contradicting and blaspheming] whereas here the word is used absolutely,   
 These words form a graphic repetition, without an agent expressed. Calvin, &e.,   
 passiug from the particular thing which find here predestination in the strongest   
 they did, viz. contradict the words spoken sense: “This ordaining can be reterred   
 by Paul, to the spirit in which they did it, ouly to the eternal decree of God .. . It is   
 viz.a contradictious and blaspheming one. a ridiculous cavil refer it to the ménd   
 46. should first have been spoken of those who believed, ax if they received   
 to you] See ch. 6; Rom. i. 16. the Gospel who were properly disposed in   
 47.] They refer the word thee in the pro- their minds.” So the Vulgate translates   
 pheey not to themselves as teachers, but to the word “ pre-ordained ;” and Augustine,   
 Christ. 48. as many as were dis- “destined.” here are several other ren-   
 posed to eternal life] ‘The meaning of this derings, which see i my Greek ‘Test. Dr.   
 word disposed must be determined by the Wordsworth well observes, that it would be   
 contest. The Jews had judged thejsclves interesting to cuyuire what influence such