458 ST. JOHN. I.   
   
 6iThere was a man sent from God, whose name was   
 i Mal. John. 7\*The same came for [4a] witness, to bear wit-   
 Matt. tii.1, of the Light, that all men through him might be-   
 Luke iii.   
 ver. lieve. 8 He was not @ that Light, but fwas sent to bear   
 k Acts xix.   
 witness of @that Light. 98 That was the true Light,   
 Iver. 4, which ‘lighteth every man that cometh into the world.   
 Isa. 6.   
 1 4 omit, © render, the.   
 f not expressed in the original. Better, came.   
 8 render, The true Light which lighteth every man, came (literally,   
 was coming) into the world.   
   
 ¥.] As light and life ave closely connected in darkness is so great and immediate in   
 ideas, so are death and darkness. The the physical world) the darkness compre-   
 whole world, lying in death and in dark- hended it not :” see “and” below, ver. 11.   
 ness, is the darkness here spoken of :—not. 6—18.] THE MANIFESTATION AND   
 merely the “darkened” (Eph. iv. 18; see WORKING OF THE Divine Wop, Jesvs   
 Eph. v. 7, 8), the whole mass, with the CurisT, THE SoN OF GOD, INCARNATE   
 sole exception (see below, ver. 12) of “as IN OUR FLESH. 6.]. The Evangelist   
 many as received Him” (compare ch. iii. now passes to the historic manifestation   
 19; 1 John v. 19). This shineth of the Word. “In passing to the mani-   
 not merely the historical present, but de- festation of the Son, what other beginning   
 scribes the whole process of the light of should he have fixed on, but the matters   
 life in the Eternal Word shining in this concerning John?” Theodore of Mop-   
 evil and dark world; both by the O. T. suestia. He enunciates briefly in these   
 revelations, and (see ch. x. 16; xi. 52) by verses 6,7, what he afterwards, vv. 19—   
 all the scattered fragments of light glitter- 86, narrates with historical detail.   
 ing among the thick darkness of heathen- There was does not belong to sent, but   
 dom. and the darkness compre- to a man: “There was a man, sent   
 hended (understood, apprehended) it not} from God.” In sent from God we have   
 That this is the meaning, will be clear possibly a reference to Mal. iii.   
 from the context. St. John states here as 7.] The purpose of John’s coming was to   
 a general fact, what he afterwards states of bear witness to a fact, which fact (ver.   
 the appearance of the Incarnate Word to 33) was made known to him by divine   
 the chosen people, ver. 11. The sentences revelation. We must not render, as A. V.,   
 are strictly parallel. “The light shineth ‘for a witness, but for witness or for   
 in the darkness” is parallel to “ He came - his testimony was to purpose Light,—and   
 to his own,” and “ the darkness compre- the aim of it,—that all might believe is an   
 hended it not” is parallel to “ His own expansion of through him :—the John: not.   
 received him not.” In the first, he is through it, the light, which confuses the   
 speaking of the whole shining of this light whole, for then we must understand on   
 over the world ; in the second, of its his- God after believe, which is here out of   
 torical manifestation to the Jews. In both pee) 8.] John was himself “the   
 cases, the Divine Word was rejected. candle, lighted and shining” (ch. v. 35),   
 received is used in the second case as ex- see note on Matt. v. 14, but not the light.   
 pressing the personal assumption to oneself. 9.] The word true in this connexion   
 as a friend or companion. Liicke imports original, ‘archetypal,’ and is used   
 observes, that the almost tragic tone of of the true genuine sources and patterns of   
 this verse is prevalent through the Gospel those things which we find here below only   
 of St. John and his first epistle, ch. iii. in fragmentary imitations and derivations.   
 19; xii. 37 ff. : and is occasionally Such an original was the light here spoken   
 in St. Paul also; see Rom. i. 18 ff. of ;—but John was only a derived light,—   
 The connexion of the two members of our not a light lighting, but a light lighted.   
 verse by and is not, “The Light shineth The construction of this verse has   
 in the darkness, and therefore (i. c. be- been much disputed. Is coming into the   
 cause darkness is the opposition to light, world to be taken with every man (as   
 and they exclude one another) the dark- many ancient versions, and most of the   
 ness gomprehended it not;” but, “The   
 Light shineth in the darkness, and yet   
 (notwithstanding that the effect of light