ST. JOHN. Ii,   
   
 should be made manifest to Israel, ‘ therefore 8 am I come   
 baptizing with water. 32% And John bare » record, saying,   
 . Lisaw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and.   
 it \* abode upon him. 83 And I knew him not: but he that   
 sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me,   
 Upon !whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and   
 - remaining on him, \*the same is he which baptizeth with   
   
   
 the Holy Ghost. 34 And I ™saw, and “bare record that   
 this is the Son of God.   
 & render, came I.   
 i ender, have beheld. h ender, witness.   
 1 -ender, Whomsoever. X better, remained.   
 ™ +ender, have seen.   
   
 2 yender, have borne witness.   
   
 indeed may have in his own mind be- others, who were not themselves yet the   
 lieved Him to be the Christ :—but having bearers, but the recipients of testimony :-—   
 (ver. 33) a special sign appointed him, by “Tt was seen, in a kind of spiritual   
 which to recognize Him as such,—until by John alone.” Theodore of Mopsuestia.   
 that sign was given, he, like rest of the I have beheld, in reference to the   
 people (the words may be rendered, I also, sign divinely intimated to him, in the   
 as well as you, see ver. 26), no certain abiding fulfilment of which he now stood.   
 knowledge of Him. De Wette gives the So again, below, ver. 34. it remained   
 sense well: “This testimony (ver. 30) does upon him] By some appearance which is   
 not rest upon my long personal not described, the Holy Spirit was mani-   
 with Him, but on that which happened fested to John as not removing from   
 during my work of baptizing.” —\_ but that Jesus again, but remaining on Him. But   
 he should be made manifest | Justin we are not to understand that he had   
 vepresents Trypho the Jew saying, “ Even seen the Spirit descending on others, and   
 if Christ has been born and exists some- not remaining; for (see ch. vii. Acts i.   
 where, he is unknown, and is not even con- 5; xix. 2 ff. (the gift of the Holy Spirit   
 scious of his own identity, until Elias shall did not ordinarily accompany John’s bap-   
 come and anoint him, and make him mani- tism, but only in this one case; and its   
 Jest to all’? But our narrative is not oceurrence was to point out to him the   
 built upon any such Jewish belief, for is Messiah. the same is he which bap-   
 evidently only as a spiritual preparation, tizeth with the Holy Ghost] Here again   
 through repentance, for the knowledge of we seem to have a reference to the cycle   
 Him, that John regarded his baptism, not of narratives of the three other Gospels,   
 as any thing making Him manifest to all. for our Evangelist has not before men-   
 32, 33.] “What follows, is testi- tioned this office of the Messiah.   
 mony, properly so called: what is said 84.] A solemn reiteration of his testi-   
 from ver. 29 f. was demonstration follow- mony, after the mention of the giving of   
 ing on testimony. In the continued dis- this token by Him who sent him ;—And   
 course of the Baptist the Evangelist as it I have seen (accordingly) &c.   
 were interposes a parenthesis, ‘ And John The token must have been given to the   
 bare witness, saying,” Bengel. The Baptist by @ special revelation, which also   
 occurrence related by John happened at revealed to him his own errand and office;   
 the baptism of Jesus, which is therefore so Luke iii. The word of God came   
 here pre-supposed as known, Although unto John the son of Zacharias in the   
 this has been questioned, I cannot see how wilderness.” The perfect tense in this   
 it can be reasonably doubted. We cannot yerse is stronger than the present,—I have   
 surely suppose that sach a sign was ¢wice seen (on the perf. see above ver. 32) and   
 shewn. On the appearance itself, note have borne witness—it is a reference to   
 Mat 16. The account here given con- his testimony at the time, as a thing on   
 firms the view which I have there main- record in their memories, and as still eon-   
 tained, that the appearance was confined tinuing. the Son of God] See ver. 18   
 to our Lord and the Buptist : ke was to = the Word made flesh, the   
 receive the sign, and then to testify to the On the import of the descent of the Spirit