VI. 1—5. II. CORINTHIANS. 279   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. | AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
   
 in vain, 2? (For he saith, 2 (For he saith, 41 heard thee in an ate. xis.s.   
 Thave heard thee in a time accepted time, and in a day of salva-   
 accepted, and in the day of tion did I suecour thee: behold, now   
 salvation have I succoured is the well-accepted time; behold,   
 thee: behold, now is the the   
 accepted time ; behold, now now is no cause of salvation.) in ¢Rom.xiv.3s   
 is the day of salvation.) Are:   
 3 Giving no offence in any 3 Giving that the ministry be not Bere ix,   
 thing, that the ministry be any thing, 4 but as ‘God’s ministers 11 Cor.iv.1.   
 not blamed: 4 but in all blamed:   
 things approving ourselves recommending ourselves in every   
 as the ministers of God, thing, in much patience, in tribula-   
 in much patience, in afflic- necessities, . 78   
 tions, in necessities, dis- tions, &stripes, in imprisonments, in gch.xi.25,   
 tresses, in stripes, in tumults, in labours, in vatehings, in   
 imprisonments, in tumults,   
 in labours, in watchings,   
   
 above spoken of) to no purpose (i.e. un- his preaching, and is speaking generally   
 aceompanied by sanctification of life). of the characteristies of the Christian   
 2.) Ground of the exhortation: viz. the ministry. offence ; literally, stum-   
 importanee of the present time as the day bling ; see Rom. xiv. 13. that the   
 of acceptance, shewn by a Seripture cita- ministry be not blamed] or reproached.   
 tion.—For He (God, with whom we are The ministry, the office itself, be   
 fellow-workers, and whose grace we re- reproached, if cause of offence were found   
 commend) saith, “In an accepted time in the character of its bearers.   
 (Heb. ‘tz the season of grace’) I heard 4. as God’s ministers, recommending   
 thee, and in the day of salvation I helped ourselves] recommending ourselves, a3   
 thee:” behold (inserted for solemnity—to ministers of God should do: not, vecoz-   
 mark the importance of what follows), Now mending ourselves as ministers of God:   
 is the favourably-accepted time (the word the ambiguity of thé A. V. might have   
 is a strong term,—the very time of most heen avoided by a different arrangement   
 favourable acceptance, said from the ful- of words: ‘iv all things, as the ministers   
 ness of his of the greatness of God’s of God, approving ourselves’ ‘The fol-   
 grace); behold, now is the day of salva- lowing nouns, following in each case the   
 tion. “For he who striveth in such a preposition in, are all in specification of   
 time, when so much of God’s gift is shed in every thing: but not all of the same   
 “abroad, in which graee is so great, shall sort: some signify instruments by which,   
 easily gain the prize.” Chrysostom. The some, situations in which, some both these.   
 propheey is one directly of the Lord Jesus, Bengel remarks: “A notable gradation.   
 as the restorer and gatherer of his people ; ‘There follow thrice three partienlars of   
 and the time ot! is interval suffering (i. ¢. from tribulation to fast-   
 of the offer of the covenant to men, con- ings), by which patience is exercised:   
 ceded to Him by the Father. 3—10.] troubles, inflictions, labours.” 5.   
 And this doing, he himself as the On Stripes, see Acts xvi. 28, and ch. xi.   
 minister of God by various char ‘acteristics, 23, 2. imprisonment: ts] At Philippi   
 and under manifold circumstances in life. only. as yet, as far as we know from the   
 3.] This word, giving, and all the narrative of the Acts;—but there must   
 following participles, 9, 10, qualify the lave been many other occasions, see eh.   
 verb we intreat, in ver. 1, shewing the xi. 23. He may have been imprisoned at   
 pains and eaution used hy him to enforce Antioch in Pisidia, Acts xiii. 50, and at   
 this exhortation by his example as well as. Lystra, xiv. 19, and at Corinth, xviii, 12,   
 his precept. So Grotius : “IIe shews how 11: and we cannot tell what may have   
 mueh in éarnest is the advice of one who, befallen him during his journeys, Acts xv.   
 in order that he may gain his end, shrinks 41; xvi. 6; xviii, 23. in poaalte]   
 from no manner of sufferings.” But evi- See Acts sili. xiv. 5, 195 xvi. eae   
 dently, before the list is exhausted, he xvii. 5; xviii, 12, and abeve all,   
 passes beyond the mere confirmation of 41. labours] The word uy,