534 I. TIMOTHY. IV.   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
   
 creature of God is good, and nothing : refused, if it be received   
 is to be refused, if it be received | With thanksgiving : \* for it   
 with thanksgiving: 5 for it is sanc- is sanctified by the word   
 tified through the word of God and| of God and brethren in re-   
 membrance of these things,   
 intercession. § By setting forth these thou shalt be a good minis-   
 things to the brethren, thou shalt be) ter of Jesus Christ, nou-   
 + 80 all a good minister of ¢ Christ Jesus,   
 earliest   
   
 is in the writer’s mind, and forms part of it must mean in some sense the thanks-   
 his own rossoning) every thing which God giving, or something in it. But not the   
 has made is good (in allusion to i. 31. «word addressed to God,’ or ‘ prayer made   
 See also Rom. xiv.-14, 20), and nothing to God,’ which would be an unprecedented   
 (which God has made) is to be rejected, if meaning for the word of God: the only   
 received with thanksgiving (properly, way open for us is, the thanksgiving   
 even without this condition, all things are itself, some part of it, in some sense   
 pure: but he did not rise to this abstrac- the word of God. This may be (1) by its   
 tion, because he was regarding meats not consisting in whole or in part of Scripture   
 per se, but in their use, and this latter words, or (2) by the effusion of a Chris-   
 may become impure by an ungodly frame tian man, speaking in the power of God’s   
 of mind.” De Wette): for (see on because Spirit, being known as the word of God.   
 and for above) it (this is gathered This latter is justified : but still   
 out of the preceding clause by implication, seems to me hardly probable, and I should   
 and means, ‘every ereated thing which is prefer the former. It would generally be   
 partaken of with thanksgiving’) is sanc- the case, that any form of thanks-   
 tified (more than ‘declared pure,’ or giving before meat would contain words of   
 than ‘rendered pure :’ the latter it does Seripture, or at events thoughts in exact   
 not want, the former falls far of the accordance with them: and such utterance   
 work of the assigned agents. The em- of God’s revealed will, as it   
 phasis is on this word, and a new par- theassembled family and their mealintohar-   
 ticular is introduced by it—not purity mony with Him, might well besaid sanetify   
 merely, but holiness,—fitness for the godly the meats on the table their use. of   
 usage of Christian men. To this, which is the Commentators quote from the (apocry-   
 more than mere making or declaring pure, phal but very ancient) Apostolic Constitu-   
 it is set apart by the giving of thanks ; so tion, the following grace before meat, used.   
 that the lesser is proved by the greater. in the primitive times: “ Blessed art Thou,   
 There is certainly a slight trace of refer- O Lord, who nourishest me from my youth,   
 ence to the-higher consecration in the who givest food to all Fill our hearts   
 Lord’s Supper. The same word thanks- with joy and gladness, always havingall   
 giving is common to both. Ordinary competence, we mayabound untoevery good   
 meals are set apart for ordinary Christian work in Christ Jesus our Lord, through   
 use by asking a blessing on them: that whom be unto Thee honour and might for   
 meal, for more than ordinary use, by ask- ever. Amen.” Here almost every clause   
 ing on it its own peculiar blessing) by is taken from some expression of Scripture).   
 means of the word of God and interces- 6—11.] Recommendatory application to   
 sion (what ‘word of God ?’ how to be Timothy of what has been just said, as   
 understood? ‘Treating the plainer word to form part of his teaching, to the   
 first, the intercession meant is evidently ance by him of false and vain doctrine,   
 intercession [see on ch, fi. 1] on behalf and to the practice of godliness.—These   
 of the thing partaken of—that it may things (simply the matter treated since   
 be ‘sanctified to our use.’ This may serve the beginning of the chapter,—the coming   
 to guide us to the meaning of the word of apostasy after these ascetic teachers, au   
 God. And first, negatively. It cannot the true grounds of avoiding it. This best   
 mean any thing which does not form part suits the following context and the sub-   
 of the thanksgiving: such as God’s word sequent suggesting, which certainly would   
 in the Scripture just cited, in any other not be used of the great mystery) suggest-   
 place: or, God’s word in the foundation- ing (so literally: or or setting   
 truths of Christianity. Then, positively: forth) to the brethren thou wilt be a