814 1 PETER. 1006   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
 stazit7, unto the spirits tin prison; 20 which he went and preached   
 is,5, were once disobedient, \* when the unto the spirits in prison ;   
 longsuffering of God was waiting in 20 which sometime were   
 the days of Noah, while !the ark disobedient, when once the   
 1 Med. xi. s a preparing, ™ wherein few, that longsuffering of Godwaited   
 is, eight souls were saved by water. in the days of Noah, while   
 the ark was a preparing,   
 wherein few, that is, eight   
 souls were saved by water.   
   
 vi in the spirit, according to which merely is stated. The statement of the   
 His Jew life was. Ia which, not by fact, however, has been felt to be accom-   
 which: see below) He also went and panied by such great difficulties, other   
 preached (went, used of a local transfer- meanings have been sought for the passage   
 ence here, just as “is gone” [the same than that which the words present at first   
 word], below im ver, 22: and preached, sight. Expositors have endeavoured to re-   
 of a preaching good news, as in all other move the idea that the gospel was preached   
 places of the New Test.) to the spirits to the dead in Hades, either 1) by denying   
 in prison (the disembodied spirits, which the reference to our Lord’s descent thither   
 were kept shut up [Jude 6; 2 Pet.ii. 4] in at all, or 2) by admitting that, but sup-   
 the place of the departed awaiting the final posing it to have had another purpose, I   
 judgment: in Scheol, as the Jews called it); give, following the classification Huther’s   
 ‘which were once disobedient (this clause note, an acconnt of the principal upholders   
 is a secondary and dependent one, descrip- of these views. Under L, I place all those   
 tive of the spirits intended: that they who deny any reference to Christ’s descent   
 were those of men who were formerly into Hades, distinguishing the minor differ-   
 disobedient), when (marks distinctively the ences between them as to what preaching   
 time intended by the word once) the long- is there indicated.   
 suffering of God was waiting (and this I. 1. Augustine, Bede, Thomas Aquinas,   
 marks the period of their disobedience, viz. Lyra, Hammond, Beza, Sealiger, Leighton,   
 those 120 years of Gen. vi. 3) in the days &c., and recently Hofmann, maintain that   
 of Noah, while the ark was being pre- the preaching mentioned was the preach-   
 pared, in which (by having entered into ing of righteousness by Noah to his con-   
 which) a few persons, that is, eight temporaries : that Noah thus preached not   
 souls (individuals) were saved (from of himself, but by virtue of the Spirit of   
 drowning) by water (not, “into which Christ inspiring him ; and that thus his   
 afew, &c. got safe through the water,” preaching was in fact a preaching by Christ   
 which was not the fact. The water is in the Spirit. But this necessitates a forced   
 in the Apostle’s view, the medium of saving, of the words in prison; Au-   
 inasmuch as it bore up the ark: see the gustine understanding by them, in the   
 next verse). So much for the interpre- darkness of ignorance as ina prison:   
 tation of the detail of this passage ; from Beza, &e., that they are now in prison for   
 which it will be seen that we have re- their then unbelief. It must be evident   
 garded it, in common with the majority to every unprejudiced reader, how alien   
 ‘of Commentators, as necessarily pointing such fact that Noah himself from the to his   
 to an event in our Lord’s redemptive meaning and connexion of the words and   
 agency which happened, as regards time, clauses, runs through is indicated without   
 in the order of the context here: and Peter on the very dealing with historical   
 that that event was, His going (whether matter of fuet, in some of the terins, as   
 between His death and resurrection, or ed,” “put to death,” “ made alive,”   
 after the latter, will presently discus and with recondite figure in ofkers, as   
 to the place of custody of “went and preacked.” Again, whether we   
 and there preaching to those spi take the metaphorical prison of Augustine,   
 were formerly disobedient when God's long- which I suppose will hardly find any advo   
 suite ited in the days of Noah. Thus.   
 far I conceive our passage stand:   
 mitted: and I do not believe it pos:   
 niake it say less, or thin thi   
 was the intent of that prea aud what