820 1 PETER. IY,   
   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
 1 Matt xxiv. 7But! the end of all things is at of all things is at hand:   
 Rom, hand: ™be ye therefore sober, and be ye therefore sober and   
 4% watch unto prayer, § above all woatch unto prayer. ®And   
 ‘things having your love towards above all things have fer-   
 "ar taters), ONE another fervent: because ° love vent charity among your-   
 sh.insé¥+ covereth a multitude of sins. selves: for charity shall   
 UUs, Hebaiiha, Prov. x12 1Cor.sill. James v.20. cover the multitude of sins.   
   
 + S0 most our ancient   
   
 meaning as the dead in ver. 5: i.e. that of standing] might live [of a state to conti-   
 dead men, literally and simply so called : nue] according to God [a life with   
 men who once rids us of are in their graves. and divine] as regards the believing it   
 tors who interpret this second dead of the he the only one which satisfies the condi-   
 dead in trespasses and sins, as well as tions of the sentence: which justifies the   
 those who to guin this meaning here, dis- for as accounting for the judging the dead:   
 tort dead in ver. 5 from its constant refer the also, as taking up, and bringing into   
 ence in that connexion to mean the spiri- prominence amd climax the dead: the term   
 tually dead, or the Gentiles. A second dead, as used in preciscly the same sense as   
 principle which we may lay down is this: in the last verse, and contemporary with   
 that dead in ver. 6 must be kept as wide in the verb which governs it: the’ state-   
 its reference as dead in ver. 5: i.e. that it ment, that the gospel was preached, as   
 must not be interpreted as applying merely grounded on a previously-announced fact,   
 to the blasphemers of the Christians who ch. iii, the aim and end introduced by   
 should have died before the judgment, or the that, which on this, and on no other   
 merely to such blasphemed Christians rendering, reccives meining and\_perspi-   
 themselyes, as shall then di ity. And so, in the main, with minor   
 merely to the spirits prison of cl tions, the more accnrate of the modern   
 but must be treated as a general assertion Commentators.   
 in the literal meaning of the word. It is 7—V.11.] General exhortations with   
 quite impossible to put before the English reference to behaviour within the Christian   
 reader the discussion on the different inter- body, in contemplation of the approaching   
 pretations which have been given, as it end. This portion of the Epistle falls into   
 mainly turns on considerations of the con- three sections: 7—11, Christian and social   
 struction of the sentence in the original, duties, in consideration of the end being at   
 but I may just say this much, that dead can- hand : 12—19, Christian bearing of suffer-   
 not mean “now dead,” nor can the gospel ing, in the same consideration : v. 1—11,   
 was preached point to the time when the ecclesiastical and general mutual ministra-   
 gospel was preached to them, before they tions : passing off into fervent general ex-   
 died : nor again, ean the Apostle’s view be hortations and aspirations. 7.] But   
 to comfort his readers in persecution and (the connexion is close with what had gone   
 slander, by the thought that bodily death before: the Being ready of ver. 5 is in   
 would not exempt their adversaries from the Apostle’s mind: and he passes, with it   
 the divine judgment. ‘The view here before him, from considerations external to   
 adopted is, Yhe persons pointed at are the church, to those affecting its internal   
 those spirits in prison to whom onr Lord condition) the end of all things is at hand   
 went and preached, ch. iii. Our Lord (on this being the constant expectation of   
 is ready to judge the dead ; and with rea- the apostolic age, see i. Thess.   
 son; for even they have not been withont iv, 15, note): be therefore of temperate   
 opportunity of receiving his gospel : as the d (see note on 1 Tim, ii.9), be sober   
 example which was adduced in ch. iii. unto (with a view to) prayers, 8.] above   
 shews. For this end the gospel was preached all things (not placing love above prayer,   
 even to the dead,—that they might—not but because all social life and duty must   
 indeed escape the universal judgment on presuppose love asits necessary bond and.   
 human sin, which is physical death,—but, condition) having your love towards one   
 that they might be judged [be in the state another intense (sec ch. i, 22. THe pre-   
 of the completed sentence on sin, which is snpposes their love, and enjoins that it be   
 death after the flesh] according to [as] fervent or intense): because love covereth   
 man as regards the flesh, but [notwith- a multitude of sins (from ref, Prov. x. 12,