2—7. 2 PETER. 847   
   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 are ignorant of, that by|this they willingly are ignorant of,   
 fhe sword of God the hes| that thy the word of God the hea- "ss!"   
 vens were of old, and the Yo sxxilie   
 earth standing out of the| Vens were from of old, and the earth Hobs x3,   
 water and in the water:/6 formed out of water and by means ¢ f+. x:   
 whereby the world that of water: §"by which waters the ,¢   
 with was, being overflowed lworld that then was, being over- 24   
 | a 9g   
 the heavens and the earth, | flowed with water, perished; 7 but   
 which are now, by the same; the heavens and the earth which !   
 teord are kept in store, re- are now, by tthe same word are t ony iis   
 word: our   
 ancient are divided.   
 that the meaning will be, ever since the the waters below the firmament, by fur-   
 death of those to whom the promise was nishing moisture, and rain, and kee the   
 made, things have continued as we now see moist the earth, are the means by wh   
 them [and as they have ever continued even earth subsists. This is the simpl   
 before those fathers] from the beginning dering) by the word of God (not of its own   
 of creation. So that “all things continue will, nor by a fortuitous conenrrenee of   
 from the beginning of creation,” is a gene- atoms), by means of which [two] (viz. the   
 val proposition applicable all time: “ since waters under the firmament and the waters   
 the fathers fell asleep,” the terminus, from above the firmament: for in the flood [1]   
 which this general proposition is taken np the fountains of the great deep were broken   
 and applied to the ease in hand. And now up, and [2] the windows of heaven were   
 we have cleared the way to enquiring, who opened, Gen. vii. 11. Sce the other inter-   
 are meant by the fathers. And the answer pretations in my Greek Test.) the then   
 is plain: largely and generally, those to world (i. e. whole state of things then   
 whom the promise was the same as ing. The Apostle’s argument is, 1   
 are indieated Rom. ix. 5, “of whom are against the assertors of the world’s endu-   
 the fathers:” yet not exclusively these, but yance for ever, that it has once been de-   
 simultaneously with them any others who stroyed, so that their assertion is therchy   
 may be in the same category,—e. g. those invalidated. The analogy ‘is not exactly,   
 who bear tothe New Test. church the same but is sufficiently close: and the world, as   
 relation as they to that of the Old Test. an indefinite common term, tal in the   
 ‘The assertion, as from the scoffers, heavens and earth, which were then instru-   
 must not he pressed to any partieular date, mental in, and purified by, the destruetion,   
 but given that wide reference which would if not altogether swept away by it. Nay,   
 niiturally be in the mind of one making the analogy is closer than this : for just as   
 such a general charge). Noah stepped out of the Ark on ‘a new   
 5—10.] Refutations of this their scoff world, the face of the heavens elear, and   
 ing inference, 5—1.] First refu- the face of the earth renewed, so we look   
 tation: from the biblical history of the for a new heavens and enrth (ver, 13), yot   
 creation. For (i. e. they speak ‘thus, he- like these others construeted ont of the   
 canse) this (viz. this fact which follows) materials of the old) being inundated with   
 escapes them (passes nnnoticed by them) water, perished (sce last note; not, was   
 of their own will (i. c. they shut their annihilated, but lost its then form and   
 eyes to this fact), that the heavens subsistence as a world or order of things   
 were from old (from the beginning of foosmos, the Greek for world, signifies   
 all things) and the earth formed (holding hotl], and passed into a new state. Only   
 together, composed, subsisting ; so the thus does the verse come in logically as a.   
 Greek word in Col. i. 17, “By him all contradietion to the saying of the scoflers,   
 things subsist”) out of water and by means. that all things remain ihus from the begin-   
 of water (out of water, because the waters ning of creation): 7.) but the new   
 tlut were under the firmament were ga- heavens and earth (contrast to the then   
 thered together into one place and the dry world : the postdiluvian visible world) by   
 Tand appeared: and thus water was. the His (God’s: if the other reading [see   
 material, of which the enrth was made: margin] be taken, it must not be pressed   
 by means of water, Lecause the waters to signify any one saying, but must   
 above the firmament, being divided from refer generally to the prophetic word,