9, 10. 1 JOHN.   
 859   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED,   
 Faithful and just to forgive) faithful aud just to forgive us our   
 ‘us our sins, and to cleanse ns, and to ‘cleanse us from all un- tyer7 Ps.   
 us from all unrighteous- righteousness.   
 ness. If we say that we If we say that we   
 have not sinned, we make   
   
   
 light,” vor. 5: “with Him,” ver.6 ; “IIe,” upon reasons external to the context. God   
 mud “ZZis Son,” in ver. 7. "It is God's is faithful, His promise: is just, in His   
 truth [1 Cor. , 10, 13; 2 Cor. i. dealing: and both attributes’ operate in   
 ‘Thess. v. and righteousness (John xvii the forgiveness of sins to penitent, now   
 253 Rom. fi. 255 Rey. xvi.5] that are con- and hereafter ; and in cleansing them from   
 cerned in, and vindicated by, our redemp- all unrighteousness, The laws of His spi-   
 tion) is faithful and just (His being taith- ritual kingdom reqnire this: by those laws   
 ful and just does not’ depend on our con- He aets in holy and infinite justice. His   
 fessing dur sins: He had both these attr promises announced it, and to those pro-   
 butes before, and will ever continue to have mises Ie is frithful ; but then those pro-   
 them: but by confessing our sins, we cast mises were themselves made only in accord-   
 ourselves on, we approach and put to the ance with His nature, who is holy, just,   
 proof for onrselves, and tind operative true. Iu the background lie all the   
 in our case, in the forgiving and cleansing, of redemption; but they are not here in   
 those His attributes of faithfulness this verse: only the simple fact of God’s   
 ice. Ou the former of these adjectives, justice is adduced) to forgive us our sins   
 faithful, almost all Counnentators agree. (not “so as to forgive, &e.,” but “that   
 It is, faithful His plighted word and pro- He may forgive, &c.” His doing so is in   
 mise: see the citations above.—The latter, accordance with, and therefore as with   
 just, has not been so unanimously inter- Him all facts are purposed, is in   
 preted. ‘The idea of God’s justice seeming of, furthers the object of, His faithfulness   
 strange here, where the remission of and and justice, “So that He is faithful and   
 purification from sin is in question, some just; in order that He may, &.” With   
 Commentators have endeavoured to give regard to the particular mentioned, the   
 the word the sense of good, merciful : or, forgiveness of our sins here means the con-   
 which amounts to the same, fair, favour- tinued remission of the guilt of each com-   
 ably disposed. But Liicke has shewn, that mitted sin, which is the special promise   
 in none of the Old Test. which are and just act of God the Gospel cove-   
 cited to substantiate meanings, have nant: see Heb, x. 14, 18), and cleanse us   
 they really place ; in all, from all unrighteousness (the explanation.   
 justice, is the fundamental idea, and the of the sense, see above. Here unrighte-   
 context only makes it mean justice in this ousness is used, in reference to the word   
 or in that direction. See note on Matt. “righteous,” above, as corresponding to   
 19. ‘The meaning then being just, we have sins” in ver. 7, The divine righteous.   
 still to decide between several different ness is revealed in God’s law : every trans-   
 views as to what particular phase of the gression then of that law is of its nature   
 divine justice is meant. Some understand and essence an unrighteousness, as con-   
 that God’s justice has been satisfied in trary to that righteousness. The two   
 Christ, and thus the application of that verbs, forgive and cleanse, imply in the   
 satisfaction to us if we confess our sins, js original, that the purpose of the faithful~   
 an act of divine justice: is due to us in ness and justice is to do each as one   
 Christ. But this is plainly too much to be great complex act—to justify and to saen-   
 extracted from our verse. Rom. ifi. 26, tify wholly and entirely. 10.] Not a   
 where this is asserted, the reason is mere repetition, but a confirmation and   
 and all is explained : whereas here the intensification of ver. This verse is re-   
 ellipsis would be most harsh and unpre- lated to ver. 9, as is to ver. 7). If we   
 cedented, and thus to fill it up would say that we have not sinned (if we deny,   
 amount to an introduction into the context that is, the fact of commission of sins   
 ofan idea which is altogether foreign to it. in our Christian state. The perfect tense,   
 The correct view seems to be, that just as so far from removing the time to that be-   
 well as faithful here is an attribute fore conversion, brings it down to the pre-   
 to he kept to that which is predicated of it sent: had it heen “that we sinned nof,”