3—5. REVELATION, 945,   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. | AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 Grace be unto you, and you, and peace, from him \* which is, » £:0a   
 peace, from him which is, and ‘which was, and which is to! Jonni.   
 ‘and which was, and which come, Kand from the seven Spirits x zech.i.0,   
 is to come; and from the which are before his throne ; 5 and   
 seven Spirits which are from Jesus Christ, ! the faithful wit-1 John i &   
 before his thrones 5 and ness, the ™first begotten of the dead, ai   
 from Jesus Christ, who is   
 the faithful witness, and   
 the first begotten of the   
   
 longs doubtless in part to the individual “Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost   
 character of the two Apostles, but is be- thy sevenfold gifts impart :” but rather   
 sides a strong testimony that the John who perhaps to be regarded as expressing   
 here writes needed no such designation in His plenitude and perfection, than to be   
 the eyes of those to whom he was writing. separately assigned as [but query ?] in the   
 See this, and other evidence as to the lines following of the hymn Veni Creator   
 authorship, urged in the Introduction. Spiritus. The key to this expression, which   
 See on the seven churches below, ver. is an anticipation of the visions afterwards   
 Asia, as always in the New Test., is the to he related, is ch. v. 6, where ee notes:   
 proconsular province so called. It consisted as also on ch, iv. 5. The seven can   
 of Phrygia, Mysia, Caria, and Lydia : under hardly be entirely without allusion to the   
 Mysin’ and Lydia including Tonia and seven churches, and to the sevenfold   
 Eolia, and the neighbouring islands of imagery throughout. The number seven   
 the Agean. It was called proconsular, denotes completeness, and was much noted   
 because it was governed by one of consular by the Jewish Commentators as ocourring   
 rank, under the title of proconsul): Grace in the Old Test. The seven spirits be-   
 be to you and peace (so St. Paul in all token the completeness and universality   
 his Epistles except the three pastoral) of working of God’s Holy Spirit, as the   
 from Him who is and who was and who seven churches typify and indicate the   
 is to come (a paraphrase of the unspeak- whole church. The reference to Isa. xi.   
 able name Jehovah, resembling the pa- 2 is but Iamely made ont, there being   
 raphrase “I axt tat I aac” in Exod. there but\_six energies of the Spirit men-   
 ifi. 14, for which the Jerusalem Targum tioned. That to Zech. iv. 2, 10 is more   
 has, as here, “Hz Wu0 WAS AND IS AND to the point: see notes as above), and   
 18 To comE:” as has the Targum of from Jesus Christ (as we have before   
 Jonathan in Deut. xxii. 39. It. follows had the Father and the Holy Spirit men-   
 from what is remarked above, that the tioned as the sources of grace and peace,   
 meaning of is to come is not here to he so now the Son, coming last, on account   
 pressed as referring to any future coming. of that which is to follow respecting Him,   
 By doing so we should confuse the mean- which has respect to His threefold office   
 ing of the compound appellation, which of Prophet, King, and Priest : see however   
 evidently is all to be applied to the below), the faithful witness (sce John   
 Father. By some He which is is sup- viii, 87, “To this end came I into the   
 posed to mean the Father, which was world, that I should bear witness to the   
 the Son [‘in the beginning was the truth.” It is to the general mission of the   
 Word”), and which is to come the Redeemer to bear witness to the truth,   
 Spirit, a8 ever proceeding forth and de- and not merely to the apocalyptic portion   
 scending on the Church), and from the of His testimony which is to follow, that   
 seven spirits which [are] before His this title must be referred. This book   
 throne (Audreas takes these for the seven [ver. 2] is the testimony of Jesus Christ :   
 principal angels [ch. vifi. 2]: so also many But the title reaches far wider. Embrac-   
 other Commentators. But this is highly ing as it does that testimony before Pontins   
 improbable, as these angels are never Pilate, and indeed that of His whole life   
 called “spirits,” and as surely mere of witnessing to the truth, we can perhaps   
 creatures, however exalted, would not hardly say dat it marks out his propletie   
 be equalized with the Father and the Son office with sufficient distinctness for us to   
 as fountains of grace. The common view Delicve it indicated here), the first-born of   
 is doubtless right, which regards the seven the dead (death is regarded as the womb   
 as the energies of the Holy Spirit :-— of the earth, from which the resurrection