10—15. REVELATION. 1008   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 came they? “4 And I said they ? M And I said unto him,   
 unto him, Sir, thou know- My ¢ lord, thou knowest.   
 est, And he said to me, said to me, 9 These are they And he \*& three   
 These are they which came eome out of the great tribulation, oliear Ss,   
 out of great tribulation,and and ' they washed their robes, and \*¥j:}5-   
 have washed their robes,   
 and made them white in   
 the blood of the Lamb. imade them white in the blood of the 1%iniJt.   
 \S Therefore are they before Lamb. 1 Therefore are they before Seth...   
 the throne of God, and the throne of God, and serve him   
 serve him day and night day and night in his temple: and   
 in his temple: and he he that sitteth on the throne shall   
 that sitteth on the throne ‘spread his habitation over them. °§-!%5%   
 shall dwell among them.   
 che xxi   
   
 they, and whence came they (the ques- course of this life when looked back upon   
 tions are those ordinarily put when we seek from its yonder side: they did this in that   
 for information respecting strangers ; but life on earth which is now [in the vision]   
 put here for the sake of furnishing the ex- past and gone by) and made them white   
 plination. Both enqniries are answered in (the referenees are full of interest) the   
 ver, 14)? And I said to him, My lord blood of the Lamb (i.e. by that faith in the   
 (the address is one of deep reverence, as to atoning blood of Christ of which it is said,   
 a heavenly being. Sce the limits of this “cleansing their hearts by the faith,”   
 reverence in eh. xix. 10, xxii. 8,9), thon Aets xv. 9: and 1 John i, 7, “the blood   
 knowest (see Ezek, xxvii. 3, from which of Jesus Christ . . . cleauseth us from all   
 the form of expression comes. The words sin.” Seo also Eph. vy. 25—27. Ob-   
 ust not, with Ebrard, be foreed to mean, serve, we must not separate the two acts,   
 “Lknow well, but thou knowest better :” washing and making white, as Hengstens   
 Dut must be taken in their simple aecepta- berg does, imterpreting the former of the   
 tion, “I know not, but thou dost.” And forgiveness of sins, the latter of sanctifiea-   
 this again need not mean that the Apostle tion: the latter is only the result of the   
 bad no thonght on the subject, but that he former : they washed them, and by so doing   
 regarded himself as ignorant in comparison made them white, ‘The act was a life-long   
 with his heavenly interlocutor). And he one,—the continued purification of the   
 said to me, These are they that come (not, ian, body, soul, and spirit, by the applica-   
 as A. V., “that came :” nor again must the tion of the blood of Christ in its cleansing   
 present be pnt prominently forward, thatare power). On this account (because they   
 ‘coming, as if the number in the vision were shed their robes white in Christ’s atoning   
 not yet complete : still less it to be taken and purifying blood: for nothing that has   
 asa quasi-fnture, “that shall come:” but the spot or wrinkle, or any such thing, can   
 present tense is merely one of designation. stand where they are standing: compare   
 ‘Their description, is, that “they again Eph. v.27: none will be there who   
 are they that come, &c.”) out of the great are not thus washed) they are before the   
 tribulation (the definite article ought not throne of God (in the presence of His   
 to be omitted, as in A. V. It is most em- throne: seeing Him (Matt. v. 8; 1 Cor.   
 phatic: “out of the tribulation, the great xiii. 12] as He sees them), and they serve   
 one.” And in consequence some have ex- Him by day and by night (“this,” says   
 plained the words of that last great tine of Bede, “is a way of expressing eternity in   
 trial whieh is to try the saints before the our human langnage”) in His temple   
 coming of the Lord. But to limit it to (as His priests, conducting the sweet   
 this only, is ont of keeping with praises of that, heavenly choir, ver. 10, and   
 the spirit of the vision. J would rather Going what other high and blessed service   
 understand it of the whole sum of the trials He may delight to employ them in): and   
 of the saints of God, viewed by the Elder He that sitteth on the throne shall spread   
 as now complete, nnd designated by this His habitation over them (itis excvedingly   
 emphatic and general name: “all that tri- difficult to express the sense of these glo-   
 bulution”), and they washed their robes vious words, in which the fulfilment. of the   
 (the past tense is that so often used of the Old Test. promises, such as Levit. xxvi.