REVELATIO: 1021   
   
 ZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED,   
   
 mighty angel come down) angel coming down out of heaven,   
 from heaven, clothed with clothed with a cloud,\* and the rain- «ez.   
 @ cloud: aud a rainbow   
   
 then this Episode contains some assuranee vision of the two witnesses, ch. xi, 3 ff.,   
 of the approach of thut answer in its com- tinged with the hue wh has pervaded   
 pleteness, it will be what we might expect the series of trumpct-visions, from their   
 at this point in the series of visions. source in ch. vi. 9—11, viz., of ven-   
 ‘At the same time, looking onwards to the geance for the sufferings of the saints   
 that as out of the while at the same time allusions occur in   
 more general series visions at the open- it which are at present inexplicable, but   
 ing of the seals, both the church will receive light hereafter, when the new   
 and the world, there sprang a new and series of visions unfolded. Such are the   
 more particukir series of the trumpets, allusions to “ the wild beast which cometh   
 hiaving reference to one incident in the up out of the abyss,” ch. x.7, and to “the   
 former vision, and affecting especially the great city,” ib. ver.   
 “inhabiters of the earth,” so if now the With these preliminary considerations,   
 gaze of prophecy once more turns to the we may, I think, approach these episodical   
 church and her fortunes, and the Apostle visions with less uncertainty.   
 receives ission to utter a 1-11] Tue vision oF THR LITTER   
 ries of prophecies, mainly on that nook. And I saw another strong angel   
 ject, will also be no more than what (another, perhaps in allusion the many   
 we might fairly look for. Again: if which have been mentioned: but seeing   
 the episodicul vis i acter and that the epithet. strong ocenrs only in the   
 hue partakes of the complexion of the mention of the angel who cried out in   
 whole series of trumnpet-visions, and, as reference to the sealed book, ch. v. 2, and   
 rogurds the church, carries a tinge of per- that the present angel’s errand also regards   
 secution, and of the still prayer for a book, we can hardly help taking another   
 vengeance, not\_yct fully answered,—while with both substantive and adjective, and   
 at the same time it contains expressions referring it to that first strong angel in   
 and allusions which can only be explained ch. v. 2, And this consideration may serve   
 by reference onward to the visions to to introduce the assertion, to me hardl;   
 come; this complex character is just that admitting of a doubt, that this angel is   
 which would suit the point of transition at not, and cannot be, our Lord Himself.   
 which we are now standing, when the series Such a snpposition would, it seems to me,   
 of visions immediately dependent on one entirely break through the consistency of   
 feature in the opening of the scals is just apocalyptic analogy. Thronghont the book,   
 at its end, and a new one evolving the as before observed, on ch, viii. angels are   
 other great subject of that general series the ministers of the divine purposes, and   
 is about to begin. the carriers out of the apocalyptic course   
 Now each one of these particnlars is of procedure, but are every where distinct   
 found as described above. For 1) the from the divine Persons themselves. In.   
 angel of ch. x. declares, with to order to this their ministry, they are in-   
 the great vengeanc vested with such symbols and such dele-   
 series of the trumpet-visions, respecting gated attributes as bescem in each case the   
 which the souls of the martyrs had been particular object in view: but no apparent,   
 commanded “that they should rest yet fitness of symbolical investiture to the   
 for a time,’ ch. vi. M,—that “there divine character should induce us to break   
 should be no more delay,” but that in through the distinction, and introduce in-   
 the days of the seventh angel, when he distinctness and confusion into the book.   
 is about to blow, the whole mystery of When St. John means to indicate the Son   
 prophecy would be fulfille of God, he indicates Him plainly: nono   
 2) The same angel gives to the Seer the more so: when these plain indications are   
 open little book, with a distinct announce- absent, and I find the name angel used, I   
 ment that he is to begin a now series of must take leave to regard the agent as   
 prophecies, and that series, by what imme. distinct from Him,—however clothed, for   
 ately follows, ch. xi, 1 if, evidently re- the purposes of the particular vision, with   
 ng to the church of God in an especial His delegated power and attributes) de-   
 ananner. 3 scending out of heaven (the place of the   
 3) Tho whole complexion of the episodical Seer yet continues in heaven: see below,