2,3. REVELATION. 1026   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED.   
 holy city shall they tread holy city shall they ° tread under ean. vit.   
 under foot forty and two foot ‘forty and two months. 3 And fen.xut.s.   
 months. 3 And I will give I will give unto my two & witnesses, gen.xx.4   
 power unto my two wit-   
 nesses, and they shall pro-|" and they shall prophesy 'a thou- psh.z1s,10.   
 phesy a thousand two   
 out it, on the view that the two periods are   
 (if the temple and the worshippers repre equal in duration, but independent of ono   
 sent the elect church of the first-born, the another: and the rather, that this pro-   
 nations will correspond to thosc who are phecy, as has been already shewn, is of a   
 outside this sacred enclosure: those over compendious character, hereafter to be   
 whom eventually the millennial reign of stated at large. I will further remark, and   
 ch. xx. shall be exercised: those from the reader will find this abundantly borne   
 among whom shall spring the enmity out by research into histories of apocalyptic   
 against God’s church, but among whom exegesis, that no solution at approaching   
 also shall be many who shall fear, and to a satisfactory has ever yet been given   
 give God glory, compare ver. 13. Of these of any one of these periods. ‘This being   
 is formed the outward sceming church, so, my principle is to regard them as being   
 mixed up with the world; in them, though still among the things unknown to the   
 not in each case commensurate with them, Church, and awaiting their elucidation by   
 is Babylon, is the reign of the wild-beast, the event. It is our duty to feel our way   
 the agency of the false prophet: they are by all the indications which Scripture fur-   
 the dwellers on the earth, the material nishes, and by the light which history, in   
 on which judgment and mercy are severally its main and obvious salient events, has   
 exercised in the rest of this book [sce thrown on Scripture: and, when those fail   
 especially ver. 18], as contrasted with God’s us, to he content to confess our ignorance.   
 own people, gathered and to be gathered An apocalyptic commentary which ex-   
 ‘out from among them), and they shall plains every thing, is self-convicted of   
 tread down (i.e. as conquerors, error)   
 the outer church being in subjection to 3—13.] Tux two witnesses: their   
 them: see Luke xxi. 24, Dan. viii. 13. testimony, death, resurrection, ascension +   
 The other meaning, shall tread, merely, consequences on the beholders, The re-   
 is of course included; but must not marks just made are here especially appli-   
 be made the prevalent one. The period cable, “No solution has ever been given   
 named shall be one during which “the of this portion of the prophecy. Either the   
 Kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, two witnesses are literal,—two individual   
 and violent men take it by force,” Matt. men,—or they are symbolical,—two indi-   
 xi. 12) the holy city (Jerusalem, in the viduals taken as the concentration of prin-   
 literal sense of the prophecy: the whole ciples and characteristics, and this either   
 temple except the temple proper, or in themselves, or as representing men who   
 sanctuary itself, counted with the embodied those principles and charact.   
 city outside) forty and two months (this In the following notes I shall point   
 riod occurs in three forms in this out how far one, how far another of these   
 k : 1) as forty-two mouths ; see ch. views, is favoured by the text, and leave the   
 5: 2) a3 1260 days = 42 months x 30, reader to judge. And I will give to my two   
 see ver. 3, ch. xii, 6 : 3) as time, times, witnesses (the heavenly voice is still   
 and half atime = 8} years = 3 x 360 + ing in the name of Christ. That we must   
 180 = 1260 , sce ch, xii, 14, This not press the my to theinference that Christ   
 latter designation is also found in Dan. himself spcaks, is plain the words, where   
 vii. 25, xii. 7. With respect to these also their Lord was crucified, below. ‘The   
 periods, I may say that, equal as they cer- definite article the [in the original, it is,   
 tainly seem to be, we have no right to sup- to the two witnesses of me] secms as if   
 pose them, in any two given cases, to be the two witnesses were well known, and   
 identical, unless the context requires such distinct in their individuality. The two is   
 supposition. For instance, in these two essential to the prophecy, and is not to be   
 verses, 2 and 3, there is strong temptati explained away. No interpretation can be   
 to regard the two equal periods as coi right which does not, either in individuals,   
 cident and identical : but it is plain that or in characteristic lines of testimony, re-   
 such a view is not required by the context ; tain and bring out this dualism. See   
 the prophecy contains no note of such coin- further below), and they shall prophesy   
 cidence, but’ may be very simply read with- 3x