1033 REVELATION. XII.   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION.   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED. nations with a rod of   
 tions with a rod of iron: and her iron: anid her child was   
 child was caught up unto God, and caught up unto God, and   
 6 And 'the woman to his throne. © And the   
 Aver & fled his throne. wilderness, where she woman fled into the wil-   
 derness, where she hath a   
 hath a place prepared of God, that! piace prepared of God,   
 they may feed her there ™a thou that they should feed her   
 moh. xi. sand two hundred and threescore there a thousand two hun-   
 was . | dred and threescore days.   
 days. 7 And there War 1|7 And there was war in   
 nPsn-x.18, heaven: "Michael and his angels|seaven: Michael and his   
 exit.   
   
 humiliation: see below). And she bore a (the subject to the verb is left In   
 male son, who shall rale (literally, shep- ver. 14 below, it is simply passive, where   
 herd, i.e. order and guide) all the nations she is nourished) may nourish her there   
 with a rod of iron (tliese words, cited ver- for a thousand two hundred and sixty   
 batim from the Septnagint version of the days (the whole of this verse is antici-   
 Messianie Psalm ii., leave no possibility patory : the same incident being repeated   
 doubt, who is here intended. ‘The man with its details and in its own place in the   
 child is the Lord Jesus Christ, and none order of the narrative below, wv. 13 ff.   
 other, And this result isa important See there the comment and interpretation.   
 one for the fixity of of the whole ‘The fact of its being here inserted by anti-   
 propheey. It forms one of those land- cipation is very instructive as to that which   
 marks by which the legitimacy of various now next follows, as not being consecutive   
 interpretations may be tested; and of which in time after the flight of the woman, but   
 we may say, notwithstanding the contra- oceurring before it, and in fact referred to   
 diction sure to be given to the saying, that now in the prophecy as leading to that   
 every interpretation which oversteps their pursuit of the woman by the dragon, which   
 measure is thereby convicted of error. led to it). 7ff.] And there was war   
 Again, the exigencies of this passage re- in heaven (we now enter npon a myste-   
 quire that the birth should he understood rious series of events in the world of spirits,   
 literally and historically, of that Birth of with regard to which merely fragmentary   
 which all Christians know. And be it ob- hints are given ns in the Seriptures. In   
 served, that this rule of interpretation is the Old ‘Test. find the adversary Satan   
 no confident assertion of mine, as has been in heaven. In Job i.,ii., appears before   
 sented, but a result from the identi- od as the Tempter of His saints: in Zech.   
 1g use of words of the prophetic Scrip- i, we have him accusing Joshua the high   
 ture, spoken of Him who will not suffer priest in God’s presence. Again our Lord   
 His honour to be given to another): and in Luke x. 18 exclaims, “I beheld Satan   
 her child was caught up to God and to as lightning fall from heaven,” where see   
 his throne (j.c. after a conflict with the note. Compare also John xii. 31. So that   
 Prince of this world, who came and tried this casting down of Satan from the office   
 Him but found nothing in Him, the Son of accuser in heaven was evidently con-   
 of the woman was taken up to heaven and neeted with the great justifying work of   
 sat on the right hand of God. Words can redemption. His voice is heard before God   
 hardly be plainer than these. It surely is no more: the day of acceptance in Christ   
 but needful to set against them, thus un- Jesus has dawned. And his angels, those   
 derstood, the interpretation which would rebel spirits whom he led away, are cast   
 regard them as fulfilled by the “ mighty down with him, into the earth, where now   
 issue of the consummated birth of a son of the conflict is during the short time   
 the church, a baptized emperor, to political which shall elapse between the Ascension   
 supremacy in the Roman empire,” “ited and the second Advent, when he shall he   
 with the solemn publie profession of the bound. All this harmonizes together : and   
 divinity of the Son of man”). And the though we know no more of the matter,   
 ‘woman fied into the wilderness, where she we have at least this sign that our know-   
 hath there (so literally) place prepared edge, as far it goes, is the   
 from (so literally the source of the prepa- few hints given us do not, when thus in-   
 tation being His command) God, that they terpreted, contradict one another, but agree