

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

WRITER. In the Acts of the Apostles Luke continues the account of Christianity begun in the Gospel which bears his name. In the "former treatise" he tells what Jesus "began both to do and teach"; in the Acts, what Jesus continued to do and teach through His Holy Spirit sent down.

Date. The Acts concludes with the account of Paul's earliest ministry in Rome, A.D. 65, and appears to have been written at or near that time.

Theme. This book records the ascension and promised return of the Lord Jesus, the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Peter's use of the keys, opening the kingdom (considered as the sphere of profession, as in Mt. 13.) to the Jews at Pentecost, and to the Gentiles in the house of Cornelius; the beginning of the Christian church and the conversion and ministry of Paul.

The Holy Spirit fills the scene. As the presence of the Son, exalting and revealing the Father, is the great fact of the Gospels, so the presence of the Spirit, exalting and revealing the Son, is the great fact of the Acts.

Acts is in two chief parts: In the first section, i. 1-9. 43, Peter is the prominent personage, Jerusalem is the centre, and the ministry is to Jews. Already in covenant relations with Jehovah, they had sinned in rejecting Jesus as *the Christ*. The preaching, therefore, was directed to that point, and repentance (i.e. "a changed mind") was demanded. The apparent failure of the Old Testament promises concerning the Davidic kingdom was explained by the promise that the kingdom would be set up at the return of Christ (Acts 2. 25-31; 15. 14-16). This ministry to Israel fulfilled Lk. 19. 12-14. In the persecutions of the apostles and finally in the martyrdom of Stephen, the Jews sent after the king the message, "We will not have this man to reign over us." In the second division (10. 1-28. 31) Paul is prominent, a new centre is established at Antioch, and the ministry is chiefly to Gentiles who, as "strangers from the covenants of promise" (Eph. 2. 12), had but to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ" to be saved. Chapters 11., 12., and 15. of this section are transitional, establishing finally the distinction, doctrinally, between law and grace. Galatians should be read in this connection.

The events recorded in The Acts cover a period of 32 years.

CHAPTER 1.

Introduction (vs. 1, 2).

THE ^aformer treatise have I made, O ^bTheophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,
 2 Until the day in which he was ^ctaken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

The resurrection-ministry of Christ.

3 ^dTo whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

A.D. 33.
 a i.e. the Gospel according to Luke.
 b Lk.1.3.
 c Lit. *received up*.
 d Lk.24.49; John 14.16, 26,27; Acts 2.33.
 e Or, *eating with them*.
 f Or, *heard from me*.
 g Or, *in*.
 h Mt.3.2, note. *i Kingdom* (N.T.) vs.6, 7; Acts 2.29-32. (Lk.1.31-33; 1 Cor. 15.28.)
 j Mt.24.36; Mk.13.32; 1 Thes.5.1.

4 And, ^ebeing assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ^fye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized ^gwith water; but ye shall be baptized ^hwith the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time ⁱrestore again the ¹kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, ^jIt is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

¹ Forty days the risen Lord had been instructing the apostles "of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God," doubtless, according to His custom (Lk. 24. 27, 32, 44, 45), teaching them out of the Scriptures. One point was left untouched, viz., the *time* when He would restore the kingdom to Israel; hence the apostles' question. The answer was according to His repeated teaching; the *time* was not revealed (Mt. 24. 36, 42, 44; 25. 13; cf. 1 Thes. 5. 1).

The apostolic commission. (Cf. Mt. 28. 18-20; Mk. 16. 15-18; Lk. 24. 47, 48; John 20. 21-23.)

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be ^awitnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, ^bhe was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

The promise of the return of Jesus to the earth.

10 And ^cwhile they looked stedfastly toward ^dheaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which ^eis taken up from you into heaven, ^fshall so ^gcome in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

The ten days' waiting for the Spirit.

12 Then returned they unto Jeru-

A.D. 33.

^a v.22; Lk.24.48; John 15.27; Acts 2.32.

^b Christ (First Advent). Gen.3.15.

^c Or, as they were looking.

^d 2 Cor.12.2, note.

^e Or, was received up.

^f Christ (Second Advent). (Deut.30.3.)

^g About 4854 ft.

^h the; cf. John 20.19.

ⁱ The Zealot.

^j Or, brethren.

^k Inspiration. vs.8,16; Acts 9.15. (Ex.4.15; Rev.22.19.)

^l Holy Spirit. vs.2,5,8,16; Acts 2.17,18,33,38. (Mt.1.18; Acts 2.4.)

^m Ps.41.9.

ⁿ Or, received.

salem from the mount called Olivet which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's ^sjourney.

13 And when they were come in, they went up into ^han upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphæus, and Simon ^tZelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

The choice of Matthias.

15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the ^ddisciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, ^kwhich the ^lHoly Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning ^mJudas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 For he was numbered with us, and had ⁿobtained part of this ministry.

¹ The two Advents—Summary: (1) The O.T. foreview of the coming Messiah is in two aspects—that of rejection and suffering (as, e.g. in Isa. 53), and that of earthly glory and power (as, e.g. in Isa. 11; Jer. 23; Ezk. 37). Often these two aspects blend in one passage (e.g. Ps. 2). The prophets themselves were perplexed by this seeming contradiction (1 Pet. 1. 10, 11). It was solved by partial fulfilment. In due time the Messiah, born of a virgin according to Isaiah, appeared among men and began His ministry by announcing the predicted kingdom as "at hand" (Mt. 4. 17, note). The rejection of King and kingdom followed. (2) Thereupon the rejected King announced His approaching crucifixion, resurrection, departure, and return (Mt. 12. 38-40; 16. 1-4, 27; Lk. 12. 35-46; 17. 20-36; 18. 31-34; 19. 12-27; Mt. 24., 25.). (3) He uttered predictions concerning the course of events between His departure and return (Mt. 13. 1-50; 16. 18; 24. 4-26). (4) This promised return of Christ becomes a prominent theme in the Acts, Epistles, and Revelation.

Taken together, the N.T. teachings concerning the return of Jesus Christ may be summarized as follows: (1) That return is an event, not a process, and is personal and corporeal (Mt. 23. 39; 24. 30; 25. 31; Mk. 14. 62; Lk. 17. 24; John 14. 3; Acts 1. 11; Phil. 3. 20, 21; 1 Thes. 4. 14-17). (2) His coming has a threefold relation: to the church, to Israel, to the nations.

(a) To the church the descent of the Lord into the air to raise the sleeping and change the living saints is set forth as a constant expectation and hope (Mt. 24. -36, 44, 48-51; 25. 13; 1 Cor. 15. 51, 52; Phil. 3. 20; 1 Thes. 1. 10; 4. 14-17; 1 Tim. 6. 14; Tit. 2. 13; Rev. 22. 20).

(b) To Israel, the return of the Lord is predicted to accomplish the yet unfulfilled prophecies of her national regathering, conversion, and establishment in peace and power under the Davidic Covenant (Acts 15. 14-17 with Zech. 14. 1-9). See "Kingdom (O.T.)," 2 Sam. 7. 8-17; Zech. 13. 8, note; Lk. 1. 31-33; 1 Cor. 15. 24, note.

(c) To the Gentile nations the return of Christ is predicted to bring the destruction of the present political world-system (Dan. 2. 34, 35; Rev. 19. 11, note); the judgment of Mt. 25. 31-46, followed by world-wide Gentile conversion and participation in the blessings of the kingdom (Isa. 2. 2-4; 11. 10; 60. 3; Zech. 8. 3, 20, 23; 14. 16-21).

18 Now this man purchased a field with the ^areward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, *Aceldama*, that is to say, The field of blood.

20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, ^bLet his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his ^cbishoprick let another ^dtake.

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was ^etaken up from us, must one ^fbe ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

23 And they ^gappointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 And they ^hprayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all *men*, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

25 That he may take ⁱpart of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by ^jtransgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26 And they gave forth their lots;

A.D. 33.

a Zech. 11. 12, 13.
b Psa. 69. 25.
c Gr. *episkopen, overseership.*
 See Tit. 1. 5-9, *note.*
d Psa. 109. 8.
e Lit. *received up.*
f Lit. *become a witness.*
g Lit. *made two stand up.*
h Bible prayers (N.T.). Acts 4. 24-30. (Mt. 6. 9; Rev. 22. 20.)
i *the place in.*
j Sin. Rom. 3. 23, *note.*
k Lev. 23. 15; Deut. 16. 9; Acts 20. 16.
l *tongues, as of fire, parting and sitting upon each of them.*
m Psa. 68. 18.
n Holy Spirit. (Mt. 1. 18.)

and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

CHAPTER 2.

Pentecost: Peter's first use of the keys (Mt. 16. 18, 19); the gospel given to the Jews.
 (Cf. Acts 10. 1-48.)

AND when ^kthe day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them ^lcloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the ¹Holy Ghost, and began to speak with ^mother tongues, as the ⁿSpirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded; because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilæans?

¹ The Holy Spirit, N.T. Summary (see Mal. 2. 15, *note*):

(1) The Holy Spirit is revealed as a divine Person. This is expressly declared (e.g. John 14. 16, 17, 26; 15. 26; 16. 7-15; Mt. 28. 19), and everywhere implied.

(2) The revelation concerning Him is progressive: (a) In the O.T. (see Mal. 2. 15, *note*), He comes upon whom He will, apparently without reference to conditions in them. (b) During His earth-life, Christ taught His disciples (Lk. 11. 13) that they might receive the Spirit through prayer to the Father. (c) At the close of His ministry He promised that He would Himself pray the Father, and that in answer to His prayer the Comforter would come to abide (John 14. 16, 17). (d) On the evening of His resurrection He came to the disciples in the upper room, and breathed on them saying, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost" (John 20. 22), but instructed them to wait before beginning their ministry till the Spirit should come *upon* them (Lk. 24. 49; Acts 1. 8). (e) On the day of Pentecost the Spirit came upon the whole body of believers (Acts 2. 1-4). (f) After Pentecost, so long as the Gospel was preached to Jews only, the Spirit was imparted to such as believed by the laying on of hands (Acts 8. 17; 9. 17, etc.). (g) When Peter opened the door of the kingdom to the Gentiles (Acts 10.), the Holy Spirit, without delay, or other condition than faith, was given to those who believed (Acts 10. 44; 11. 15-18). This is the permanent fact for the entire church-age. Every believer is born of the Spirit (John 3. 3, 6; 1 John 5. 1), indwelt by the Spirit, whose presence makes the believer's body a temple (1 Cor. 6. 19; Rom. 8. 9-15; 1 John 2. 27; Gal. 4. 6), and baptized by the Spirit (1 Cor. 12. 12, 13; 1 John 2. 20, 27), thus sealing him for God (Eph. 1. 13; 4. 30).

(3) The N.T. distinguishes between having the Spirit, which is true of all believers, and being filled with the Spirit, which is the believers' privilege and duty (cf. Acts 2. 4 with 4. 29-31; Eph. 1. 13, 14 with 5. 18)—"One baptism, many fillings."

8 And how hear we every man in our own ^atongue, wherein we were born?

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judæa, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers ^bof Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our ^ctongues the wonderful works of God.

12 And they were all amazed, and were ^din doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

A.D. 33.

Peter's sermon. Theme: Jesus is Lord and Christ (v. 36).

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and ^esaid unto them, Ye men of Judæa, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

(1) *Introductory. Joel's prophecy fulfilled.*

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken ^fby the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the

*a language.**b from.**c languages.**d perplexed.**e through.*

(4) The Holy Spirit is related to Christ in His conception (Mt. 1. 18-20; Lk. 1. 35), baptism (Mt. 3. 16; Mk. 1. 10; Lk. 3. 22; John 1. 32, 33), walk and service (Lk. 4. 1, 14), resurrection (Rom. 8. 11), and as His witness throughout this age (John 15. 26; 16. 8-11, 13, 14).

(5) The Spirit forms the church (Mt. 16. 18; Heb. 12. 23, *note*) by baptizing all believers into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12. 12, 13), imparts gifts for service to every member of that body (1 Cor. 12. 7-11, 27, 30), guides the members in their service (Lk. 2. 27; 4. 1; Acts 16. 6, 7), and is Himself the power of that service (Acts 1. 8; 2. 4; 1 Cor. 2. 4).

(6) The Spirit abides in the company of believers who constitute a local church, making of them, corporately, a temple (1 Cor. 3. 16, 17).

(7) Christ indicates a threefold personal relationship of the Spirit to the believer: "With," "in," "upon" (John 14. 17; Lk. 24. 49; Acts 1. 8). "With" indicates the approach of God to the soul, convicting of sin (John 16. 9), presenting Christ as the object of faith (John 16. 14), imparting faith (Eph. 2. 8), and regenerating (John 3. 3-16). "In" describes the abiding presence of the Spirit in the believer's body (1 Cor. 6. 19) to give victory over the flesh (Rom. 8. 2-4; Gal. 5. 16, 17), to create the Christian character (Gal. 5. 22, 23), to help infirmities (Rom. 8. 26), to inspire prayer (Eph. 6. 18), to give conscious access to God (Eph. 2. 18), to actualize to the believer his sonship (Gal. 4. 6), to apply the Scriptures in cleansing and sanctification (Eph. 5. 26; 2 Thes. 2. 13; 1 Pet. 1. 2), to comfort and intercede (Acts 9. 31; Rom. 8. 26), and to reveal Christ (John 16. 14).

(8) Sins against the Spirit committed by unbelievers are: To blaspheme (Mt. 12. 31), resist (Acts 7. 51), insult (Heb. 10. 29, "despite," lit. *insult*). Believers' sins against the Spirit are: To grieve Him by allowing evil in heart or life (Eph. 4. 30, 31), and to quench Him by disobedience (1 Thes. 5. 19). The right attitude toward the Spirit is yieldedness to His sway in walk and service, and in constant willingness that He shall "put away" whatever grieves Him or hinders His power (Eph. 4. 31).

(9) The *symbols* of the Spirit are: (a) oil (John 3. 34; Heb. 1. 9); (b) water (John 7. 38, 39); (c) wind (Acts 2. 2; John 3. 8); (d) fire (Acts 2. 3); (e) a dove (Mt. 3. 16); (f) a seal (Eph. 1. 13; 4. 30); (g) an earnest or pledge (Eph. 1. 14).

¹ The theme of Peter's sermon at Pentecost is stated in verse 36. It is, that Jesus is the Messiah. No message could have been more unwelcome to the Jews who had rejected His Messianic claims, and crucified Him. Peter, therefore, does not announce his theme until he has covered every possible Jewish objection. The point of difficulty with the Jews was the apparent failure of the clear and repeated prophetic promise of a regathered Israel established in their own land under their covenanted King (e.g. Isa. 11. 10-12; Jer. 23. 5-8; Ezk. 37. 21-28). Instead of explaining, as Rome first taught, followed by some Protestant commentators, that the covenant and promises were to be fulfilled in the church in a so-called "spiritual" sense, Peter shows (vs. 25-32) from Ps. 16. that David himself understood that the dead and risen Christ would fulfil the covenant and sit on his throne (Lk. 1. 32, 33). In precisely the same way James (Acts 15. 14-17) met the same difficulty See "Kingdom (O.T.)," Zech. 12. 8; (N.T.), Lk. 1. 33; 1 Cor. 15. 24.

¹last days, saith God, I will ^apour out of my ^bSpirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my ^cservants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my ^dSpirit; and they shall prophesy:

19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that ^egreat and notable day of the ^fLord come:

21 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the ^gLord shall be ^hsaved.

(2) *The works of Jesus prove that he is Lord and Christ.*

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and ⁱforeknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

(3) *David foretold Messiah's kingship after resurrection.*

25 For ^jDavid speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the ^kLord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in ^lhell, neither wilt thou

A.D. 33.

^a vs.17-21;
^b Joel 2.28-32.
^c Holy Spirit. vs.17,18,33, 38; Acts 4.8, 31. (Mt.1.18; Acts 2.4.)
^d bondmen.
^e Joel 2.29.
^f Day (of Jehovah). vs. 19,20; 1 Thes. 5.1-3. (Isa.2. 10-22; Rev. 19.11-21.)
^g Jehovah. Joel 2.31.
^h Jehovah. Joel 2.32.
ⁱ Rom.1.16, note.
^j Foreknowledge. Acts 26.5. (Acts 2. 23; 1Pet.1.20.)
^k Psa.16.8-11.
^l Jehovah. Psa.16.8.
^m Hades. Lk. 16.23, note.
ⁿ Holy One. Psa.16.10.
^o Life (eternal). Acts 3. 15. (Mt.7.14; Rev.22.19.)
^p 1 Ki.2.10; Acts 13.36.
^q Israel (prophecies). vs. 29-32; Acts 15.14-17. (Gen.12.2,3; Rom.11.26.)
^r Kingdom (N.T.). vs.29-32; Acts 15.14-17. (Lk.1.31; 1 Cor.15.28.)
^s the Christ.
^t Hades. Lk. 16.23, note.
^u Resurrection. Acts 4.2, 33. (Job 19.25; 1 Cor.15.52.)
^v Adonai. Psa.110.1.
^w Repentance. Acts 3.19. (Mt.3.2; Acts 17.30.)
^x unto.
^y Mt.26.28, note.
^z Sin. Rom.3. 23, note.

suffer thine ^mHoly One to see corruption.

28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of ⁿlife; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

29 Men *and* brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch ^oDavid, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, ^phe would raise up Christ to sit on his ^qthrone;

31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of ^rChrist, that his soul was not left in ^shell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

(4) *His resurrection proves that he is Lord and Christ.*

32 This Jesus hath God ^traised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my ^uLord, Sit thou on my right hand,

35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath madethat same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

(5) *What Israel must do.*

37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the ^vrest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, ^wRepent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ ^xfor the ^yremission of ^zsins, and ye

¹ A distinction must be observed between "the last days" when the prediction relates to Israel, and the "last days" when the prediction relates to the church (1 Tim. 4. 1-3; 2 Tim. 3. 1-8; Heb. 1. 1, 2; 1 Pet. 1. 4, 5; 2 Pet. 3. 1-9; 1 John 2. 18, 19; Jude 17-19). Also distinguish the expression the "last days" (plural) from "the last day" (singular); the latter expression referring to the resurrections and last judgment (John 6. 39, 40, 44, 54; 11. 24; 12. 48). The "last days" as related to the church began with the advent of Christ (Heb. 1. 2), but have especial reference to the time of declension and apostasy at the end of this age (2 Tim. 3. 1; 4. 4). The "last days" as related to Israel are the days of Israel's exaltation and blessing, and are synonymous with the kingdom-age (Isa. 2. 2-4; Mic. 4. 1-7). They are "last" not with reference to this dispensation, but with reference to the whole of Israel's history.

shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the ^aLord our God shall call.

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41 Then they ^bthat gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were ^cadded unto *them* about three thousand souls.

The first church. (Cf. Acts 4. 32-37.)

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' ^ddoctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done ^eby the apostles.

44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need.

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did ^feat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. ^gAnd the Lord added to the ^hchurch daily such as should be ⁱsaved.

CHAPTER 3.

The first apostolic miracle: the lame man healed.

NOW Peter and John ^jwent up together into the temple at the hour of ^kprayer, *being* the ninth hour.

2 And a ^lcertain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, ^mto ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, ⁿfastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold

A.D. 33.

a Jehovah.

b Joel 2.32.

c having received.

d Churches

(local).

e Acts 8.1-8;

(Acts 2.41;

Phil.1.1.)

f teaching.

g through.

h partake of

their food.

i Moreover

the Lord was

adding to

the church

day by day

those being

saved. Cf.1

Cor.12.12,13;

Eph.1.22,23.

h Church,

true. 1 Cor.

12.12-28.

(Mt.16.18;

Heb.12.23.)

i Rom.1.16,

note.

j were going.

k Psa.55.17.

l Acts 14.8.

m John 9.8.

n Acts 4.10.

o Miracles

(N.T.). vs.1.

p (Mt.8.2,3;

Acts 28;9.)

q Isa.35.6.

r began to

walk, and

entered.

s Acts 4.16,21.

t John 10.23;

Acts 5.12.

u godliness.

v Or, Holy and

Righteous

One.

w Or, Author.

x Life (eter-

nal). Acts 5.

20. (Mt.7.14;

Rev.22.19.)

y Faith. Acts

13.39. (Gen.3.

20; Heb.

11.39.)

z through.

a his Christ.

b Repentance.

c Acts 5.31.

d (Mt.3.2;

Acts 17.30.)

e turn again.

f Lk.22.32.

g Sin. Rom.3.

23, note.

h that so may

come times

of refreshing

from the

face of the

Lord, and

[that] he may

send . . .

Jesus Christ.

have I none; but such as I have give I thee: ⁿIn the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and ^oimmediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he ^pleaping up stood, and ^qwalked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And ^rall the people saw him walking and praising God:

10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the ^sporch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

Peter's second sermon. Theme: the covenants will be fulfilled.

12 And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or ^tholiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.

14 But ye denied the ^uHoly One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15 And killed the ^vPrince of ^wlife, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

16 And his name through ^xfaith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is ^yby him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did *it*, as *did* also your rulers.

18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that ^zChrist should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

19 ^aRepent ye therefore, and ^bbe converted, that your ^csins may be blotted out, ^dwhen the times of ^erefreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

¹ "Namely, seasons in which, through the appearance of the Messiah in His

20 ¹And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of ²restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his ³holy prophets ⁴since the world began.

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, 'A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you ⁴of your brethren, like unto me; ⁵him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

23 And it shall come to pass, *that* every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be ¹destroyed from among the people.

24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

25 Ye are the ³children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with ⁴our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from ^hhis iniquities.

CHAPTER 4.

The first persecution.

AND as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the ¹Sadducees, came upon them,

2 Being ^jgrieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

A.D. 33.

a Sanctify, holy (persons). Acts 4.27-30. (Mt. 4.5; Rev.22.11.)

b from old time.

c Deut.18.15, 18,19.

d from among.

e Acts 7.37.

f utterly destroyed.

g Gr. huioi, sons.

h your.

i Mt.3.7, note.

j sore troubled.

k came to be.

l Lk.3.2; John 11.49; 18.13.

m Ex.2.14; Mt.21.23; Acts 7.27.

n Lk.12.11,12.

o in.

p Acts 3.6,16.

q Acts 2.24.

r Christ (as Stone). Eph.2.20. (Ex.17.6; 1 Pet.2.8.)

s Psa.118.22.

t Rom.1.16, note.

u wherein.

v Mt.11.25; 1 Cor.1.27.

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men ^kwas about five thousand.

Peter's address to the Sanhedrin.

5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

6 And ¹Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, ^mBy what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then ⁿPeter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that ^oby the ^pname of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, ^qwhom God raised from the dead, *even* ^oby him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the ^rstone which was set ^{at}nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there ^ssalvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, ^twhereby we must be saved.

Preaching in the name of Jesus forbidden.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were ^vunlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled;

kingdom, there shall occur blessed rest and refreshment for the people of God." —*Heinrich A. W. Meyer.*

¹The appeal here is national to the Jewish people as such, not individual as in Peter's first sermon (Acts 2. 38, 39). There those who were pricked in heart were exhorted to save themselves from (among) the untoward nation; here the whole people is addressed, and the promise to *national* repentance is *national* deliverance: "and he shall send Jesus Christ" to bring in the times which the prophets had foretold (see Acts 2. 14, *note*). The official answer was the imprisonment of the apostles, and the inhibition to preach, so fulfilling Lk. 19. 14.

²Gr. *apokatastaseos* = restoration, occurring here and Acts 1. 6 only. The meaning is limited by the words: "Which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets." The prophets speak of the restoration of Israel to the land (see "Israel," Gen 12. 2, 3; Rom. 11. 26; also "Palestinian Covenant," Deut. 30. 1-9, *note*); and of the restoration of the theocracy under David's Son. (See "Davidic Covenant," 2 Sam. 7. 8-17, *note*: "Kingdom," Gen. 1. 26-28; Zech. 12. 8, *note*.) No prediction of the conversion and restoration of the wicked dead is found in the prophets, or elsewhere. Cf. Rev. 20. 11-15.

and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16 Saying, ^aWhat shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable ^bmiracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to ^chearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

20 For we ^dcannot but speak the things which we ^ehave seen and heard.

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all ^fmen glorified God for that which was done.

22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

The Christians again filled with the Spirit. (Cf. Acts 2. 1-4.)

23 And being let go, ^fthey went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

24 And when they heard that, they ^glifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, ^hthou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast ⁱsaid, Why did the ^jheathen ^krage, and the people imagine vain things?

26 The ^lkings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the ^lLord, and against his ^mChrist.

27 For of a truth against thy ⁿholy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both ^oHerod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

28 For to do whatsoever thy hand

A.D. 33.

^a John 11.47.

^b Gr. *semeion*, sign.

^c Acts 5.29; Mt. 28.19; 1 Cor. 9.16; Gal. 1.10.

^d Jer. 20.9.

^e 1 John 1.1,3.

^f Acts 2.44,46.

^g Bible prayers. Acts 7.59,60. (Mt. 6.9; Rev. 22.20.)

^h Isa. 51.12,13.

ⁱ Psa. 2.1-3, note.

^j i.e. Gentiles.

^k vs. 25,26; Psa. 2.1,2.

^l Jehovah. Psa. 2.2.

^m Anointed. Psa. 2.2.

ⁿ Sanctify, holy (persons) (N.T.). vs. 27,30; Acts 20.32. (Mt. 4.5; Rev. 22.11.)

^o See Mt. 14.1, ref.

^p Predestination, trans. predestinated. Rom. 8.29. (Acts 4.28; Eph. 1.11.)

^q Holy Spirit. vs. 8,31; Acts 5.3,9,32. (Mt. 1.18; Acts 2.4.)

^r Resurrection. vs. 2,33; Acts 9.36-41. (Job 19.25; 1 Cor. 15.52.)

^s Or, exhortation.

^t Josh. 7.11,12; Mt. 3.8,9; 1 Tim. 6.10.

^u Acts 4.34-37.

^v 1 Chr. 21.1; Mt. 13.19; John 13.2,27; Eph. 6.11,16; 1 Pet. 5.8.

^w Satan. Acts 10.38. (Gen. 3.1; Rev. 20.10.)

and thy counsel ²determined before to be done.

29 And now, Lord, behold thy threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the ²Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

State of the church at Jerusalem. (Cf. Acts 2. 42-47.)

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the ²resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of ²consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

CHAPTER 5.

The sin and death of Ananias and Sapphira.

BUT a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,

2 And ²kept back *part* of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought ³a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

3 But Peter said, Ananias, ⁴why hath ⁵Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land?

4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why

hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, ^abut unto God.

5 And Ananias ^bhearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

6 And the ^cyoung men arose, wound him up, and carried *him* out, and buried *him*.

7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.

8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to ^dtempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband *are* at the door, and shall carry thee out.

10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying *her* forth, buried *her* by her husband.

11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

The power of a holy church. (See 1 Thes. 1. 1-10.)

12 And by the hands of the apostles were ^emany signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

13 And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them.

14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

15 Inasmuch that they brought forth the sick ^finto the streets, and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

16 There came also a multitude *out* of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, ^gbringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

The second persecution.

17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the ^hsect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation,

A.D. 33.

18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

19 But ^kthe ^langel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this ^mlife.

21 And when they heard *that*, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told,

23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within.

24 Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow.

25 Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set *them* before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your ⁿdoctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

The answer of the apostles.

29 Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to *be* a Prince and a ^oSaviour, for to give ^prepentance to Israel, and ^qforgiveness of ^rsins.

32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so *is* also the ^sHoly Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

33 When they heard *that*, they

a Num.16.11;

1 Sam.8.7;

2 Ki.5.25,27;

Lk.10.16;

1 Thes.4.8.

b Num.16.26,

33; 2 Ki.1.10,

14; 2.24; 2

Cor.13.2,10.

c Gr. *younger*.d *Temptation*.

Acts 15.10.

(Gen.3.1;

Jas.1.2.)

e Acts 4.29,30.

f *Miracles*

(N.T.). vs.

12.15,16,19,

20; Acts 6.8.

(Mt.8.2,3;

Acts 28.8,9.)

g Gr. *in every**street*.

h Mk.16.17.

i Gr. *heresy*.j Lit. *jeal-**ousy*.k *an angel*.

l Heb.1.4,

note.m *Life (eter-**nal)*. Acts

11.18. (Mt.

7.14; Rev.

22.19.)

n *teaching*.

o Rom-1.16,

note.p *Repentance*.

Acts 8.22.

(Mt.3.2;

Acts 17.30.)

q See Mt.26.28,

note.r *Sin*. Rom.3.23, *note*.s *Holy Spirit*.

vs.3.9,32;

Acts 6.3,5,

10. (Mt.1.

18; Acts 2.4.)

were ^ccut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.

The warning of Gamaliel.

34 Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space;

35 And said unto them, Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men.

36 For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as ^bobeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought.

37 After this man rose up Judas of Galilee ⁱⁿ the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: ^{he} also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed.

38 And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: ^{for} if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought:

39 But ^{if} it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.

The apostles beaten.

40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and ^bbeaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer ^hshame for his name.

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 6.

The first deacons.

AND in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the ⁱGrecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected ⁱⁿ the daily ministrations.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples ^{unto} them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and

A.D. 33.

wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they ^jchose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and ^kPhilip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid ^{their} hands on them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

The third persecution: Stephen brought before the council.

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and ^{miracles} among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the ^mspirit by which he spake.

11 ⁿThen they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and ^{against} God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon ^{him}, and caught him, and brought ^{him} to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this ^oholy place, and the law:

14 ^pFor we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, ^qsaw his face as it had been the face of an ^rangel.

CHAPTER 7.

THEN said the high priest, Are these things so?

Address of Stephen before the council. Theme: The unbelief of Israel.

2 And he said, ^sMen, brethren

^a Cf. Acts 2.37.

The Gospel when preached in the power of the Spirit convicts or enrages.

^b Or, *believed*.

^c Lk. 2.1.

^d Lk. 13.1,2.

^e Isa. 8.10; Mt. 15.13.

^f Isa. 46.9,10; 1 Cor. 1.25.

^g Mt. 10.17.

^h Or, *dishonour for the Name*.

ⁱ *Hellenists*, i.e. Grecian Jews.

^j It is beautiful to see that these were all Hellenists, as the Grecian names show.

^k Acts 8.5; 21.8.

^l *Miracles* (N.T.). Acts 8.6. (Mt. 8.2,3; Acts 28.8,9.)

^m *Holy Spirit*. vs. 3,5,10; Acts 7.51,55. (Mt. 1.18; Acts 2.4.)

ⁿ 1 Ki. 21.10,13; Mt. 26.59,60.

^o *Sanctify, holy (things)* (N.T.). Acts 21.28. (Mt. 4.5; Rev. 22.11.)

^p Acts 25.8.

^q Ex. 34.29,30; Acts 4.13; 2 Cor. 3.18; 1 John 3.2.

^r Heb. 1.4, note.

^s Acts 22.1.

and fathers, hearken; The ^aGod of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in ^bCharran,

3 And said unto him, ^cGet thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.

4 Then came he out of the land of the Chaldæans, and dwelt in ^bCharran: and from thence, when ^dhis father was dead, ^ehe removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.

5 And he gave him ^fnone inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he ^gpromised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child.

6 And God spake on this wise, That his ^hseed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into ⁱbondage, and entreat ^jthem evil four hundred years.

7 And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage will I judge, said God: and after that shall they ^kcome forth, and serve me in this place.

8 And he gave him the ^lcovenant of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.

9 And the patriarchs, moved with ^menvy, ⁿsold Joseph into Egypt: but ^oGod was with him,

10 And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

11 ^pNow there came a dearth over all the land of Egypt and ^qChanaan, and great affliction: and our fathers found no sustenance.

12 But when ^rJacob heard that there was corn in Egypt, he sent out our fathers first.

13 And at the ^ssecond time Joseph was made known to his brethren; and Joseph's kindred was made known unto Pharaoh.

14 Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to ^thim, and all his ^ukindred, threescore and fifteen souls.

15 So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our fathers,

A.D. 33.

^a God (of glory). Psa. 29.3.

^b Or, Haran. Gen.11.31,32.

^c Gen.12.1; Heb.11.8-10.

^d Gen.12.5.

^e Or, God.

^f Heb.11.9,10.

^g Gen.15.7; 17.8; 18.10; Heb. 11.11,12.

^h Gen.15.13, 14; 47.11,12.

ⁱ Ex.1.8-14; 12.40,41.

^j Ex.14.29,30.

^k Gen.17.9-14.

^l Or, jealousy.

^m Gen.37.11.

ⁿ Jehovah. Gen.39.2.

^o Gen.41.54.

^p Canaan.

^q Gen.42.1.

^r Gen.45.4,16.

^s unto Shechem.

^t See Gen.23.4, note.

^u Or, in Shechem.

^v vs.6,7; Ex.2. 23-25.

^w Ex.1.7-9; Psa.105.24, 25.

^x Or, fair unto God.

^y Ex.2.5-10.

^z Lk.24.19.

^a Ex.2.11,12.

^b Lk.24.49; contra,

John 2.4.

^c Ex.2.13.

^d Ex.2.14;

Lk.12.14.

^e Ex.2.15;

Heb.11.27.

^f Heb.1.4,

note.

^g Ex.3.2.

16 And were carried over ^sinto Sychem, and laid in the ^tsepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor ^uthe father of Sychem.

17 But when the ^vtime of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the ^wpeople grew and multiplied in Egypt,

18 Till another king arose, which knew not Joseph.

19 The same dealt subtilly with our kindred, and evil entreated our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live.

20 In which time Moses was born, and was ^xexceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months:

21 And when he was cast out, ^yPharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.

22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was ^zmighty in words and in deeds.

23 And ^awhen he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

24 And seeing one of ^bthem suffer wrong, he defended ^chim, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

25 For he supposed his brethren would have ^dunderstood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.

26 And the ^enext day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, ^fWho made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?

29 ^gThen fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons.

30 And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an ^hangel of the Lord in a ⁱflame of fire in a bush.

31 When Moses saw ^jit, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold ^kit, the voice of the Lord came unto him,

¹ Cf. Gen. 46. 26, note. There is no real contradiction. The "house of Jacob" numbered seventy, but the "kindred" would include the wives of Jacob's sons.

32 *Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold.*

33 Then said the Lord to him, *Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.*

34 *I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.*

35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.

36 He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, *A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.*

38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

39 To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt,

40 *Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for as for this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.*

41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

42 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, *O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness?*

43 *Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made*

A.D. 33.

a God. Ex. 3.6.
b Ex. 3.4, 5; Josh. 5.15.
c Ex. 2.24, 25; 3.7.
d Psa. 105.26.
e Heb. 1.4, note.
f Deut. 18.15, 18, 19.
g *Jehovah.* Deut. 18.15.
h *Or, living.* Rom. 3.1, 2; 9.4, 5.
i Psa. 95.8-11.
j Ex. 32.1.
k Ex. 32.6, 18; Psa. 66.6.
l Jud. 2.11-14; Rom. 1.24, 28.
m Amos 5.25-27.
n *Or, Rephan.*
o 2 Chr. 36.11-21; Jer. 25.9-12.
p *Or, tent of testimony.*
q Ex. 25.40; 26.30; Heb. 8.5.
r *i.e. Joshua.*
s *nations, whom God drove out.*
t 1 Ki. 8.17; 1 Chr. 22.7; Psa. 132.4, 5.
u 2 Sam. 7.1-13; 1 Ki. 8.20.
v Isa. 66.1, 2; cf. 1 Ki. 8.27; Acts 17.24.
w *Jehovah.* Isa. 66.1, 2.
x Psa. 102.25-27.
y Jer. 2.30; Mt. 23.34-36; Lk. 20.9-15.
z *Righteous One.*
a They had brought false witnesses against Stephen; he bears true witness against them, quoting the testimony of writers they owned to be inspired. He speaks of the persistent rejection of God and His servants by the nation till at last it is brought home to themselves, and arouses the maddened enmity of their hearts. It was the final trial of the nation.
b *Holy Spirit.* vs. 51, 55; Acts 8.15. (Mt. 1.18; Acts 2.4.)
c Mt. 3.16; Acts 9.3; Heb. 2.9.

to worship them: and *I* will carry you away beyond Babylon.

44 Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen.

45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with *Jesus* into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;

46 Who found favour before God, and desired to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob.

47 *But* Solomon built him an house.

48 Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet,

Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?

49 *Hath not my hand made all these things?*

50 *Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.*

51 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the *Just One*; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

52 *Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.*

The first martyr: first mention of Paul.

54 *When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.*

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses

¹ Israel in the land is never called a church. In the wilderness Israel was a true church (Gr. *ecclesia* = called-out assembly), but in striking contrast with the N.T. *ecclesia* (Mt. 16, 18, note).

laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, ^acalling upon ^bGod, and saying, Lord Jesus, ^creceive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this ^dsin to their charge. And when he had said this, ^ehe fell asleep.

CHAPTER 8.

The fourth persecution: Saul chief persecutor.

^fAND Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all ^gscattered abroad throughout the regions of Judæa and Samaria, except the apostles.

2 And devout men carried Stephen to his *burial*, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havock of the ^hchurch, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.

The first missionaries.

4 Therefore ⁱthey that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

The ministry of Philip. (See Acts 6. 5; 21. 8.)

5 Then ^jPhilip went down to the ^kcity of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the ^lpeople with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the ^mmiracles which he did.

7 For ⁿunclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed *with them*: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

(The case of Simon the sorcerer.)

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city ^oused sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

A.D. 34.

^a Bible pray-
ers. Acts 9.6,
11. (Mt.6.9;
Rev.22.20.)

^b Omnipotent
God. Lit. And were
stoning Stephen
as he was invoking
and saying,
Lord Jesus,
give welcome
unto my spirit.

^c Lk.23.46;

1 Pet.4.19.

^d Sin. Rom.3.

23, note.

^e Lk.8.52; 2

Tim.1.10; 1

Thes.4.13-18.

^f Acts 7.58.

^g Acts 11.19.

^h Churches

(local) vs.

1-8; Acts 9.

31. (Acts 2.

41; Phil.1.1.)

ⁱ Mt.10.23;

Acts 11.19.

^j Acts 6.5.

^k The Jews hav-

ing rejected

Stephen's wit-

ness to, and of,

them, the Gos-

pel now begins

to go out to

"all nations."

Cf.v.1; Lk.24.

47.

^l multitude.

^m Gr. signs.

ⁿ Miracles

(N.T.). Acts

9.18,36-41.

(Mt.8.2,3;

Acts 28,8,9.)

^o Mk.16.17.

^p Acts 13.6.

^q Acts 13.38,39.

^r v.1; John 4.22.

^s Holy Spirit.

vs.15,17,18,

19,29,39; (Mt.

9.17,31. (Mt.

1.18; Acts2.4.)

^t Acts 2.38.

^u Acts 19.6;

Deut.34.9.

^v 2 Ki.5.16,26,

27; Heb.13.

5.6.

^w Gr. word.

^x Mt.15.8,19.

^y Repentance.

Acts 11.18.

(Mt.3.2;

Acts 17.30.)

^z The Lord.

^a will become.

^b Ex.9.28.

^c Gospel. Acts

14.7,21.

(Gen.12.1-3;

Rev.14.6.)

^d Acts 1.8.

^e Heb.1.4, note.

^f Contra, vs.

6-8.

^g Psa.68.31;

Jer.38.7;

Acts 28.28.

12 But when they ^pbelieved Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the ^qapostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the ^rHoly Ghost:

16 (For as yet ^she was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then ^tlaid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money ^uperish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this ^vmatter: for thy ^wheart is not right in the sight of God.

22 ^xRepent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray ^yGod, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

23 For I perceive that thou ^zart in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, ^athat none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the ^bgospel in many ^cvil- lages of the Samaritans.

Philip and the Ethiopian.

26 And the ^dangel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is ^edesert.

27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of ^fEthiopia, an eunuch of great authority under

Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to ^aJerusalem for to worship,

28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

29 Then the ^bSpirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

30 And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, ^cUnderstandest thou what thou readest?

31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he ^ddesired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, ^eHe was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, ^fof whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or some other man?

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and ^gbegan at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 ^hAnd Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he ⁱbaptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the ^jSpirit of the ^kLord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way ^lrejoicing.

40 But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached ^min all the cities, till he came to Cæsarea.

A.D. 34.

a 1 Ki.8.41,42;
John 12.20.b Acts 10.19;
13.2; 20.23.c Lk.24.45;
Rom.10.14,
15; 2 Cor.3.15.

d besought.

e Isa.53.7,8.

f Acts 2.30,31;
1 Pet.1.10,11;
Rev.19.10.g Lk.24.27;
Acts 10.43;
17.2,3.h The best
authorities
omit v. 37.

i Acts 16.33.

j 1 Ki.18.12;
Ezk.8.3.

k Jehovah.

l v.8.

m Or, the gos-
pel to all the
cities.n Acts 8.1,3;
26.10,11.

o Acts 22.5.

p that were of
the way; i.e.
Christ. John
14.6.q 2 Cor.4.6;
1 John 1.5.r Zech.2.8;
John 15.20,21;
Eph.5.29,30.s The Lord
identifies
Himself with
His people.t Acts 2.33-36;
Heb.2.9.u Bible pray-
ers (N.T.).
Eph.1.17-20.
(Mt.6.9; Rev.
22.20.)

v the voice.

w Or, nothing.

x Acts 22.12.

y Lk.15.7;
18.13.

CHAPTER 9.

The conversion of Saul. (Cf. Acts 22. 1-16; 26. 9-18.)

AND Saul, ^ayet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him ^bletters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any ^cof this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a ^dlight from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, ^ewhy persecutest thou ^fme?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am ^gJesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 And he trembling and astonished ^hsaid, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord ⁱsaid unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing ^ja ^kvoice, but seeing no man.

8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw ^lno man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named ^mAnanias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I *am here*, Lord.

11 And the Lord ⁿsaid unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for ^oone called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he, ^pprayeth,

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting *his* hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord,

¹ Cf. Acts 22. 9; 26. 14. A contradiction has been imagined. The three statements should be taken together. The men heard the "voice" as a sound (Gr. *phone*), but did not hear the "voice" as articulating the words, "Saul, Saul." etc.

I have ^aheard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: ^bfor he is a 'chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the ^dGentiles, and ^ckings, and the ^jchildren of Israel:

16 For ^gI will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

Paul filled with the Spirit.

17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the ^hHoly Ghost.

Paul baptized.

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received ⁱsight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

Paul preaches.

20 ^jAnd straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, ^lthat he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard *him* were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

¹ Cf. Acts 2. 36. Peter, while maintaining the deity of Jesus—"God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ"—gives especial prominence to His Messiahship. Paul, fresh from the vision of the glory, puts the emphasis on His Deity. Peter's charge was that the Jews had crucified the Son of David (Acts 2. 25-30); Paul's that they had crucified the Lord of glory (1 Cor. 2. 8). In the A.V. the sense is largely lost. The point was, not that the Christ was God, a truth plainly taught by Isaiah (7. 14; 9. 6, 7), but that *Jesus*, the crucified Nazarene, was the Christ and therefore God the Son.

² It seems probable that verses 22-25 refer to Paul's labours in Damascus after his return from Arabia (Gal. 1. 17). The "many days" of verse 23 may represent the "three years" of Gal. 1. 18, which intervene between Paul's return to Damascus and his visit to Peter.

³ The Acts records four visits of Paul to Jerusalem after his conversion: (1) Acts 9. 23-30. This seems identical with the visit of Gal. 1. 18. 19. The "apostles" of verse 27 were Peter, and James, the Lord's brother. (2) Acts 11. 30. Paul may have been in Jerusalem during the events of Acts 12. 1-24. (See v. 25.) (3) Acts 15. 1-30; Gal. 2. 2-10. (4) Acts 21. 17-23. 35.

A.D. 35.

^a vs. 1, 2; Gal. 1. 23.

^b *Inspiration.*
Acts 28. 25.
(Ex. 4. 15;
Rev. 22. 19.)

^c Gr. vessel
elected. Election (personal).
Acts 10. 41.
(Deut. 7. 6;
1 Pet. 1. 2.)

^d Rom. 1. 5; 11. 13;
Eph. 3. 7, 8.

^e Acts 26. 1, 2;
2 Tim. 4. 16, 17.

^f Acts 21. 40;
Rom. 1. 16; 9. 1-5.

^g Acts 20. 23;
2 Cor. 11. 23-28;
Gal. 6. 17;
Phil. 1. 29.

^h *Holy Spirit*
(N. T.). vs. 17. 31;
Acts 10. 19, 38, 44,
45, 47. (Mt. 1. 18;
Acts 2. 4.)

ⁱ *Miracles (N. T.).*
vs. 18, 36-41;
Acts 13. 6-12.
(Mt. 8. 2, 3;
Acts 28. 8, 9.)

^j Lit. *And straightway, in the synagogues, was he proclaiming Jesus, that he is the Son of God.*

^k *the very Christ.*

^l Josh. 2. 15;
1 Sam. 19. 12;
2 Cor. 11. 32, 33.

^m vs. 13, 14.

ⁿ Acts 4. 36;
11. 22-26.

^o vs. 20, 22.

^p *Hellenists, i. e. Grecian Jews.*

^q *Churches (local).* Acts 11. 1-26. (Acts 2. 41; Phil. 1. 1.)

^r Eph. 4. 16.

^s Psa. 34. 9; Heb. 12. 28.

^t John 14. 16;
Phil. 2. 1, 2.

^u v. 42; Acts 16. 5.

22 ²But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is ^kevery Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and ^llet *him* down by the wall in a basket.

Paul visits Jerusalem.

26 And when Saul was ³come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all ^mafraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But ⁿBarnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached ^oboldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed ^qagainst the ²Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

Paul returns to Tarsus.

30 *Which* when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Cæsarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

31 Then had the ^qchurches rest throughout all Judæa and Galilee and Samaria, and were ^redified; and walking in the ^sfear of the Lord, and in the ^tcomfort of the Holy Ghost, were ^umultiplied.

The healing of Æneas.

32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

33 And there he found a certain man named Æneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was ^asick of the palsy.

34 And Peter said unto him, Æneas, ^bJesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

35 And all that dwelt at Lydda and ^cSaron saw him, and ^dturned to the Lord.

Tabitha raised from the dead.

36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called ^eDorcas; this woman was ^ffull of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid ^gher in an upper chamber.

38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring ^hhim that he would not delay to come to them.

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the ⁱwidows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth, and ^kkneeled down, and prayed; and turning ^lhim to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

41 And he gave her ^mhis hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her ⁿalive.

42 And it ^owas known throughout all Joppa; ^pand many believed in the Lord.

43 And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one ^qSimon a tanner.

CHAPTER 10.

Peter's second use of the keys: the gospel given to Gentiles.
(Cf. Mt. 16. 19; Acts 2. 14-41.)

Cornelius' vision.

THERE was a certain man in Cæsarea called Cornelius, a ^rcenturion of the ^sband called the Italian ^tband

A.D. 38.

a Mt.9.2.

b Acts 3.6,16; 4.10.

c Sharon.

d Acts 11.21.

e i.e. gazelle.

f 1 Tim.2.10.

g Contra, Acts 6.1.

h Mt.9.25.

i Resurrection. vs.36-42; Acts 17.3. (Job 19.25; 1 Cor.15.52.)

j came to be.

k John 11.45; 12.11.

l Acts 10.6,28.

m Lk.7.2-10.

n Or, cohort.

o v.35; Acts 16.14.

p Cf. vs.10-17; Acts 9.10.

q Heb.1.4, note.

r Mt.26.13; Heb.6.9,10.

s Acts 11.13, 14.

t Acts 8.26-39.

u Acts 7.56; Eph.3.5,6.

v Lev.11.1; Isa.66.17; Ezk.4.14.

w v.28; Mt.15.11; Rom.14.14,17,20; 1 Cor.10.25; 1 Tim.4.4; Tit.1.15.

2 A devout man, and one that ^ofeared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

3 He saw in a ^pvision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an ^qangel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a ^rmemorial before God.

5 And now ^ssend men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

6 He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

Cornelius sends for Peter.

7 And when the ^gangel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

8 And when he had declared all ^tthese things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

Peter's vision of the great sheet.

9 On the morrow, as they ^wwent on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

11 And saw ^uheaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is ^vcommon or unclean.

15 And the voice ^{spake}unto him again the second time, ^wWhat God hath cleansed, ^tthat call not thou common.

16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

*Peter and the messengers of
Cornelius.*

17 Now while Peter ^adoubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, ^bdoubting nothing: for I have sent them.

21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: ^cwhat is the cause wherefore ye are come?

22 And they said, ^dCornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of ^egood report among all the nations of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

Peter goes to Cæsarea.

23 Then called he them in, and lodged *them*. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and ^fcertain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

24 And the morrow after they entered into Cæsarea. And Cornelius ^gwaited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and ^hfell down at his feet, and worshipped *him*.

26 But Peter took him up, saying, ⁱStand up; I myself also am a man.

27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.

28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an ^junlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but ^kGod hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

29 Therefore came I ^lunto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for ^mwhat intent ye have sent for me?

30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour;

A.D. 41.

a was much perplexed.
b Acts 16.9,10.
c v.29; Lk.18.41.
d vs.1,2.
e Acts 22.12.
f v.45; Acts 11.12.
g was waiting.
Lk.5.19;
Lk.8.40;
John 4.29.
h Acts 16.29.
i Acts 14.14,15;
Rev.19.10;
22.9.
j John 4.9; 18.28; Acts 11.3; Gal.2.12,14.
k v.15; Acts 15.8,9; Eph.3.6.
l v.21.
m Mt.28.3;
Mk.16.5;
Lk.24.4.
n v.4; Dan.10.12.
o Heb.6.10.
p Lk.8.18;
Gal.4.14;
1 Thes.2.13.
q In the sight of.
r the Lord.
s Deut.10.17;
Rom.2.11;
3.29,30; 10.12,13.
t Psa.15.1,2;
Acts 15.7-11;
Rom.2.27-29.
u Rom.10.10, note.
v Lk.2.14;
Eph.2.17;
Col.1.20.
w Jehovah.
Isa.61.11.
x Holy Spirit (N.T.). vs. 19,38,44,45, 47; Acts 11.12,15,16,24, 28. (Mt.1.18; Acts 2.4.)
y Satan. Acts 13.10. (Gen.3.1; Rev.20.10.)
z Isa.61.1-3;
John 3.2; 8.29.
a Acts 1.22.
b Acts 2.23; 13.27,28.
c Acts 2.24.
d Election (personal). Acts 15.7. (Deut.7.6; 1 Pet.1.2.)
e Lk.24.30,41-43; John 21.9-13; 1 John.1.1
f on him.
g Sin. Rom.3.23, note.

and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in ⁿbright clothing,

31 And said, Cornelius, thy ^oprayer is heard, and ^pthine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.

32 Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of ^qone Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.

33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are ^rwe all here ^spresent before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of ^tGod.

Peter's sermon to Gentiles in the house of Cornelius.
Theme: Salvation through faith. (Cf. Acts 2. 14-41.)

34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no ^vrespecter of persons:

35 But in ^wevery nation he that feareth him, and worketh ^xrighteousness, is accepted with him.

36 The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching ^ypeace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

37 That word, *I* say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judæa, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;

38 How ^zGod anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the ^{aa}Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the ^{ab}devil; for ^{ac}God was with him.

39 And we are ^{ad}witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they ^{ae}slew and hanged on a tree:

40 Him *God* ^{af}raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses ^{ag}chosen before of God, even to us, who did ^{ah}eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of *God* to be the Judge of quick and dead.

43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth ^{ai}in him shall receive remission of ^{aj}sins.

The Holy Spirit given to Gentile believers.

44 ¹While Peter yet spake these words, the ^aHoly Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 For they heard them speak with ^btongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of ^cthe Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

CHAPTER 11.

Peter vindicates his ministry to Gentiles.

AND the apostles and brethren that were in Judæa heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.

2 And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,

3 Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

4 But Peter rehearsed *the matter* from the beginning, and expounded *it* ^dby order unto them, saying,

5 I was in the city of ^eJoppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

6 Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the ^fair.

7 And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat.

8 But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.

9 But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.

10 And this was done three times:

A.D. 41.

a Acts 15.9; 26.18; Rom.10.11; Gal.3.22.

b Psa.68.18.

c *Jesus Christ.*

d *in.*

e Acts 10.9.

f *heaven.*

g John 16.13.

h *making no distinction.*

i Heb.1.4. *note.*

j Rom.1.16. *note.*

k *even as on us. Cf. Acts 2.1-4; 15.7-9.*

l John 14.26.

m *used to be saying.*

n *Or, If therefore the equal free gift God gave to them having believed, even as to us.*

o *Repentance. Acts 13.24. (Mt.3.2; Acts 17.30.)*

p *Life (eternal). Acts 13.46-48. (Mt.7.14; Rev.22.19.)*

q *Lit. tribulation.*

r *Phœnicia.*

s *Hellenists, i.e. Grecian Jews.*

and all were drawn up again into heaven.

11 And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Cæsarea unto me.

12 And the ^gSpirit bade me go with them, ^hnothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

13 And he shewed us how he had seen an ⁱangel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;

14 Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be ^jsaved.

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, ^kas on us at the beginning.

16 Then ^lremembered I the word of the Lord, how that he ^msaid, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

17 ⁿForasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as *he did* unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted ^orepentance unto ^plife.

The church at Antioch: the new name.

19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the ^qpersecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as ^rPhenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the ^sGrecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

¹ Verse 44 is one of the pivotal points of Scripture. Heretofore the Gospel had been offered to Jews only, and the Holy Spirit bestowed upon believing Jews through apostolic mediation. But now the normal order for this age is reached: the Holy Spirit is given without delay, mediation, or other condition than simple faith in Jesus Christ. Cf. Acts 2. 4, *note*; 1 Cor. 6. 19.

23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24 For he was a good man, and full of the ^oHoly Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the ^bchurch, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

The church at Antioch sends relief to Jerusalem.

27 And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the ^cworld: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Cæsar.

29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judæa:

30 Which also they did, and sent it to the ^delders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

CHAPTER 12.

The fifth persecution: arrest of Peter.

NOW about that time ^eHerod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take ^fPeter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after ^gEaster to bring him forth to the people.

Prayer for Peter's deliverance: an angel sent.

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but ^hprayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night

A.D. 42.

^a *Holy Spirit.* vs.12,15,16, 24,28; Acts 13.2,4,9,52. (Mt.1.18; Acts 2.4.)

^b *Church (local).* vs.12, 15,16,24,28; Acts 13.2,4, 9,52. (Acts 2. 41; Phil.1.1.)

^c *oikoumene = inhabited earth* (Lk. 2.1).

^d *Elders.* Acts 14.23. (Acts 11.30; Tit.1.5-9.)

^e *Herod Agrippa I., grandson of Herod the Great* (Mt. 2. 1, *note*), a strict observer of the law, and popular with the Jews (see v.21). *Herod Agrippa II., Paul's Agrippa, was his son.*

^f John 21.18.

^g *the passover.*

^h *Or, instant and earnest prayer was made.* 2 Cor. 1.11; Eph.6. 18.

ⁱ *an angel,* etc.

^j *awakened him.*

^k Heb.1.4, *note.*

^l 2 Chr.16.9; Psa.34.7; Dan.3.28; 6. 22; Heb.1.14.

^m v.5; Isa.65. 24; Dan.9.21.

ⁿ *answer.*

^o Mt.18.10.

^p Psa.66.16.

Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, ⁱthe angel of the Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and ^jraised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands.

8 And the ^kangel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the ^kangel; but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the ^kangel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent ^hhis ^kangel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and *from* all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12 And when he had considered *the thing*, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; ^mwhere many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to ⁿharken, named Rhoda.

14 And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his ^oangel.

16 But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened *the door*, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, ^pdeclared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

18 Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter.

19 And when Herod had sought

for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that *they* should be ^aput to death. And he went down from Judæa to Cæsarea, and *there* abode.

Death of Herod.

20 And Herod was highly displeased with them of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Blastus the ^bking's chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished by the king's *country*.

21 And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them.

22 And the people gave a shout, saying, *It is the voice of a god, and not of a man.*

23 And ^cimmediately ^dthe angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.

24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned ^efrom Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled *their* ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

CHAPTER 13.

Paul and Barnabas called by the Holy Spirit.

NOW there were in the ^fchurch that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, ^gwhich had been brought up with ^hHerod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the ⁱHoly Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Paul's first missionary journey.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John ^jto *their* minister.

A.D. 44.

a led away to death.

b that was over the king's bed-chamber.

c Dan.4.37.

d an.

e Cf. Acts 12.1.

f Churches (local). vs. 1-3; Acts 14. 19-23. (Acts 2.41; Phil. 1.1.)

g the foster-brother of.

h See Mt. 14. 1, ref.

i Holy Spirit. vs. 2,4,9,52; Acts 15.8,28. (Mt. 1.18; Acts 2.4.)

j as their attendant.

k Gr. magos. See Mt. 2.1, "wise men." The same word was used for a vulgar magician, and for a true wise man of the East.

l proconsul (Roman).

m son.

n Satan. Acts 26.18. (Gen. 3.1; Rev. 20.10.)

o Miracles (N.T.). vs. 6-12; Acts 14.8-10. (Mt. 8.2,3; Acts 28.8,9.)

p teaching.

q Election (corporate). Rom. 9.11. (Deut. 7.6; 1 Pet. 1.2.)

Opposition from Satan.

(Cf. vs. 44, 50.)

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain ^ksorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus:

7 Which was with the ^ldeputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, *thou* ^mchild of the ⁿdevil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there ^ofell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

12 Then the ^ldeputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the ^pdoctrine of the Lord.

13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

Paul's sermon in the synagogue at Antioch in Pisidia. Theme: Justification by faith, vs. 38, 39.

14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, *Ye men and brethren*, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with *his* hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.

17 The God of this people of Israel ^qchose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.

18 And about the time of forty

years suffered he their manners in the wilderness.

19 And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of ^aChanaan, ^bhe divided their land to them by lot.

20 And after that he gave unto *them* judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.

21 And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of ^cCis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.

22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and ^dsaid, I have found David the *son* of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

23 Of this man's seed hath God according to *his* promise raised unto Israel a ^eSaviour, Jesus:

24 When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of *repentance* to all the people of Israel.

25 And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not *he*. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of *his* feet I am not worthy to loose.

26 Men *and* brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and ^gwhosoever among you feareth God, ^hto you is the word of this *salvation* sent.

27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*.

28 And though they found no cause of death *in him*, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain.

29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took *him* down from the tree, and laid *him* in a sepulchre.

30 But God raised him from the dead:

31 And he was ⁱseen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.

32 And we declare unto you ^kglad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,

33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is

A.D. 45.

a Canaan.
b He gave them their land.
c Kish.

d See "Kingdom" (Zech. 12.8; 1 Cor. 15.28); also 2 Sam.7.8-17, note.
e Rom.1.16, note.

f Repentance. Acts 19.4. (Mt.3.2; Acts 17.30.)

g Isa.55.1.

h Mt.10.6.

i Rom.1.16, note.

j Acts 1.3,11.

k Lk.2.10,11.

l Psa.2.7.

m Isa.55.3.

n Psa.16.10. See Lk.1.31,32; Acts 2.30,31.

o Psa.16.8-11.

p Psa.16.10.

q Forgiveness. vs.38,39; Rom.4.7. (Lev.4.20; Mt.26.28.)

r Sin. Rom.3.23, note.

s Faith. Acts 13.48. (Gen. 3.20; Heb. 11.39.)

t Assurance. vs.38,39; Acts 17.31. (Isa.32.17; Jude 1.)

u Rom.1.16, note.

v Justification. Rom.4.2.5. (Lk.18.14; Rom.3.28.)

w Law (of Moses). Acts 15.5,10,11,28, 29. (Ex.19.1; Gal.3.1-29.)

x See Hab.1.5.

y as they went out.

z Acts 11.23; 14.22; Rom. 5.2; Heb.6.11,12; 12.15.

a Lit. thrust.

also written in the second psalm, ^vThou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, *now* no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, ^wI will give you the sure mercies of David.

35 Wherefore he saith also in ^xanother psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine ^yHoly One to see corruption.

36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

37 But he, whom God ^zraised again, saw no corruption.

38 Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the ^{aa}forgiveness of ^{ab}sins:

39 And by him all that ^{ac}believe are ^{ad}justified from ^{ae}all things, from which ye could not be ^{af}justified by ^{ag}the law of Moses.

40 Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets;

41 Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I ^{ah}work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

42 And ^{ai}when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to ^{aj}continue in the grace of God.

Opposition from the Jews.
(Cf. vs. 6, 50.)

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Paul and Barnabas turn to the Gentiles. (Cf. Acts 18. 6; 28. 25-29.)

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye ^{ak}put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of ever-

lasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, ^aI have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to ^beternal life ^cbelieved.

49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

Opposition from devout and honourable women, and chief citizens. (Cf. vs. 6, 45.)

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.

52 And the disciples were filled with ^djoy, and with the Holy Ghost.

CHAPTER 14.

The work in Iconium.

AND it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.

2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren.

3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

4 But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.

5 And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use *them* despitefully, and to stone them,

The work in Derbe and Lystra.

6 They were ware of *it*, and fled unto ^eLystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and unto the region that lieth round about:

7 And there they preached the gospel.

A.D. 45.

The impotent man at Lystra healed.

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had ^ffaith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he ^gleaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

12 And they called Barnabas, ^hJupiter; and Paul, ⁱMercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

14 *Which* when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard ^jof, they rent their clothes, and ^kran in among the people, crying out,

15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? ^lWe also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities ^munto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

Paul stoned at Lystra.

19 And there came thither *certain* Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, ⁿdrew *him* out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

Further ministry of the first missionary journey.

20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to ^oDerbe.

^a vs.47,48; Isa.42,6,7.

^b *Life (eternal)*, vs.46-48; Rom.2.7. (Mt.7.14; Rev.22.19.)

^c *Faith*. Acts 14.9. (Gen.3.20; Heb.11.39.)

^d Mt.5.12; 1 Thes.1.6.

^e Mt.10.23.

^f *Faith*. Acts 16.31. (Gen.3.20; Heb.11.39.)

^g *Miracles* (N.T.). vs. 8-10; Acts 16.16-18,25,26. (Mt.8.2,3; Acts 28.8,9.)

^h Latin for Gr. *Zeus*, the national god of the Greeks.

ⁱ Gr. *Hermes*.

^j Lit. *sprang forth among*.

^k Acts 10.26; Jas.5.17; Rev.22.9.

^l Isa.44.9,10; 1 Cor.8.4.

^m Lit. *dragged*.

21 And when they had preached the ^agospel to that city, and had ^btaught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through ^cmuch tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Elders appointed in every church: the return to Antioch.

23 And when they had ^dordained them ^eelders in every ^fchurch, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

24 And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

25 And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:

26 And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been ^grecommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the ^hchurch together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

28 And there they abode long time with the disciples.

CHAPTER 15.

Council at Jerusalem: the question of circumcision.

The legalizers from Judæa.

AND ^hcertain men which came down from Judæa taught the brethren, and said, ⁱExcept ye be circumcised ^jafter the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

Paul, Barnabas, and others go to Jerusalem.

2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through ^kPhenice and Samaria, declaring

A.D. 46.

^a Gospel. vs.7, 21; Acts 15.7. (Gen.12.1-3; Rev.14.6.)

^b made many disciples.

^c many tribulations.

^d Gr. *cheirotonantes*, to designate by stretching out (or pointing with) the hand.

^e Elders. Acts 15.2,4,6,22, 23. (Acts 11.30; Tit.1.5-9.)

^f Churches (local). vs. 19-23,26-28; Acts 15.1,36-41. (Acts 2.41; Phil.1.1.)

^g committed.

^h Gal.2.12.

ⁱ Col.2.11,14.

^j Lev.12.3.

^k Phœnicia.

^l Law (of Moses). vs.5., 10,11,28,29; Rom.2.12-27. (Ex.19.1; Gal.3.1-29.)

^m questioning.

ⁿ Election (personal). Acts 22.14. (Deut.7.6; 1 Pet.1.2.)

^o Mt.16.19. Peter used the keys first for the Jews on the day of Pentecost; secondly, in the house of Cornelius for the Gentiles. But Paul was distinctively the apostle to the Gentiles. Gal.2.7,8.

^p Gospel. Acts 16.10. (Gen. 12.1-3; Rev.14.6.)

^q Temptation. Acts 20.19. (Gen.3.1; Jas.1.2.)

the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

The questions at issue.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command ^tthem to keep ^uthe law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

Peter's argument for Christian liberty: why put under law those to whom God has given the Spirit?

7 And when there had been much ^mdisputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made ⁿchoice among us, that the Gentiles by ^omy mouth should hear the word of the ^pgospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as ^hhe ^{did} unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why ^qtempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

Paul and Barnabas testify.

12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

James declares the result: (1) the outcalling of the Gentiles agrees with the promises to Israel.

13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

14 Simeon hath declared how God

¹ Dispensationally, this is the most important passage in the N.T. It gives the divine purpose for this age, and for the beginning of the next. (1) The taking out from among the Gentiles of a people for His name, the distinctive work of the pres-

^aat the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of ^bDavid, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

17 That the residue of men might seek after the ^cLord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, ^dwho doeth all these things.

18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the ^eworld.

(2) *The Gentiles are not under the law.*

19 ^fWherefore my ^gsentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood.

21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; *namely*, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:

23 And they wrote *letters* by them after this manner; The apostles and ^helders and brethren *send* greeting unto the brethren which

A.D. 52.

^a Lit. for the first time, i.e. in the house of Cornelius. vs. 8-11; Acts 10.34-48; 11.12-18.

^b Kingdom (N.T.). vs. 14-17; Rev. 3. 21. (Lk. 1.31; 1 Cor. 15. 28.)

^c Jehovah. vs. 16, 17; Amos 9. 11, 12.

^d Israel (prophecies). vs. 14-17; Rom. 9. 1-8. (Gen. 12. 2, 3; Rom. 11. 26.)

^e i.e. ages.

^f judgment.

^g Elders. vs. 2, 4, 6, 22, 23; Acts 16. 4. (Acts 11. 30; Tit. 1. 5, 9.)

^h Gal. 5. 2, 4.

ⁱ Mt. 5. 17, 20; Col. 2. 14; Heb. 10. 1.

^j Acts 13. 50; 14. 19; 1 Cor. 15. 30; 2 Cor. 11. 23, 26.

^k Holy Spirit (N.T.). vs. 8, 28; Acts 16. 6, 7. (Mt. 1. 18; Acts 2. 4.)

^l things sacrificed.

^m 1 Cor. 8; 10. 19-22.

ⁿ Gen. 9. 4; Lev. 22. 8.

^o 1 Cor. 5. 1, 13; 7. 2; 1 Thes. 4. 3-8.

^p It shall be well with you.

^q Acts 11. 23.

^r 1 Cor. 14. 3 defines the N.T. gift of prophecy.

are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:

24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, ^ssubverting your souls, saying, *Ye must be circumcised*, and keep the law: ^tto whom we gave no *such* commandment:

25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

26 ^uMen that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth.

But Gentile believers must not give offence to godly Jews.

28 For it seemed good to the ^vHoly Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

29 That ye abstain from ^wmeats offered to ^xidols, and from blood, and from ^ythings strangled, and from ^zfornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ^{aa}ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle:

31 *Which* when they had read, ^{ab}they rejoiced for the consolation.

32 And Judas and Silas, being ^{ac}prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed *them*.

33 And after they had tarried *there* a space, they were let go in

ent, or church-age. The church is the *ecclesia*—the “called-out assembly.” Precisely this has been in progress since Pentecost. The Gospel has never anywhere converted all, but everywhere has called out *some*. (2) “After this [viz. the out-calling] I will return.” James quotes from Amos 9. 11, 12. The verses which follow in Amos describe the final regathering of Israel, which the other prophets invariably connect with the fulfilment of the Davidic Covenant (e.g. Isa. 11. 1, 10-12; Jer. 23. 5-8). (3) “And will build again the tabernacle of David,” i.e. re-establish the Davidic rule over Israel (2 Sam. 7. 8-17; Lk. 1. 31-33). (4) “That the residue of men [Israelites] may seek after the Lord” (cf. Zech. 12. 7, 8; 13. 1, 2). (5) “And all the Gentiles,” etc. (cf. Mic. 4. 2; Zech. 8. 21, 22). This is also the order of Rom. 11. 24-27.

¹The scope of the decision goes far beyond the mere question of circumcision. The whole question of the relation of the law to Gentile believers had been put in issue (v. 5), and their exemption is declared in the decision (vs. 19, 24). The decision might be otherwise stated in the terms of Rom. 6. 14: “Ye are not under the law, but under grace.” Gentile believers were to show grace by abstaining from the practices offensive to godly Jews (vs. 20, 21, 28, 29; cf. Rom. 14. 12-17; 1 Cor. 8. 1-13).

peace from the brethren unto the apostles.

34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still.

35 ^aPaul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

Paul's second missionary journey: Silas chosen.

36 And some days after ^bPaul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see how they do.*

37 And Barnabas ^cdetermined to take with them ^dJohn, whose surname was Mark.

38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who ^edeparted from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so ^fBarnabas took Mark, and sailed unto ^gCyprus;

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, ^hbeing recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, ⁱconfirming the churches.

CHAPTER 16.

Paul finds Timothy.

THEN came he to ^jDerbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain ^kwoman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

2 Which was ^lwell reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and ^mcircumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and ⁿelders which were at Jerusalem.

5 And so were the churches ^oestablished in the faith, and increased in number daily.

A.D. 52.

^a Acts 11.26.
^b Acts 13.2.
^c was *minded*.
^d Acts 12.12,15; 13.5; Col.4.10; 2 Tim.4.11; Phm.24.
^e withdrew.
^f And is heard of no more in the Bible story.
^g Acts 4.36; 13.4.
^h Cf. Acts 13.3 with 15.26.
ⁱ Churches (*local*). vs. 1-32,36-41; Acts 18.22. (Acts 2.41; Phil.1.1.)
^j Acts 14.6.
^k 1 Cor.7.14; Eph.6.4; 2 Tim.1.5; 3.15.
^l 1 Tim.3.7; 3 John 12.
^m 1 Cor.9.19, 20; Gal.2.3; 5.6; 6.15.
ⁿ Elders. Acts 20.17. (Acts 11.30; Tit. 1.5-9.)
^o strengthened.
^p Holy Spirit (N.T.). vs. 6,7; Acts 18.25. (Mt.1.18; Acts.2.4.)
^q R.V. adds of Jesus, as in the best authorities.
^r beseeching him. Here the Gospel turns toward Europe.
^s 2 Cor.2.13.
^t Gospel. Acts 20.24. (Gen. 12.1-3; Rev. 14.6.)
^u Phil.1.1.
^v i.e. a Roman colony.
^w might *legally*, i.e. a legal meeting-place for Jews where there was no synagogue.
^x John 6.44; Acts 11.18; 2 Cor.4.6.
^y by Paul.
^z 2 Sam.20.16-22; Phil.4.3; 2 John 4-11.
^a Gen.19.3; 33.11; Jud.19.21; Lk.24.29; Heb.13.2.
^b Gr. a spirit, a Python.
^c Acts 19.24.

The Spirit guides: the Macedonian vision.

6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the ¹Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit ²suffered them not.

8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and ³prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10 And after he had seen the vision immediately ⁴we endeavoured to go ⁵into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the ⁶gospel unto them.

11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;

Paul and Silas at Philippi.

12 And from thence to ⁷Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, *and a* ⁸colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer ⁹was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

The first convert in Europe.

14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose ¹⁰heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken ¹¹of Paul.

15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be ¹²faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And ¹³she constrained us.

A demon cast out: Paul and Silas beaten.

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a ¹⁴spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters ¹⁵much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and

¹ The change here from "they," as in the preceding verses, to "we" indicates that at Troas Luke, the narrator, joined Paul's company.

us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the ^amost high God, which shew unto us the way of ^bsalvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, ^cI command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he ^dcame out the same hour.

19 And when her masters ^esaw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and ^fdrew them into the marketplace unto the rulers,

20 And brought them to the ^gmagistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, ^hdo exceedingly trouble our city,

21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and ⁱcommanded to beat them.

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into ^jprison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

Conversion of the Philippian jailor.

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas ^kprayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners ^lheard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great ^mearthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the ⁿdoors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have ^okilled himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

The only condition of salvation.

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, ^pwhat must I do to be ^qsaved?

31 And they said, ^rBelieve ^son the

A.D. 53.

^a Cf. Mt. 7.22, note. This marks the "spirit" (v. 18) as being a demon.

^b Rom. 1.16, note.

^c Mk. 5.8.

^d *Miracles* (N. T.) vs. 16-18, 25, 26; Acts 19. 11, 12. (Mt. 8.2, 3; Acts 28.8, 9.)

^e Acts 19.25, 26.

^f *Gr. dragged* probably by the feet. Cf. Acts 14. 19.

^g *Gr. praetors*, Roman magistrates.

^h 1 Ki. 18.17; Acts 17.6.

ⁱ 2 Cor. 6.5; 11.23, 25; 1 Thes. 2.2.

^j Acts 8.3.

^k Lit. were praying and singing hymns.

^l were listening.

^m Acts 4.31; Rev. 6. 12-17.

ⁿ Acts 5.19; 12.4-7.

^o Acts 12.19.

^p Acts 2.37; 2 Cor. 7.10.

^q *Faith*. Acts 27. 25. (Gen. 3.20; Heb. 11.39.)

^r John 3.16; 6.28, 29; Acts 13.38, 39; Rom. 10.6-11; 1 Pet. 1.21.

^s Isa. 54.13; Acts 2. 39; 11.14.

^t Acts 2.46;

Rom. 15.13.

^u *having believed God*.

^v *Gr. victors*.

^w v. 21; Acts 22. 25-29; 23.6; 25. 11, 12.

^x Lk. 8.37.

^y Acts 14.22;

Phil. 2.1, 2.

^z v. 10; Lk. 4.16; Acts 9.20; 13.5, 14; 14.1; 16.13; 19.8.

^a *the Christ*, i.e. that, according to the Scriptures, the Messiah must die and rise again.

That Jesus was the Messiah was the second part of his argument.

^b Cf. Lk. 24.26, 46.

^c *Resurrection*. vs. 3, 31; Acts 20. 9, 12. (Job 19.25; 1 Cor. 15.52.)

^d Acts 18.5, 28.

^e were persuaded.

Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be ^bsaved, and thy ^shouse.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed ^{their} stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and ^{rejoiced}, ^{believing} in God with all his house.

Paul refuses to depart privily.

35 And when it was day, the magistrates sent the ^{serjeants}, saying, Let those men go.

36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.

37 But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being ^{Romans}, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.

38 And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans.

39 And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and ^{desired} them to depart out of the city.

40 And they went out of the prison, and entered into ^{the house} of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they ^{comforted} them, and departed.

CHAPTER 17.

Founding of the church at Thessalonica. (Cf. 1 and 2 Thes.)

NOW when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

2 And Paul, ^{as} his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

3 Opening and alleging, that ^{Christ} must ^{needs} have suffered, and ^{risen} again from the dead; and that this ^{Jesus}, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

4 And some of them ^{believed}, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great

multitude, and of the ^achief women not a few.

Jewish opposition at Thessalonica.

5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain ^blewd fellows ^cof the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of ^dJason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 And when they found them not, they ^edrew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received; and these all do contrary to the decrees of Cæsar, saying that there is ^fanother king, *one* Jesus.

8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.

9 And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go.

Paul and Silas at Berea.

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming ^gthither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all ^hreadiness of mind, and ⁱsought the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

12 ^jTherefore many of them believed; also of ^khonourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people.

14 And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still.

Paul at Athens.

15 And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and ^lreceiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.

16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was

A.D. 53.

^a Acts 13.50; Phil. 4.3.

^b vile.

^c of the rabble.

^d Rom. 16.21.

^e dragged.

^f Acts 16.19, ref.

^g Lk. 23.2; John 19.12; 1 Pet. 2.13.

^h Acts 16.14.

ⁱ Lk. 16.29; John 5.39; Acts 26.22,23.

^j Illustrates John 5.46. Believing the O. T. they believed the Gospel.

^k Greek women of honourable estate.

^l Acts 18.5.

^m Provoked within him as he beheld the city full of idols.

ⁿ reasoned.

^o Disciples of Epicurus, B. C. 342-271, who abandoned as hopeless the search by reason for pure truth (cf. John 18.38), seeking instead true pleasure through experience.

^p Disciples of Zeno, B. C. 280, and Chrysisus, B. C. 240. This philosophy was founded on human self-sufficiency, inculcated stern self-repression, the solidarity of the race, and the unity of Deity. Epicureans and Stoics divided the apostolic world.

^q 1 Cor. 2.2; 15.12.

^r Mars' hill.

^s The objects of your worship.

^t Rom. 1.19-21;

1 Cor. 1.21;

1 Thes. 4.5.

^u The God who made, etc.

^v i.e. earth.

^w Acts 7.48-50.

^x He served by. Psa. 50.8.

^y Gen. 2.7; Num. 16.22; Isa. 42.5;

Dan. 5.23.

^z "blood" is not in the best manuscripts.

R. V. omits.

^{aa} Deut. 32.8.

^{ab} God, if haply, etc.

^{ac} b. Psal. 139.7-10;

Jer. 23.23,24;

Acts 14.17.

^{ad} stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

17 Therefore ^{ae}disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

18 Then certain philosophers of the ^{af}Epicureans, and of the ^{ag}Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them ^{ah}Jesus, and the resurrection.

19 And they took him, and brought him unto ^{ai}Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.

21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

The sermon from Mars' hill.
Theme: God will judge the world by Jesus Christ.

22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23 For as I passed by, and beheld ^{aj}your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, ^{ak}TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

24 ^{al}God that made the ^{am}world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, ^{an}dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25 Neither is ^{ao}worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he ^{ap}giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

26 And hath made of one ^{aq}blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the ^{ar}bounds of their habitation;

27 That they should seek ^{as}the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be ^{at}not far from every one of us:

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

29 Forasmuch then as we are the

¹ offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto ^b gold or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to ^{2d} repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a ^e day, in the which he will ^f judge the ^g world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given ^h assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath ⁱ raised him from the dead.

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some ^j mocked; and others said, We will hear thee ^k again of this *matter*.

33 So Paul departed from among them.

34 Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

CHAPTER 18.

Paul at Corinth.

AFTER these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;

2 And found a certain Jew named ^l Aquila, born of Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome;) and came unto them.

3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were ^m tentmakers.

Founding of the church at Corinth. (Cf. the Corinthian Epistles.)

4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and ⁿ persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

A.D. 54.

a Num. 16. 22; Lk. 3. 38.
 b Psa. 115. 4-7; Isa. 40. 18, 19; Dan. 3. 1.
 c overlooked. Cf. Rom. 3. 25.
 d Repentance. (Mt. 3. 2.)
 e Day of judgment. Heb. 9. 27. (Mt. 10. 15; Rev. 20. 11.)
 f Judgments (the seven). Rom. 8. 1, R. V. (2 Sam. 7. 14; Rev. 22. 12.)
 g *oikoumene* = inhabited earth. (Lk. 2. 1.)
 h Assurance. Rom. 8. 29-34. (Isa. 32. 17; Jude 1.)
 i v. 18; Rom. 1. 4; Rev. 1. 18.
 j 1 Cor. 1. 18; 15. 12.
 k Acts 5. 38, 39; 24. 25.
 l Rom. 16. 3; 1 Cor. 16. 19; 2 Tim. 4. 19.
 m Acts 20. 34; 1 Cor. 4. 12; 1 Thes. 2. 9; 2 Thes. 3. 8.
 n Gr. sought to persuade.
 o Or, constrained by the Word. Cf. 2 Cor. 5. 14.
 p Cf. Acts 13. 46; 28. 25-29.
 q Acts 13. 45-47; 28. 24-28; Rom. 11. 11-15.
 r Titus Justus.
 s 1 Cor. 1. 14.
 t Acts 11. 24; 13. 48; contra, 17. 34.
 u proconsul.
 v wicked villany.
 w Acts 23. 29; 25. 19.

5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was ^o pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews *that* Jesus was Christ.

6 And ^p when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook ^q his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from ^r henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

7 And he departed thence, and entered into a certain *man's* house, named ^s Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.

8 And ^t Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have ^u much people in this city.

11 And he continued *there* a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

The careless Gallio.

12 And when Gallio was the ^v deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat,

13 Saying, This *fellow* persuadeth men to worship God contrary to the law.

14 And when Paul was now about to open ^w his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews, If it were a matter of wrong or ^x wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, reason would that I should bear with you:

15 But if it be a question of ^y words and names, and of your law,

¹ Gr. *genos* = "race." The reference is to the creation-work of God in which He made man (i.e. mankind, the race in Adam) in His own likeness, Gen. 1. 26, 27, thus rebuking the thought that "the Godhead is like unto gold," etc. The word "Father" is not used, nor does the passage affirm anything concerning fatherhood or sonship, which are relationships based upon faith, and the new birth. Cf. John 1. 12, 13; Gal. 3. 26; 4. 1-7; 1 John v. 1.

² Repentance is the trans. of a Gr. word (*metanoia*—*metanoëo*) meaning, "to have another mind," "to change the mind," and is used in the N.T. to indicate a change of mind in respect of sin, of God, and of self. This change of mind may, especially in the case of Christians who have fallen into sin, be preceded by sorrow (2 Cor. 7. 8-11), but sorrow for sin, though it may "work" repentance, is not repentance. The son in Mt. 21. 28, 29 illustrates true repentance. Saving faith (Heb. 11. 39, *note*) includes and implies that change of mind which is called repentance.

look ye *to it*; for I will be no judge of such *matters*.

16 And he drave them from the judgment seat.

17 Then all the Greeks took ^aSos-thenes, the chief ruler of the syna-
gogue, and beat *him* before the
judgment seat. And Gallio ^bcared
for none of those things.

*The author of Rom. 6. 14; 2 Cor.
3. 7-14; and Gal. 3. 23-28 takes
a Jewish vow.*

18 And Paul *after this* tarried
there yet a good while, and then
took his leave of the brethren, and
sailed thence into Syria, and with
him Priscilla and Aquila; having
^cshorn *his* head in Cenchrea: for
he had a vow.

19 And he came to Ephesus, and
left them there: but he himself en-
tered into the synagogue, and ^drea-
soned with the Jews.

20 When they desired *him* to
tarry longer time with them, he con-
sented not;

21 But bade them farewell, say-
ing, I must by all means keep this
feast that cometh in ^eJerusalem: but
I will return again unto you, if God
will. And he sailed from Ephesus.

22 And when he had landed at
Cæsarea, and gone up, and ^fsaluted
the church, he went down to Antioch.

23 And after he had spent some
time *there*, he departed, and went
over *all* the country of Galatia and
Phrygia in order, ^gstrengthening
all the disciples.

Apollos at Ephesus.

24 And a certain Jew named
Apollos, born at Alexandria, an
eloquent man, and ^hmighty in the
scriptures, came to Ephesus.

25 This man was ⁱinstructed in the
way of the Lord; and being fervent
in the ^jspirit, he spake and taught
diligently the things of the Lord,
knowing ^konly the baptism of
John.

26 And he began to speak boldly
in the synagogue: whom when
Aquila and Priscilla had heard,
they took him unto *them*, and ex-
pounded unto him the way of God
more ^lperfectly.

A.D. 54.

^a 1 Cor. 1.1.

^b *Contra*, John 19.
13-16; Acts 24.
26, 27.

^c Acts 21.24;
Num. 6.18.

^d Acts 17.2,3.

^e Rom. 1.10;
1 Cor. 4.19;
Phil. 2.19,24;
Heb. 6.3; Jas. 4.15.

^f *Churches*
(*local*). Acts 20.
7. (Acts 2.41;
Phil. 1.1.)

^g 1 Thes. 3.2,13.
h Col. 3.16.

ⁱ *taught by word*
of mouth, or,
hearsay, i.e. not
by revelation.
Cf. Gal. 1.11,12.
The N.T. Scrip-
tures were not
then written.

^j *Holy Spirit*.
Acts 19.2,6.
(Mt. 1.18;
Acts 2.4.)

^k Acts 19.4.

^l Or, *thoroughly*.

^m *encouraged him*
and wrote.

ⁿ *powerfully*
confuted.

^o Apollos' ministry
seems to have
gone no further;
Jesus was the
long expected
Messiah. Of
Paul's doctrine
of justification
through the
blood, and
sanctification
through the
Spirit, he seems
at that time to
have known
nothing. See
Acts 19.3-6.

^p *the*.

^q *said unto them*,
Did ye receive
the Holy Spirit
when ye
believed?

^r *Holy Spirit*.
vs. 2,6; Acts 20.
23,28. (Mt. 1.18;
Acts 2.4.)

^s *Lit. received ye*
the Holy Spirit
when ye be-
lieved?

^t *Repentance*.
Acts 20.21.

(Mt. 3.2;
Acts 17.30.)

^u Acts 8.16.

27 And when he was disposed to
pass into Achaia, the brethren
^wwrote, exhorting the disciples to
receive him: who, when he was
come, helped them much which had
believed through grace:

28 For he ^xmightily convinced
the Jews, *and that* publicly,
shewing by the scriptures ^ythat
Jesus was ^zChrist.

CHAPTER 19.

*Paul at Ephesus: the disciples
of John become Christians.*

AND it came to pass, that, while
Apollos was at Corinth, Paul
having passed through the upper
coasts came to Ephesus; and find-
ing certain disciples,

2 He ^qsaid unto them, ¹Have ye
received the ^rHoly Ghost ^ssince ye
believed? And they said unto him,
We have not so much as heard
whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto
what then were ye baptized? And
they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily
baptized with the baptism of ^tre-
pentance, saying unto the people,
that they should believe on him
which should come after him, that
is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard *this*, they
were baptized in the ^uname of the
Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid *his*
hands upon them, the ^vHoly Ghost
came on them; and they spake with
tongues, and prophesied.

7 And all the men were about
twelve.

*Paul in the synagogue at Ephe-
sus; and in the school of Ty-
rannus.*

8 And he went into the syna-
gogue, and spake boldly for the
space of three months, disputing
and persuading the things concern-
ing the kingdom of God.

9 But when divers were hard-
ened, and believed not, but spake
evil of that way before the multi-
tude, he departed from them, and
separated the disciples, disputing
daily in the school of one Tyrannus.

¹ Not as in A.V., "since ye believed," but as in R.V. and *marg.*: "Did ye receive the Holy Spirit when ye believed?" Paul was evidently impressed by the absence of spirituality and power in these so-called disciples. Their answer brought out the fact that they were Jewish proselytes, disciples of John the Baptist, looking forward to a coming King, not Christians looking backward to an accomplished redemption. See Rom. 8. 9; 1 Cor. 6. 19; Eph. 1. 13, *marg.*

10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

Miracles by Paul.

11 And God wrought special ^amiracles by the hands of Paul

12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.

14 And there were seven sons of ^aone Sceva, a Jew, ^{and} chief of the priests, which did so.

15 And the evil spirit answered and said, ^bJesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and ^covercame them, and ^dprevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and ^efear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

18 And many that believed came, and ^fconfessed, and shewed their deeds.

19 Many of them also which used ^gcurious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all ^{men}: and they counted the price of them, and found ^{it} fifty thousand ^{pieces} of silver.

20 So ^hmightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

21 After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the ⁱspirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see ^jRome.

22 So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, ^kTimotheus and ^lErastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

The uproar of the silversmiths at Ephesus.

23 And the same time there arose no small stir ^mabout that way.

24 For a certain ^{man} named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made

A.D. 56.

^a *Miracles*
(N.T.). Acts
28.3-6,8,9.
(Mt.8.2,3;
Acts 28.8,9.)

^b Mk.1.23,24;
Acts 16.16-18;
Jas.2.19.

^c The sons of Sceva sought to imitate a power to which they were strangers, only to their own confusion. This striking witness from another side caused fear to fall on all.

^d Lk.11.21,22; *contra*, 1 John 4.4.

^e Lk.1.65; 7.16; Acts 5.5,11.

^f Mt.3.6; 1 Cor. 14.24,25.

^g *magical*.
^h Acts 6.7; 12.24; 1 Cor.16.8, 9.

ⁱ i.e. in his own mind. Cf. Acts 20.22, note.

^j Rom.1.13; 15.22-29.

^k 1 Tim.1.2; l Rom.16.23; 2 Tim.4.20.

^m *concerning the Way*, i.e. Christ. John 14.6.

ⁿ Acts 16.16,19. o Acts 17.29; Rev.13.14, 15.

^p *oikoumene* = inhabited earth. (Lk. 2.1.)

^q *Gr. Artemis*. Not anciently of the Greek pantheon, but an Eastern goddess. Cf. Jud.2.13, note.

But "Diana of the Ephesians" was rather a particular image of Artemis, reputed to have fallen from heaven; v.35.

^r Acts 20.4.

^s Acts 20.4; 27.2; Col.4.10.

^t 1 Tim.1.20; 2 Tim.4.14.

^u Acts 17.21.

^v Rom.2.22; cf. 1 Thes.1.9 with 1 Cor.1.23, 24.

silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;

25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this ^wcraft we have our wealth.

26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be ^xno gods, which are made with hands:

27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the ^yworld worshippeth.

28 And when they heard ^{these sayings}, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is ^zDiana of the Ephesians.

29 And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught ^{aa}Gaius and ^{ab}Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.

30 And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.

31 And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring ^{ac}him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

32 Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.

33 And they drew ^{ad}Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people.

34 But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the ^{ae}city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the ^{af}image which fell down from Jupiter?

36 Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.

37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are ^{ag}neither rob-

bers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

38 Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead one another.

39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.

40 For we are in danger to be ^acalled in question for this day's uproar, there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this concourse.

41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

CHAPTER 20.

Paul's last visit to Jerusalem: (1) he goes into Macedonia and Greece.

AND after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto *him* the disciples, and embraced *them*, and departed for to go into ^bMacedonia.

2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation, he came into ^cGreece,

3 And *there* abode three months. And when ^dthe Jews ^elaid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed to return through Macedonia.

4 And *there* accompanied him into Asia ^fSopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, ^gAristarchus and Secundus; and ^hGaius of Derbe, and ⁱTimotheus; and of Asia, ^jTychicus and ^kTrophimus.

5 These going before tarried for us at Troas.

(2) Paul at Troas.

6 And ^lwe sailed away from Philippi after the ^mdays of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.

7 And upon ⁿthe first day of the week, when the ^odisciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

8 And there were many lights in ^pthe upper chamber, where they were gathered together.

9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep:

A.D. 59.

^a Acts 21.31,32.

^b 1 Cor.16.5;

1 Tim.1.3.

^c Acts 17.15;

18.1.

^d Or, a plot

was formed

against him

by the Jews.

^e Acts 9.23;

23.12; 25.3;

2 Cor.11.26.

^f Rom.16.21.

^g Acts 19.29.

^h Rom.16.23;

3 John 1.

ⁱ Acts 19.22.

^j Eph.6.21;

Col.4.7,8;

2 Tim.4.12;

Tit.3.12.

^k Acts 21.29;

2 Tim.4.20.

^l From the use

of the pronoun, Luke

here rejoins

the apostle.

^m Acts 12.3;

18.18.

ⁿ It was the

breaking of

bread for

which the disci-

ples were as-

sembled. The

passage indi-

cates the use

by the apos-

tolitic churches

of the first

day, not the

seventh. Cf.

1 Cor.16.2.

^o Mt.26.26-28;

Acts 2.42; 1

Cor.11.23-33.

^p Acts 1.13.

^q 1 Ki.17.21,22;

2 Ki.4.34,35;

Acts 9.40,41.

^r Make ye no

ado.

^s Resurrec-

tion. vs.9-12;

Acts 24.14,15,

21. (Job 19.

25; 1 Cor.

15.52.)

^t that he

might not

have to.

^u Acts 2.1; 19.

21; Gal.4.

10,11.

^v Elders.

Acts 21.18.

(Acts 11.30;

Tit.1.5-9.)

^w Tempta-

tion. 1 Cor.

7.5. (Gen.3.1;

Jas.1.2.)

^x shrank not

from de-

claring.

^y Repentance.

Acts 26.20.

(Mt.3.2;

Acts 17.30.)

and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

10 And Paul went down, and ^qfell on him, and embracing *him* said, ^r'Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.

11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.

12 And they brought the young man ^salive, and were not a little comforted.

(3) From Troas to Miletus.

13 And we went before to ship, and sailed unto Assos, there intending to take in Paul: for so had he appointed, minding himself to go afoot.

14 And when he met with us at Assos, we took him in, and came to Mitylene.

15 And we sailed thence, and came the next day over against Chios; and the next day we arrived at Samos, and tarried at Trogylium; and the next day we came to Miletus.

16 For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, ^tbecause he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of ^u'Pentecost.

(4) Paul and the Ephesian elders.

17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the ^velders of the church.

18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,

19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and ^wtemptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

20 And how I ^xkept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, ^yrepentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

22 And now, behold, I go bound

in the ¹spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24 But none of these things move me, ^aneither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the ^bgospel of the grace of God.

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I *am* ^cpure from the blood of all *men*.

27 ^dFor I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

28 ^eTake heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the ^fflock, over the which the ^gHoly Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath ^hpurchased with his own blood.

29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous ⁱwolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also ^jof your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

32 And now, brethren, ^kI commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are ^lsanctified.

33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.

35 ^mI have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ⁿIt is more blessed to give than to receive.

A.D. 60.

^a Or, *I hold not my life of any account, as unto myself, in comparison with accomplishing my course.* See 1 Cor. 9.26; Phil. 3.13, 14; 2 Tim. 4.7, 8.

^b Gospel. Rom. 1.1, 9, 15, 16. (Gen. 12.1-3; Rev. 14.6.)

^c Ezk. 3.17.

^d 2 Cor. 4.2; Gal. 1.10.

^e 1 Cor. 9.27; Col. 4.17; 1 Tim. 4.16.

^f Isa. 40.11; Lk. 12.32.

^g *Holy Spirit*, vs. 23, 28; Acts 21.4, 11. (Mt. 1.18; Acts 2.4.)

^h *Sacrifice (of Christ)*. Rom. 3.25. (Gen. 4.4; Heb. 10.18.)

ⁱ The two sources of the apostasy: false teachers from without (2 Cor. 11.13-15; 2 Pet. 2.1-2); ambitious leaders from within (3 John 9.10; Rev. 2.6, 15).

^j Also, 1 Tim. 1.20; 1 John 2.19.

^k Churches (local). vs. 7, 17-32; Rom. 16.1-5. (Acts 2.41; Phil. 1.1.)

^l Sanctify, holy (persons) (N. T.). Acts 26.18. (Mt. 4.5; Rev. 22.11.)

^m In all things I have given you an example.

ⁿ Lk. 14.12.

^o Cos.

^p Come in sight of.

^q Lit. set foot in. Not, as in Acts 20.28, a warning of danger, but now an imperative command. See Acts 22.17, 18.

^r Acts 6.5; 8.5.

36 And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.

37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him,

38 Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship.

CHAPTER 21.

(5) *From Miletus to Tyre.*

AND it came to pass, that after **A** we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto ^oCoos, and the *day* following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara:

2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth.

3 Now when we had ^pdiscovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden.

(6) *The Holy Spirit forbids Paul to go to Jerusalem.*

4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not ^qgo up to Jerusalem.

5 And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.

6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.

7 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day.

8 And the next *day* we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Cæsarea: and we entered into the house of ^rPhilip the evangelist, which was *one* of the seven; and abode with him.

9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

¹ Cf. Acts 21. 4. In Acts 20. 22 Paul's own spirit (1 Thes. v. 23, *note*) is meant; in Acts 21. 4 the Holy Spirit. Paul's motive in going to Jerusalem seems to have been his great affection for the Jews (Rom. 9. 1-5), and his hope that the gifts of the Gentile churches, sent by him to poor saints at Jerusalem (Rom. 15. 25-28), would open the hearts of the law-bound Jewish believers to the "gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20. 24).

(7) *The Holy Spirit again warns Paul.*

10 And as we tarried *there* many days, there came down from Judæa a certain prophet, named Agabus.

11 And ^awhen he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the ^bHoly Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver *him* into the hands of the Gentiles.

12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ^cready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

(8) *Paul at Jerusalem.*

14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The ^dwill of the Lord be done.

15 And after those days we took up our ^ecarriages, and went up to Jerusalem.

16 There went with us also *certain* of the disciples of Cæsarea, and brought with them one Mnason of Cyprus, an ^fold disciple, with whom we should lodge.

17 And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

Paul takes a Jewish vow involving a Jewish sacrifice. (Cf. Heb. 10. 2, 9-12.)

18 And the *day* following Paul went in with us unto James; and all the ^gelders were present.

19 And when he had saluted them, he ^hdeclared particularly what things God had wrought among the Gentiles by his ministry.

20 And when they heard *it*, they glorified the Lord, and said unto him, Thou seest, brother, how many ⁱthousands of Jews there are which believe; and ^jthey are all zealous of the law:

21 And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise *their* children, neither to walk after the customs.

A.D. 60.

^a coming to us and taking Paul's girdle he bound his own feet and hands.

^b Holy Spirit. vs. 4, 11; Acts 28, 25. (Mt. 1. 18; Acts 2. 4.)

^c Rom. 1. 15; 2 Tim. 4. 6.

^d Mt. 6. 10; 26. 42.

^e baggage.

^f early.

^g Elders. Phil. 1. 1. (Acts 11. 30; Tit. 1. 5-9.)

^h rehearsed one by one.

ⁱ Gr. myriads.

^j Cf. Rom. 10. 2-4; Gal. 1. 14.

^k Probably according to Num. 6. 1-7. Cf. Col. 2. 14-17.

^l Lit. spend something on them.

^m Lit. art keeping in the ranks, guarding the law. Cf. Rom. 10. 1-12.

ⁿ Contra, Acts 21. 4. (cf. Gal. 2. 2-6). See Rom. 3. 9, 10, 19, 20, 28; 4. 3-5; 5. 1, 2; 6. 14; 7. 1-4, 6; 8. 3, 4; Gal. 2. 15, 16, 18, 19; 3. 10, 24, 25; 4. 9-11, 21-31; Phil. 3. 7-9; Heb. 9. 14, 15, 28; 10. 1-4, 17, 18; 13. 11-14.

^o Sanctify, holy (things) (N.T.). Rom. 1. 2. (Mt. 4. 5; Rev. 22. 11.)

^p dragged. Acts 14. 19; 16. 19.

^q 2 Cor. 11. 23.

^r Acts 23, 27; 24. 7.

22 What is it therefore? the multitude must needs come together: for they will hear that thou art come.

23 Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a ^kvow on them;

24 Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at ^lcharges with them, that they may shave *their* heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but *that* thou thyself also ^mwalkest orderly, and keepest the law.

25 As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written *and* concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from *things* offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.

26 Then ⁿPaul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that an ^ooffering should be offered for every one of them.

Paul seized in the temple by the Jews.

27 And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him,

28 Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all *men* every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this ^oholy place.

29 (For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)

30 And all the city was moved, and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and ^pdrew him out of the temple: and forthwith the doors were shut.

31 And as they went ^qabout to kill him, tidings came unto the chief captain of the band, that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.

32 ^rWho immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down unto them: and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, they left beating of Paul.

Paul bound with chains.

33 Then the chief captain came near, and took him, and commanded *him* to be bound with two chains; and demanded who he was, and what he had done.

34 And some cried one thing, some another, among the multitude: and when he could not know the certainty for the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle.

35 And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was borne of the soldiers for the violence of the people.

36 For the multitude of the people followed after, crying, ^aAway with him.

37 And as Paul was to be led into the castle, he said unto the ^bchief captain, May I speak unto thee? Who said, Canst thou speak Greek?

38 Art not thou ^cthat Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers?

39 But Paul said, I am a man *which am* a Jew of Tarsus, a ^dcity in Cilicia, a ^ecitizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

40 And when he had given him licence, Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto *them* in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

CHAPTER 22.

Paul's defence before the multitude: recounts his conversion. (Cf. Acts 9. 1-18; 26. 9-18.)

MEN, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence ^ewhich I make now unto you.

2 (And when they heard that he spake in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he saith,)

3 I am ^fverily a man *which am* a Jew, born in Tarsus, a ^gcity in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of ^hGamaliel, and ⁱtaught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

4 And I ^jpersecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

5 As also the high priest doth bear

A.D. 60.

a Acts 22.22; Lk.23.18.

b *Gr.chiliarch*, the Roman tribune. There were six such "chief captains" in each legion of 6000 men.

c Acts 5.36.

d Acts 22.25.

e Lk.12.11; 1 Pet.3.15.

f 2 Cor.11.22; Phil.3.5,6.

g Acts 5.34.

h *instructed according to the strict manner.*

i Acts 8.3; 26.9,13; 1 Tim.1.13.

j Acts 9.2.

k Isa.63.9; Zech.2.8; Mt.25.45; 1 Cor.12.26.

l Dan.10.7.

m Cf.Acts 9.7, note.

n Acts 2.37,38.

o 1 Tim.3.7.

p *Election (personal).* Rom.16.13. (Deut.7.6; 1 Pet.1.2.)

q 2 Cor.11.22; Phil.3.5,6.

r Acts 2.38.

s *Sin. Rom.* 3.23, note.

t i.e. probably on his first visit to Jerusalem after his conversion.

u v.21; so also Acts 21.4.

v Acts 8.3.

me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to Damascus, ^{to}bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for to be punished.

6 And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.

7 And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest ^kthou me?

8 And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest.

9 And they that were with me ^lsaw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the ^mvoice of him that spake to me.

10 And I said, What shall I ⁿdo, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.

11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

12 And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having ^oa good report of all the Jews which dwelt *there*,

13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath ^pchosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

15 For ^qthou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and ^rwash away thy ^ssins, calling on the name of the Lord.

The Lord had warned Paul to keep away from Jerusalem.

17 And it came to pass, that, ^twhen I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance;

18 And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly ^uout of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.

19 And I said, Lord, ^vthey know

that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee:

20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, ^aI also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.

21 And he said unto me, Depart: ^bfor I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.

22 ^cAnd they gave him audience unto this word, and *then* lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a *fellow* from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live.

23 And as they cried out, and cast off *their* clothes, and threw dust into the air,

24 The chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle, and bade that he should be examined by scourging; that he might know ^dwherefore they cried so against him.

Paul a Roman citizen.

25 And ^eas they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a ^fRoman, and uncondemned?

26 When the centurion heard *that*, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman.

27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea.

28 And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this ^gfreedom. And Paul said, But I ^hwas *free* born.

29 Then straightway they departed from him which should have ⁱexamined him: and the chief captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.

30 On the morrow, because he would have known the certainty wherefore he was accused of the Jews, he loosed him from *his* bands, and commanded the chief priests and all their council to appear, and brought Paul down, and set him before them.

CHAPTER 23.

Paul before the Sanhedrin.

AND Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, ^jI have lived in all good

A.D. 60.

a Acts 7.58; 8.1.

b Acts 13.2,47; Rom.11.13; Gal.2.7,8; Eph.3.7,8.

c 1 Thes.2.16.

d *for what cause they so shouted.*e *when they had tied him up with thongs.*

f Acts 25.16.

g citizenship.

h *am a Roman born, i.e. of a father who had obtained citizenship.*i Or, *tortured him.*

j Acts 24.16; 2 Cor.1.12; 2 Tim.1.3; Heb.13.18; 1 Pet.3.15,16; 1 John 3.21.

k Cf. John 18.23.

l Ex.22.28.

m See Mt.3.7, note.

n *clamour.*

o See Mt.2.4, note.

p Acts 18.9; 27.23,24; Psa.46.1,7.

q John 16.2,3.

conscience before God until this day.

2 And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth.

3 ^kThen said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, *thou* whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law?

4 And they that stood by said, Revilest thou God's high priest?

5 Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, ^lThou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.

Paul appeals to the Pharisees.

6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were ^mSadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

7 And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.

8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both.

9 And there arose a great ⁿcry: and the ^oscribes *that were* of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, We find no evil in this man: but if a spirit or an angel hath spoken to him, let us not fight against God.

10 And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring *him* into the castle.

The Lord's grace to Paul.

11 And the night following the Lord ^pstood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

The conspiracy to kill Paul.

12 And when it was day, ^qcertain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.

13 And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.

14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.

15 Now therefore ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you to-morrow, as though ye would enquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, or ever he come near, are ^qready to kill him.

16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

17 ^bThen Paul called one of the centurions unto *him*, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him.

18 So he took him, and brought *him* to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner ^ccalled me unto *him*, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.

19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went *with him* aside privately, and asked *him*, What is that thou hast to tell me?

20 And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to-morrow into the council, as though they would enquire somewhat of him more perfectly.

21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

22 So the chief captain *then* let the young man depart, and charged *him*, See *thou* tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.

Paul sent to Felix at Cæsarea.

23 And he called unto *him* two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Cæsarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;

24 And provide *them* beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring *him* safe unto Felix the governor.

25 And he wrote a letter after this manner:

A.D. 60.

26 Claudius Lysias unto the most excellent governor Felix *sendeth* greeting.

27 This man was ^dtaken of the Jews, and should have been killed of them: then ^ecame I with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman.

28 ^fAnd when I would have known the cause wherefore they accused him, I brought him forth into their council:

29 Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have ^gnothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.

30 And when it was told me how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straightway to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what *they had* against him. Farewell.

31 Then the soldiers, as it was commanded them, took Paul, and brought *him* by night to Antipatris.

32 On the morrow they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle:

33 Who, when they came to Cæsarea, and delivered the epistle to the governor, presented Paul also before him.

34 And when the governor had read *the letter*, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that *he* was of ^hCilicia;

35 I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's ⁱjudgment hall.

CHAPTER 24.

Paul before Felix.

AND after five days ^jAnanias the high priest descended with the elders, and *with* a certain orator named Tertullus, who informed the governor against Paul.

(The accusation.)

2 And when he was called forth, Tertullus began to accuse *him*, saying, Seeing that by thee we enjoy great quietness, and that very worthy deeds are done unto this nation by thy providence,

3 We accept *it* always, and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.

4 Notwithstanding, that I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency a few words.

^a Psa.37.32, 33.

^b Acts 27.24, 31.

^c Eph.3.1.

^d seized by. Acts 21.33.

^e I came upon them with the soldiers.

^f Acts 22.30.

^g Acts 26.31.

^h Acts 21.39.

ⁱ palace.

^j Acts 23.2,30, 35; 25.2.

5 For we have found this man a pestilent ^a*fellow*, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the ^bworld, and a ring-leader of the sect of the Nazarenes: 6 Who also hath gone about to ^c'profane the temple: whom we took, and would have ^djudged according to bur law.

7 But the chief ^ecaptain Lysias came *upon us*, and with great violence took *him* away out of our hands,

8 Commanding his accusers ^fto come unto thee: by examining of whom thyself mayest take knowledge of all these things, whereof we accuse him.

9 And the Jews also assented, saying that these things were so.

(Paul's defence before Felix.)

10 Then Paul, after that ^gthe governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer ^hfor myself:

11 Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up ⁱto Jerusalem for to worship.

12 And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:

13 Neither can they ^jprove the things whereof they now accuse me.

14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God ^kof my fathers, believing all things ^lwhich are written in the law and in the prophets:

15 And have ^mhope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

16 And herein do I exercise myself, ⁿto have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and *toward men*.

17 Now after many years ^oI came to bring alms to my nation, and offerings.

18 ^pWhereupon certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with multitude, nor with tumult.

19 Who ought to have been here

A.D. 62.

a 1 Pet. 2.12, 19.

b *oikoumene* = *inhabited earth* (Lk. 2.1).

c Acts 21.28.

d John 18.31.

e Acts 21.33.

f Acts 23.30.

g Felix made procurator over Judæa, A.D. 53.

h 1 Pet. 3.15.

i Acts 21.15.

j 1 Pet. 3.16.

k 2 Tim. 1.3.

l Acts 26.22, 23; Lk. 24.27.

m Acts 23.6; 26.6, 7; 28.20.

n Acts 23.1.

o Acts 11.29, 30.

p Acts 21.26.

q *Resurrection.* vs. 14, 15-21; Rom. 8. 10, 11. (Job 19.25; 1 Cor. 15.52.)

r *concerning the Way.* See John 14.6.

s Rom. 10.10, note.

t *becoming afraid;* Gr. *emphobos*, *afraid*.

u *But when two years were fulfilled, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus; and desiring to gain favour with the Jews, Felix left Paul in bonds.*

v Mk. 15.15.

w Lk. 23. 14, 15.

before thee, and object, if they had ought against me.

20 Or else let these same *here* say, if they have found any evil doing in me, while I stood before the council,

21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the ^qresurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day.

22 And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge ^rof *that way*, he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter.

23 And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let *him* have liberty, and that he should forbid none of his acquaintance to minister or come unto him.

(Paul before Felix the second time.)

24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25 And as he reasoned of ^srighteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix ^ttrembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

26 He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him.

The silent two years at Cæsarea.

27 ^uBut after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to ^vshew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

CHAPTER 25.

Paul before Festus.

NOW when Festus was come into the province, after three days he ascended from Cæsarea to Jerusalem.

2 Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and besought him,

3 And desired favour against him, that he would send for him to Jerusalem, ^wlaying wait in the way to kill him.

4 But Festus answered, that Paul

should be kept at Cæsarea, and that he himself would depart shortly *thither*.

5 Let them therefore, said he, which among you are able, go down with *me*, and accuse this man, if there be any wickedness in him.

6 And when he had tarried among them ^amore than ten days, he went down unto Cæsarea; and the next day sitting on the judgment seat commanded Paul to be brought.

7 And when he was come, the Jews which came down from Jerusalem stood round about, and laid many and grievous complaints against Paul, ^bwhich they could not prove.

8 While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor ^cyet against Cæsar, have I offended any thing at all.

9 But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, Wilt thou go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me?

Paul appeals to Cæsar.

10 Then said Paul, I stand at Cæsar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest.

11 For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. ^dI appeal unto Cæsar.

12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, Hast thou appealed unto Cæsar? unto Cæsar shalt thou go.

13 And after certain days king ^eAgrippa and Bernice came unto Cæsarea to salute Festus.

14 And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king, saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix:

15 About whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed *me*, desiring to have judgment against him.

16 To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.

A.D. 62.

17 Therefore, when they were come hither, without any delay on the morrow I sat on the judgment seat, and commanded the man to be brought forth.

18 Against whom when the accusers stood up, they brought none accusation of such things as I supposed:

19 But had certain questions against him of their ^fown superstition, and of one Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive.

20 And because I doubted of such manner of questions, I asked *him* whether he would go to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these matters.

21 But when Paul had appealed to be ^greserved unto the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept till I might send him to Cæsar.

22 Then Agrippa said unto Festus, I would also hear the man myself. To morrow, said he, thou shalt hear him.

23 And on the morrow, when Agrippa was come, and Bernice, with great pomp, and was entered into the place of hearing, with the chief captains, and principal men of the city, at Festus' commandment ^hPaul was brought forth.

24 And Festus said, King Agrippa, and all men which are here present with us, ye see this man, about whom all the multitude of the Jews have dealt with me, both at Jerusalem, and *also* here, crying that he ought not to live any longer.

25 But when I found that he had committed ⁱnothing worthy of death, and that he himself hath appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him.

26 Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord. Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before ^jthee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write.

27 For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes *laid* against him.

CHAPTER 26.

Paul's defence before Agrippa.
(Cf. Acts 9. 1-18; 22. 1-16.)

THEN Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched

^a Or, as some copies read, *no more than eight or ten days.*

^b Acts 24.5,13; Mt.5.11,12; 1 Pet.4.12,16.

^c Rom.13.1,5.

^d Acts 23.11; 26.32; 27.24.

^e This (v.13) was Herod Agrippa II., son of the Herod Agrippa I. of Acts 12.1, and great-grandson of Herod the Great. Mt.2.1, *note*. Bernice, or Berenice, was the sister of Herod Agrippa II. (v.13).

^f Lit. *their peculiar demon-worship.*

^g kept for the decision of the emperor.

^h Acts 9.15.

ⁱ Acts 23.9,29; 26.31.

^j See Acts 26.2,3.

forth the hand, and answered for himself:

2 I think myself happy, **king** Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews:

3 Especially *because I know* thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently.

4 My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews;

5 Which ^aknew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a ^bPharisee.

6 And now ^cI stand and am judged for the hope of the ^dpromise made of God unto our fathers:

7 Unto which *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving **God** day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, **king** Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.

8 Why ^eshould it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?

9 I ^fverily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10 Which thing I also did ^gin Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I ^hshut up in prison, having received ⁱauthority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my ^jvoice against *them*.

11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled *them* to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted *them* even unto strange cities.

12 Whereupon as I ^kwent to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,

13 At midday, **O** king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I ^lheard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is hard for thee to kick against the 'pricks.*

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

A.D. 62.

^a Foreknowledge, trans. foreknow. Rom.8.29. (Acts 2.23; 1 Pet.1.20.)

^b Acts 22.3.

^c Acts 23.6.

^d Acts 13.32,33; Gen.3.15; 22.18; 49.10.

^e judged a thing incredible with you, if God doth raise the dead?

^f John 16.2;

1 Tim.1.13.

^g Acts 8.1,3;

Gal.1.13.

^h Acts 9.14.

ⁱ vofe.

^j Acts 9.3.

^k Cf. Acts 9.

7, note.

^l goods.

^m Satan.

Rom.16.20.

(Gen.3.1;

Rev.20.10.)

ⁿ Sin. Rom.3.

23, note.

^o Sanctify.

holy (persons) (N.T.).

Rom.12.1.

(Mt.4.5; Rev.

22.11.)

^p Repentance.

Rom.2.4.

(Mt.3.2;

Acts 17.30.)

^q the Christ must suffer.

See Acts 3.

18, ref.; 17.3,

ref.

^r Lit. Thou art raving, Paul!

thy great learning is turning thee round into raving madness.

^s Jas.2.19.

^t R.V. With but little persuasion thou wouldst fain make me a Christian. The answer might be paraphrased: "It will require more than this," etc., or, "A little more and you will make," etc.

^u Lit. both in a little and in much.

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17 Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18 To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of ^mSatan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of ⁿsins, and inheritance among them which are ^osanctified by faith that is in me.

19 Whereupon, **O** king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judæa, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should ^prepent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

21 For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.

22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

23 That ^qChrist should suffer, *and* that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

24 And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art ^rbeside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

25 But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

26 For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.

27 King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou ^sbelievest.

28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, ^tAlmost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

29 And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were ^uboth almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.

30 And when he had thus spoken,

the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them:

31 And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

32 Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Cæsar.

CHAPTER 27.

Paul is sent to Rome.

AND when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered ^bPaul and certain other prisoners unto *one* named Julius, a 'centurion of Augustus' band.

2 And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; *one* ^cAristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.

3 And the next *day* we touched at Sidon. And ^eJulius courteously entreated Paul, and gave *him* liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself.

4 And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.

5 And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia.

6 And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us therein.

7 And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under ^fCrete, over against Salmone;

8 And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called The fair havens; nigh whereunto was the city of Lasea.

9 Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the ^gfast was now already past, Paul admonished *them*,

10 And said unto them, Sirs, I ^hperceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

12 And because the haven was not commodious to winter in, the more

A.D. 62.

a Acts 23.11; 25.11.

b Acts 25.12, 25.

c Commander of 100 soldiers.

d Acts 19.29.

e Acts 24.23; 28.16.

f Tit.1.5,12.

g The fast was on the tenth day of the seventh month. Lev. 23.27,29.

h Amos 3.7.

i Or, *beat*.

j Psa.107.25.

k *be cast upon the Syrtis*.

l vs.9,10.

m 1 Sam.30.6; Psa.112.7; 2 Cor.1.4; 4.8,9.

n *an angel of the God whose I am, whom also I serve*. Heb. 1.4, note.

o *Faith*. Rom. 1.16. (Gen.3.20; Heb.11.39.)

part advised to depart thence also, if by any means they might attain to Phenice, *and there* to winter; *which is* an haven of Crete, and lieth toward the south west and north west.

13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained *their* purpose, loosing *thence*, they sailed close by Crete.

The storm.

14 But not long after there ⁱarose against it a ^jtempestuous wind, called Euroclydon.

15 And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let *her* drive.

16 And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat:

17 Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should ^kfall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven.

18 And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next *day* they lightened the ship;

19 And the third *day* we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship.

20 And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on *us*, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.

The moral ascendancy of Paul.

21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have ^lhearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

22 And now ^mI exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night ⁿthe angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Cæsar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I ^obelieve God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

27 But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight

the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country;

28 And sounded, and found *it* twenty ^afathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found *it* fifteen fathoms.

29 Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.

30 And as the ^bshipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship,

31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, ^cExcept these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.

32 Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off.

33 And while the day was coming on, Paul besought *them* all to take meat, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.

34 Wherefore I pray you to take *some* meat: ^dfor this is for your health: ^efor there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken *it*, he began to eat.

36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took *some* meat.

37 And we were in all in the ship ^ftwo hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

38 And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.

39 And when it was day, they knew not the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.

40 And when they had ^gtaken up the anchors, they committed *themselves* unto the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore.

41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmovable, but the hinder part ^hwas broken with the violence of the waves.

A.D. 62.

^a One fathom = between 6 and 7 ft.

^b sailors were seeking to flee out of the ship and had lowered the boat.

^c v.22; Ezk.36.36,37; Lk.4.9,12.

^d Mt.15.32.

^e Mt.10.30; Lk.21.18.

^f Some ancient authorities read, about threescore and sixteen souls.

^g Or, cut the anchors, they left *them* in the sea, etc.

^h began to break up.

ⁱ Prov.16.7.

^j v.22; Psa. 107.28,30; 2 Cor.1.8,10.

^k Heb.13.2.

^l Miracles (N.T.). vs.3-6,8,9. (Mt.8.2,3.)

^m justice.

ⁿ Jas.5.14,15.

^o Acts 19.11; Mk.16.18; 1 Cor.12.9,28.

42 And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.

43 But the centurion, willing to save ⁱPaul, kept them from *their* purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast *themselves* first *into the sea*, and get to land:

44 And the rest, some on boards, and some on *broken pieces* of the ship. And ^jso it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

CHAPTER 28.

The landing on Melita: miracle of the viper's bite. (Cf. Mk. 16. 18.)

AND when they were escaped, then they knew, that the island was called Melita.

2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and ^kreceived us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid *them* on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and ^lfastened on his hand.

4 And when the barbarians saw the *venomous* beast: hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet ^mvengeance suffereth not to live.

5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

Miracle of the healing of Publius' father.

7 In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.

8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to ⁿwhom Paul entered in, and prayed, and ^olaid hands on him, and ^ohealed him.

9 So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

10 Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we de-

parted, they laded *us* with such things as were necessary.

11 And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.

12 And landing at Syracuse, we tarried *there* three days.

13 And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli:

14 Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.

15 And from thence, when ^athe brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as ^bAppii forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took ^ccourage.

Paul arrives at Rome.

16 And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with ^aa soldier that kept him.

Paul in Rome: his ministry there to the Jews.

17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men *and* brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I ^ddelivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

18 Who, ^fwhen they had examined me, would have let *me* go, because there was no cause of death in me.

19 But when the Jews spake against *it*, I was constrained to ^gappeal unto Cæsar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.

20 For this cause therefore ^hhave I called for *you*, to see *you*, and to speak with *you*: because that for the ⁱhope of Israel I am bound with this ^jchain.

A.D. 63.

a Rom.1.8,12.

b *the market of Appius.*

c Josh.1.6,7,9; 1 Sam.30.6; Psa.27.14.

d *the soldier that guarded him.* Acts 24.23; 27.3.

e Acts 21.33.

f Acts 26.31.

g Acts 25.11.

h *did I entreat you to see and speak with me.*

i Acts 26.6,7.

j Eph.3.1; 6.20; 2 Tim. 1.10,12.

k Lk.2.34; 1 Pet.2.12; 4.14.

l Acts 17.3; Gen.49.10; Num.24.17; Mal.3.1; 4.2; Lk.24.27; John 1.45; 5.39; Rev.19.10.

m Cf.Acts 13.46; 18.6.

n *Holy Spirit.* Rom.1.4. (Mt.1.18; Acts 2.4.)o *Inspiration.* Rom.16.25, 26. (Ex.4.15; Rev.22.19.)

p 2 Cor.4.4,6.

q vs.26,27; Isa.6.9,10.

r *i.e. turn again.*

s Rom.1.16, note.

t Acts 20.25; Eph.6.19; Phil.1.13,14.

21 And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judæa concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.

22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that ^kevery where it is spoken against.

23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he ^lexpounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and *out* of the prophets, from morning till evening.

24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

Paul turns to the Gentiles.

25 And ^mwhen they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the ⁿHoly Ghost ^oby Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and ^pshall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with ^qtheir heart, and should be ^rconverted, and I should heal them.

28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the ^ssalvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it.

29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in ¹his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, ^twith all confidence, no man forbidding him.

¹ It has been much disputed whether Paul endured two Roman imprisonments, from A.D. 62 to 68, or one. The tradition from Clement to Eusebius favours two imprisonments with a year of liberty between. Erdman (W.J.) has pointed out that the leaving of Trophimus sick at Miletus, mentioned in 2 Tim. 4. 20, could not have been an occurrence of Paul's last journey to Jerusalem, for then Trophimus was not left (Acts 20. 4; 21. 29), nor of the journey to Rome to appear before Cæsar, for then he did not touch at Miletus. To make this incident possible there must have been a release from the first imprisonment, and an interval of ministry and travel.