not say, “*to us*,” which might make an  
unreal distinction between the Apostles  
and the then believers, and an implied   
exclusion of the hearers from this gift,—but  
generally, to *all* that *obey Him*, by this  
word recalling the opening of the speech,  
and binding all together. So that the  
sense of the whole is, ‘We are acting in  
obedience to God, and for the everlasting  
good of our common Israel: and otherwise  
we cannot do.’ And a soleinn invitation is  
implied ‘*Be ye obedient likewise*.’ It is  
remarkable that a similar word, “*were  
obedient to the faith*,” is used of the   
multitude of converted priests, ch. vi. 7.

**33.] When they heard that, they were  
cut asunder** (so literally: i. e. in heart).  
  
**34.] Gamaliel** (see Num. i. 10;  
ii, 20) is generally, and not without  
probability, assumed to be identical with  
the celebrated Rabban Gamaliel, also   
entitled “*the old man*,” one of the seven, to  
whom, among their Rabbis, the Jews give  
this title Rabban, a wise and enlightened  
Pharisee, the son of Rabban Symeon   
(traditionally the Symeon of Luke ii, 25) and  
grandson of the famous Hillel. His name  
often appears in the Talmud, as an utterer  
of sayings quoted as authorities. Ile died  
eighteen years before the destruction of  
the city. He was the preceptor of St. Paul  
(ch. xxii. 3). Ecclesiastical tradition makes  
him become a Christian, and be baptized  
by Peter and John, and in the Clementine  
Recognitions, he is stated to have been at  
this time a Christian, but secretly. The  
Jewish accounts do not agree, which  
make him die a Pharisee, with much  
more probability. Nor is the least trace  
of a Christian leaning to be found in  
his speech: see below on ver. 39. And  
considering that he was a Pharisee,   
opposing the prevalent faction of   
Sadduceism in a matter where the   
Resurrection was called in question,—and a wise  
and enlightened man opposing furious and  
unreasoning zealots,—considering also, that  
when the *anti-pharisaical* element of   
Christianity was brought out in the acts and  
sayings of Stephen, his pupil Saul was  
found the foremost persecutor,—we should,  
I think, be slow to suspect him of any  
favouring of the Apostles *as followers of  
Jesus*. (See particulars respecting Gamaliel  
collected in Conybeare and Howson’s St.  
Paul, edn. 2, vol. i. p. 69, f.) He does not  
here appear as the president of the Sanhedrim,   
but only as a member.

**to put  
the apostles forth**, i. e. to cause them to  
withdraw. They are recalled in ver. 40.

**35.]** The words **as touching these  
men** may be joined either with **take heed  
to yourselves**, or with **what ye intend to  
do**. The latter would give the more usual  
construction: and seems the more probable  
of the two.

**36.]** A great chronological  
difficulty arises here. Josephus relates,  
that when Cuspius Fadus was Procurator  
of Judea, an impostor named Theudas  
persuaded a very great multitude to break  
up their households and follow him to the  
Jordan, in expectation that he would divide  
the river for them to go over. He then  
relates how Fadus sent a squadron of horse  
against him, killing many of his followers,  
and taking many prisoners, and bringing  
his head to Jerusalem. But this was in  
the reign of Claudius, not before the  
year A.D, 44: and consequently at least \_  
twelve years after this speech of Gamaliel’s.  
On this difficulty I will remark, that we  
are plainly *in no position* (setting all other  
considerations aside) to charge St. Luke  
with having put into the mouth of   
Gamaliel words which he could not have  
uttered. For Josephus himself, speaking  
of a time which would accord very well  
with that referred to by Gamaliel, viz. the  
time when Archelaus went to Rome to  
be confirmed in the kingdom, says,   
“Meantime numerous seditional movements took  
place among the Jews, many men feeding  
their own ambition by the enmity of the  
Jews against the Romans, and breaking  
out in acts of war.” And among these  
there may well have been an impostor of  
this name. But all attempts to identify  
Theudas with any other leader of outbreaks