ch. vi. 5: xv. 34,

**15.]** Justification of  
the expression “*my beloved children*.”  
**ten thousand**, the greatest possible  
number—see ch. xiv. 19.

**schoolmasters**] He was their spiritual *father*:  
those who followed, Apollos included, were  
but *tutors*, having the care and education  
of the children, but not the rights, as they  
could not have the peculiar affection of the  
father. He evidently shews by the word  
*ten thousand*, that these *schoolmasters*  
were *more in number than he could wish*,  
—including among them doubtless the  
false and party teachers: but to refer the  
word *only* to them and their despotic leading  
or to confine its meaning to the  
stricter sense of the word used in the  
original, the slave who led the child to  
*school*, is not here borne out by the facts.  
See Gal. iii. 24, 25, and note.

**for in  
Christ Jesus** (as the spiritual element in  
which the begetting took place: so commonly  
“*in Christ,*” applied to relations of  
life, see ver. 17, twice) **through the gospel**  
(the preached word being the instrument)  
**I** (emphatic) **begat you** (there is also an  
emphasis on **you**,—in *your case*, I it was  
who begot you).

**16.] therefore,**  
because I am *your father*. imitators,  
not only, nor perhaps chiefly, in the things  
*just mentioned*, vv. 9—13,—but as ver.  
17, in *my ways in Christ, my manner of  
life and teaching*.

**17.] For this cause**,  
—in order that you may the better imitate  
me by being put in mind of my ways and  
teaching. On the *fact*, see Introduction,  
§ ii. 2.

**my child]** see 1 Tim. i, 2, 18;  
2 Tim.i.2. Meyer remarks, that by the strict  
use of the word child (distinct from “ *son*”)  
in this passage (compare verses 14, 15) we  
have a certain proof that Timothy was *converted  
by Paul*: see Acts xiv. 6,7, and note.  
“The phrase seems to be used here in reference  
to ‘*beloved children*,’ ver. 14: “I sent  
‘Timotheus, who stands to me in the same  
relation that you stand in” Stanley.

**in the Lord]** points out the spiritual  
nature of the relationship.

**shall remind  
you]** Timothy, by being himself a  
close imitator of the Christian virtues and  
teaching of his and their spiritual father,  
would bring to their minds his well-known  
character, and way of teaching, which they  
seemed to have well-nigh forgotten. See  
2 Tim. iii. 10.

**every where in every  
church.]** To shew the importance of this  
his manner of teaching, he reminds them  
of his *unvarying* practice of it :—and as he  
was guided by the Spirit, by inference, of  
its universal necessity in the churches.

**18—20.]** To guard against misrepresentation  
of the coming of Timothy  
just announced, by those who had said and  
would now the more say, ‘Paul dare not  
come to Corinth,’ *he announces the certainty  
of his coming, if the Lord will*.

**shortly]** *How* soon*,* see ch, xvi. 8.  
**I will “know**, i.e. **I will inform**