ITS AUTHORSHIP. [1ntropverion.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER V.   
 OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN.   
   
   
   
 SECTION I.   
 ITS AUTHORSHIP.   
   
   
   
 1, Tue universal belief of the Christian Church has ascribed this   
 Gospel to the Apostle John. I shall not here anticipate the discussion   
 respecting its genuineness (see below, § vi.), but assume that it has been   
 rightly so ascribed.   
 2. John was son of Zebedee and Salome, and younger (?)! brother   
 of James. His father was-a Galilean, and by occupation a fisherman   
 on the lake of Galilee. Where he resided, is uncertain: perhaps at   
 Bethsaida: but the circumstance of Simon Peter, who was of that place,   
 being (Luke v. 10) partner in the fishing trade, or perhaps, in that par-   
 ticular expedition only with the sons of Zebedee, is no proof as to their   
 residence there also.   
 3. The family of John seems not to have been one of the lowest   
 class: we find hired servants in the ship with Zebedee, Mark i. 20; their   
 mother Salome was one of those women who came with Jesus from   
 Galilee, and ministered to him of their substance, Luke viii. 3; xxiii.   
 55, compared with Mark xvi. 1; the same Salome was one of those who   
 bought sweet spices and ointments to anoint Him (Mark, as above) ;   
 and, John xix. 27, we find John himself taking the mother of our Lord   
 “to his own home,” which though (see note there) it need not imply that   
 John had then a house at Jerusalem, certainly denotes that he had some   
 fixed habitation, into which she was received. If, as is most likely, John   
 be meant by the “other disciple” of ch. xviii. 15, he was personally   
 known to the High Priest Caiaphas. From all these facts the inference   
 is that his family belonged to the middle class of society; the higher   
 grade of those who carried on the by no means despised or ungainful   
 business of fishermen on the sea of Galilee.   
 4, If (seo note on John i. 41) the second of the two disciples who   
 heard the Baptist’s testimony to Jesus, and followed Him in con-   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 1 This is by no means certain. While Matt. and Mark always write ‘Peter, James,   
 and John’—Luke, ix. 28, and Acts i. 13 (in the older MSS.), has ‘Peter, John, and   
 James ;’ although in the other catalogue of the Apostles, Luke vi. 14, he keeps the   
 usual order. It is impossible to say whether the order arose from any account at all   
 being taken of mere seniority.   
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