THE ACTS. IX.   
   
   
 Jch. xiff. Lord said unto him, Go thy way: ‘for fe is 8a chosen   
 vessel unto me, to bear my name before } the ™ Gentiles,   
 “and kings, and the children of Israel: for °I will   
   
 shew him how great things he mnst suffer for my name’s   
 sake. 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   
 reeeive thy sight, and ‘be filled with the Holy Ghost.   
 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been   
 seales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was   
   
   
 baptized. 19 And when he had received meat, he was   
 sch.xxvi.20. strengthened. si Then was Saul certain days with the   
 disciples which were at Damaseus.   
 tech. 87. 20 And straightway he   
 preached \* Christ in the synagogues, ‘that he is the Son   
   
 f render, this man.   
 & literally, a vessel of choice, or, of election.   
 h render, nations. i read and render, And he was.   
 k read, Jesus.   
   
 way to persecute them. 15. a vessel yet the hateful word “ Gentiles.’ He   
 of choice] i.e. chosen vessel: as we say, there too gives, “Arise, and be baptized,   
 “the man of his choice.’ St. Paul often and wash away thy sins, calling upon   
 uses this word vessel in a similar the name of the Lord,” as part of the ex-   
 see 2 Cor. iv. 7; 1 Thess. iv. 4; 2 Tim. ii. hortation of Ananias. 18. as it had   
 21; and especially Rom. ix. 22, 23, &e., been scales] The recovery of sight is   
 where it is used in illustrating God’s plainly related as miraculous, the conse-   
 sovereign power in election. to bear, quence of the divinely-appointed laying on   
 perhaps in reference to the metaphor in of the hands of Ananias. And this scaly   
 vessel. nations] i.e. the Gentiles. substance which fell from his eyes was   
 This would hardly he understood at the thrown off in the process of the instanta-   
 time: it was afterwards on a remarkable neous healing. was baptized] It has   
 occasion repeated to Paul by the Lord in a been well remarked by Olshausen, that   
 vision (see ch. xxii. and was regarded great honour was here placed upon the   
 by him as the specific which gave sacrament of baptism, inasmuch as not   
 the direction to his ministry, see Gal. ii. even Saul, who had seen the Lord in spe-   
 8. kings] Agrippa, and probably cial revelation and was an clect vessel, was   
 Nero. 16. I will shew him ...] The permitted to dispense with this, the Lord’s   
 fulfilment of this is testified Paul him- appointed way of admission into   
 self, ch. 23, 25: see also xxi, 19. certain days] A few days; of   
 17. and he filled with the Holy Ghost] I quict, and becoming acquainted with those   
 ean hardly think that these words imply as brethren, whom he came to persecute   
 that the Lord had said to Ananias more as infidels: but not to learn from them the   
 than is above related : I would rather view gospel (for this he did not receive from   
 them as a natural inference from what was. man, neither was he taught it, Gal i. 12),   
 said in ver. 15.—In eh. xxii. 14, the nor was the time longer than to admit of   
 command to Ananias is omitted, hés speech straightway being used, ver. 20,—and in-   
 contains much of the reason given in the deed the same word is used of the whole   
 command here. It is remarkable again space (including his preaching in our vv.   
 how Paul, speaking there to an infuriated 20, 21) preceding the journey to Arabia, in   
 Jewish mob, gives the words spoken just: Gal. 1.16. See below. 20. he preached   
 that form which would best gain him a Jesus} The alteration to “Christ” has   
 favourable hearing with them,—for ex- probably, as Meyer suggests, been made   
 ample, “the God of our fathers,”—\*to trom doctrinal considerations, to fix on   
 see that Just One,” “all men,” avoiling us “the Son of God” the theological sense,—