20—27. THE ACTS. 729   
   
   
 when he came, and had seen ? the grace of God, was glad,   
 and “exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they "sx   
 would cleave unto the Lord. \*4For he was a good man,   
 and \* full of the Holy Ghost and of faith ; ¥ and ® much 3%" a,   
   
 people was added unto the Lord. 250 Then departed   
 Barnabas to \* Tarsus, for to seek Saul: ®6and when he had 7"   
   
 found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came   
 to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with   
 the church, and taught #much people: ¢ and the disciples   
   
 were called Christians first in Antioch. °7 And in these \*¢hi   
 days 4eame \*prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. 3 te   
 ive, =   
 2 see note. 4 literally, a great multitude. Fe   
 b read and render, And he departed.   
 4 +ender, came down.   
 © render, and that the.   
   
 for the more solemn and authorized stand- should not be called Christians, but Gali-   
 ing of the Gentile church, the important lxans. The name soon became matter of   
 events at Cwsarea and Joppa were brought glorying among its bearers: see 1 Pet.   
 about. 28. exhorted them all] in iv. 16. In the epistle of the churches of   
 accordance with his name, which (iv. 36) Lyons and Vienne, given by Eusebius, we   
 was interpreted son of exhortation. read, that when the governor asked Epa-   
 25.] This therefore took place after ch. gathus whether he too were a Christian,   
 ix. 30: how long after, we have no hint he confessed it with a loud voice: and   
 in the narrative, and the question will be again that Sanctus, to every question,   
 determined by varions persons according replied in Latin, “I am a Christian.”   
 to the requirements of their chronological And in the Clementine Liturgy we have   
 system. Some chronologers make it not these words, “We give thanks to Thee   
 more than from half a year to a year: that the name of thy Christ is named   
 others, placing the conversion of Saul in upon us, and that we are called Thine.”   
 A.D. 31,—nine years. Speaking from pro- Before this, while the helievers had been   
 bability, it seems very unlikely that any included among Jews, no distinctive name   
 considerable portion of time should have for them was needed: but now that a   
 been spent by him before the great work body of men, compounded of Jews and   
 of his ministry began. Even supposing Gentiles, arose, distinct in belief and   
 him during this retirement to preached habits from both, some new appellation   
 in Syria and Cilicia,—judging by the was required.—It may he observed, that   
 analogy of his subsequent journeys, @ few the inhabitants of Antioch were famous   
 months at the most would nave sufficed for for their propensity to jeer and cal] ;   
 this. For my own view, see Introduction see instances in Conybeare and Howson,   
 to Acts, § 6. 26. Christians] This i. p. 148, note 2. 27. in these days]   
 name is never used by Christians of them- It was during this year, ver. 26.   
 selves in the N.'T. (but “the disciples,” prophets] Inspired teachers in the early   
 “the faithful,’ “the believers,’ “the Christian church, referred to in the Aets,   
 brethren,” “the saints,” “they of this and in the Epistles of Paul (see reff. and   
 [or the] way”), only (see ch. xxvi. 28; ch, xix. 6; xxi. 9; Rom. xii. 6; 1 Cor.   
 1 Pet. iv, 16) as spoken by, or coming xii. 10; xiii. 8; xiv. 6; 1 Thess. v. 20).   
 from, those without the church. And of They might be of either sex (ch. xxi. 9).   
 those, it cannot have arisen with the Jews, The foretelling fature events was not the   
 who would never have given a name usual form which their inspiration took,   
 derived from the Messiah to a hated and that of an exalted and superhuman teach-   
 despised sect. Ly the Jews they were ing, ranked by St. Paul above ‘speaking   
 called Nazarenes, ch. xxiv. 5, and Gali- with tongues, in being the utterance of   
 leans: and the Emperor Julian (the Apos- their own conscious intelligence informed   
 tate), who wished to deprive them of a by the Holy Spirit. This inspiration   
 name in which they gloried (see below), however, occasionally, as here, and ch. xxi.   
 and to favour the Jews, ordered that they 10, made the vehicle of prophecy, properly