\_THE ACTS. XXII. 21—30.   
   
 \_that slew him. 2! And he said unto me, Depart: ‘for I   
 will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles. \*\* And they   
 gave him audience unto this 4 word, and then lifted up   
 their voices, and said, \* Away with such a fellow from the   
 earth: for it @is not fit that ‘he should live. 8 And as   
 they cried out, and f cast off their clothes, and threw dust   
 into the air, \*\*the chief captain commanded him to be   
 brought into the castle, and bade that he should be   
 examined by scourging; that he might know wherefore   
 they cried so against him. \* And as they bound him   
 with &€ thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by,   
 ms it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman,   
 and uncondemned? 6 When the centurion heard that,   
   
   
 m ch. xvi.   
   
   
 he went and told the chief captain, saying, h Take heed   
 what thou doest: for this man is a Roman. 27 Then the   
 chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a   
   
 Roman? He said, Yea. 28 And the chief captain answered,   
   
 4 render, saying. © render, WAS.   
 f render, shook. & render, the thongs.   
 b yead, with all our oldest authorities, What art thou about to do ?   
   
 however, become attached to it at a very “The nations of the earth have no living   
 early period, and is apparently of apostolic existence,” was the maxim of the children   
 authority: e.g. Rev. xvii. 6, and Clement of Abraham, as set down in their Rab-   
 of Rome, 1 Cor. v. in note on ch. i. binical books. it was not fit] imply.   
 . The transition from the first to the ing, he ought to have been put to death long   
 secondary sense may be easily accounted ago (when we endeavoured to do it, but he   
 for. Many who had only seen with the escaped). 23.] They were not ‘casting   
 eye of faith, sufiered persecution and death off their garments,’ as preparing to stone   
 as a proof of their sincerity. For such him, or even as representing the action of   
 constancy the Greck had no adequate term. such preparation: the former would be   
 It was necessary for the Christians to pro- futile, as he was in the custody of the   
 vide one, None was more appropriate tribune,—the latter absurd, and not borne   
 than ‘ witness’ (martyr), seeing what had out by any known habit of the Jews: but   
 been the fate of those whom Christ had shaking their garments, as shaking off the   
 appointed to be His witnesses (ch. i. 8). dust, abominating such an expression and   
 They almost all suffered : to witness him who uttered it. The casting dust into   
 became a synonym for to suffer: while the the air was part of the same gesture.   
 sutlering was in itself kind of testimony.” Chrysostom explains it in this way.   
 (Mr. Humphry.) Dr. Wordsworth well 24.] The tribune, not understanding the   
 designates this introduction of the name language in which Paul spoke, wished to   
 of Stephen “a noble endeavonr to make extract from him by the scourge the reason   
 public reparation for a public sin, public which so exasperated the Jews against him.   
 confession in the saine place where the sin In this he was acting illegally Augustus   
 was committed.” 21.) The object of had expressly provided that legal exa-   
 Paul in relating thi m appears to have ininations were not to begin with torture.   
 been to shew that his own inclination and 25.) Literally, while they were bind-   
 prayer had been, that he might preach the ing him down with the thongs. The po-   
 Gospel to his own people: but that it was sition of the prisoner was, bent forward,   
 by the imperative command of the Lord and tied with a sort of gear made of leather   
 Himself that he went to the Gentiles. to an inclined post. the centurion |   
 22. unto this saying] viz. the announce- This was the ordinary officer—standing by   
 uuent that he was to be sent to Gentiles. to superintend the punishment. Ou