cn. x1] 1 TIMOTHY. [wrropucrioy.   
   
 arrival at Nicopolis. And he writes from this his prison, expecting his   
 execution (“for I am now being poured out, and the time of my departure   
 is at hand,” 2 Tim. iv. 6).   
 33. We hear, 2 Tim. iv. 16, 17, of his being brought up before the   
 authorities, and making his defence. If in the last year of Nero, the   
 Emperor was absent in Greece, and did not try him in person. To this   
 may perhaps point the “having suffered martyrdom under the princes”   
 of Clement of Rome (see above, par. 20): but it would be manifestly   
 unwise to press an expression in so rhetorical a passage. At this his   
 hearing, none of his friends was bold enough to appear with or for   
 him: but his Christian boldness was sustained by Him in whom he   
 trusted.   
 34, The second Epistle to Timothy dates after this his first apology.   
 How long after, we cannot say: probably some little time, for the   
 expression does not seem to allude to a very recent occurrence.   
 35. After this, all is obscurity. That he underwent execution by the   
 sword, is the constant tradition of antiquity, and would agree with the   
 fact of his Roman citizenship, which would exempt him from death by   
 torture. We have seen reason (above, par. 26) to place his death in   
 the last year of Nero, i.e. late in A.D. 67, or A.D. 68. And we may   
 well place the second Epistle to Timothy a few months at most before   
 his death’.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER XI.   
 THE FIRST EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY. 0   
   
   
   
 Tue AvrnorsHir, and Time anp PLace or Writine, have been   
 already discussed: and much has been said on the style and diction   
 of this in common with the other Pastoral Epistles. It only remains   
   
   
 7 One objection which is brought against the view taken above of the date of the   
 Pastoral Epistles, is drawn from 1 Tim. iv. 12, “Let no one despise thy youth.” It   
 is argued by Dr. Davidson, that supposing Timothy to have been twenty when the   
 Apostle first him for his companion,—at the date which we have assigned to the   
 first Epistle, he would not be less than thirty-four or thirty-five when the Epistle   
 was written; ‘an age,” adds Dr. Davidson, “at which it was not likely he should be   
 despised for his youth.” But surely such an age would be a very early one at which to   
 be set over such a Church as that of Ephesus: and at such an age, an ecclesiastical   
 officer whose duty was to rebuke elders, unless he comported himself with irreproach-   
 able modesty and gravity, would be exceedingly liable to be slighted and set aside for   
 his youth. The caution seems to me quite to stand in its place, and to furnish no valid   
 objection whatever to our view.   
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