cu. vit.] THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS. [inrropucrion.   
   
 deep must have been his tranquillity, how ample and how clear his fresh   
 springs of life and joy, in Him, of whom he could write, “ Yet it is not I   
 that live, but it is Christ that liveth in me :” and of whose abiding power   
 within him he felt, as he tells his Philippians, “I can do all things in   
 Him which strengtheneth me.”   
   
   
   
   
   
 CHAPTER VII.   
   
   
 THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS.   
   
   
 SECTION I.   
 AUTHORSHIP.   
   
   
 1. Tuar this Epistle is a genuine work of St. Paul, was never doubted   
 in ancient times: nor did any modern critic question the fact, until   
 Schrader, in his commentary, pronounced some passages suspicious, and   
 led the way in which Baur and Meyerhoff followed. In his later work,   
 Baur entirely rejects it. The grounds on which these writers rest, are   
 partly the same as those already met in the Introduction to the Ephe-   
 sians. The Epistle is charged with containing phrases and ideas derived   
 from the later heretical philosophies,—an assertion, the untenableness of   
 which I have there shewn as regards that Epistle, and almost the same   
 words would suffice for this. Even De Wette disclaims and refutes   
 their views, maintaining its genuineness: though, as Dr. Davidson re-   
 marks, “it is strange that, in replying to them so well, he was not led   
 to question his own rejection of the authenticity of the Ephesian Epistle.”   
 2. The arguments drawn from considerations peculiar to this Epistle,   
 its diction and style, will be found answered under § iv.   
 3, Among many external testimonies i its genuineness and authen-   
 ticity are the following :   
 (a) Justin Martyr three times calls our Lord “Firstborn of all   
 creation” (Col. i. 15).   
 (6) Theophilus of Antioch has referred to the same passage.   
 These may perhaps hardly be conceded as direct quotations. But the   
 following are beyond doubt:   
 (c) Irenzus, book iii. :   
 “ Again, in the Epistle to the Colossians, he says, ‘Luke, the be-   
 loved physician, saluteth you.’”   
 (d) Clement of Alexandria:   
 “And in the Epistle to the Colossians he writes, ‘Admonishing   
 every man, and teaching,’ &e.” (ch. i. 28).   
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