§ 1.7 LANGUAGE, AND STYLE. (aytRopuction.   
   
   
   
 SECTION IV.   
   
   
 LANGUAGE, AND STYLE: CONNEXION WITH THE EPISTLE TO THE   
 EPHESIANS.   
   
 1. In both language and style, the Epistle to the Colossians is pecu-   
 liar. But the peculiarities are not greater than might well arise from   
 the fact, that the subject on which the Apostle was mainly writing was   
 one requiring new thoughts and words. Had not the Epistle to the   
 Romans ever been written, that to the Galatians would have presented   
 as peculiar words and phrases as this Epistle now does.   
 2. I have given in the corresponding section to this in the Pro-   
 legomena to my Greek Test. a list of the words peculiar to this Epistle.   
 They are thirty-four in number, for the most part long compound words   
 of a peculiar character.   
 8. A very slight analysis of the list will shew us to what they are   
 chiefly owing. Inch. i. we have seven: in ch. ii, nineteen: in ch. iii., six:   
 in ch. iv., two. It is evident then that the nature of the subject in ch. ii.   
 has introduced the greater number. At the same time it cannot be   
 denied that St. Paul does here express some things differently from his   
 usual practice: no less than nine of the words enumerated are pecu-   
 liarities owing not to the necessities of the subject, but to style: to the   
 peculiar frame and fecling with which the writer was expressing himself,   
 which led to his using these unusual expressions rather than other and   
 more customary ones. And we may fairly say, that there is visible   
 throughout the controversial part of our Epistle, a loftiness and artificial   
 elaboration of style, which would induce precisely the use of such   
 expressions. It is not uncommon with St. Paul, when strongly moved   
 or sharply designating opponents, or rising into majestic subjects and   
 thoughts, to rise also into unusual, or long and compounded words. It is   
 this loftiness of controversial tone, even more than the necessity of the   
 subject handled, which causes our Epistle so much to abound with   
 peculiar words and phrases.   
 4. And this will be seen even more strongly, when we turn to the   
 Epistle to the Ephesians, sent at the same time with the present letter.   
 In writing both, the Apostle’s mind was in the same general frame—   
 full of the glories of the Person of Christ, and the consequent glorious   
 privileges of His Church, which is built on Him, and vitally knit to   
 Him. This mighty subject, as he looked with indignation on the beg-   
 garly system of meats and drinks and hallowed days and angelic media-   
 tions to which his Colossians were being drawn down, rose before him in   
 all its length and breadth and height; but as writing to them, he was con-   
 fined to one portion of it, and to setting forth that one portion pointedly   
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