

the most essential doctrines and precepts of the Gospel? And he put them in *writing*, that they might be always before them, and therefore not be forgotten or escape from their memory. In 2 Cor. xiii. he says: "We *write* none other things unto you than what ye read or acknowledge;" and xiii. 10, "Therefore I *write* these things being absent, lest, being present, I should use sharpness." And the words "these things," mean, of course, all the things declared in the Epistle, and which are numerous and of the deepest importance. In the next Epistle, that of Galatians, which is of equal value as to doctrine and precept, he says in vi. 11, "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you, with mine own hand." The next to the Ephesians, is very full, as to nearly all the doctrines as well as practical duties of Christianity. In the next, to the Phil., iii. 1, he says: "To write the same things to you, to me, indeed, is not grievous, but for you it is safe." Here the Apostle, doubtless, means the "same things" he had before orally taught them; and by saying it was safe to write those things, it is clear that he meant that their retention of them might not depend merely on the remembrance of the oral teaching, but that they should always have those same truths before them, in that *written* and therefore *sure and permanent* form. In the next Epistle, Col. iv., is the charge, "When this Epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the Church of the Laodiceans, and that ye likewise read the Epistle from Laodicea." This Epistle to the Colossians is very full as to doctrine and duty. Next, 1 Thes. v. 37, "I charge you by the Lord that this Epistle be *read* unto all the holy brethren;" and 2 Thes. iii, "If any man obey not our word by this Epistle, note that man, and have no company with him." Next Epistle, 1 Tim., he is most solemnly charged to "observe these things" and to "keep this commandment," meaning, of course, the doctrines and precepts contained in the Epistle. And in the second Epistle to him, he is charged to the same effect. In the following Epistle to Titus, he is commanded "these things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority,"—referring also to the written truths of doctrine and duty contained in the Epistle. The Epistle to the Hebrews embodies several of the most important doctrines both of the Old and of the