

he became is apparent to the sympathetic reader. And yet, St. Luke's purpose was historical rather than biographical. St. Paul moves through his pages only as a part of a great whole—a prominent actor in a great movement. Hence we have not the description of externals that would be natural in a biography. "Paul¹ filled with the Holy Ghost fastened his eyes on Elyms".....Paul² fastening his eyes on the cripple at Lystra said with a loud voice.....Paul³ standing on the stairs, beckoned with his hand to the people, and when there was made a great silence he spake unto them in the Hebrew tongue," and the historian is satisfied with the suggestion of these compelling eyes, that eloquent hand. Similarly there is little or no indication of the Apostle's inward life: and the "Acts" if it stood alone would give but an imperfect reflection of that great personality. But the epistles of Paul furnish a full complement: in them he reveals himself in all his many-sidedness, and this revelation fills up and completes, but never contradicts the character shewn in operation in the "Acts." The historian has set forth his hero so well, with an appreciation so keen, and a style so fresh and vivid, that in the picture, he presents, we may with a little effort really become personally acquainted with our own Apostle. Already in the "Acts" burns the enthusiasm, which, serving God at first in ignorance and blind fanaticism, blended later with the wisdom and patience of Divine Love: there we have glimpses of the quick temper and feeling that sometimes flashed out in proof of his human weakness—but which again brought him into immediate sympathy with his neighbours; there appears the tact that adapted itself to all surroundings, the ready wit that took advantage of the turn of events, the learning that qualified him to address himself to audiences of the most varied natures, the courage, the endurance, the courtesy by which he commended his doctrine. But in order to realize the deeper lying parts of his nature, we have to fill up the outline by means of the Epistles, and in them find fuller indication of his mind, the same mind which was in Christ. If we fail to call up this picture, if these things somehow do not move us, we may still arrive at some estimate of the greatness of the man, by trying to imagine what the world would have been like if St. Paul

¹ Acts 13-10; ² 14-9; ³ 21-40, 23-1.