

I propose the following questions for our consideration:—

I. What is the revealed purpose of God towards the Jewish nation during the present Dispensation?

II. What is the consequent duty of the Church?

III. What has actually been the conduct of the Christian Church?

IV. What grounds of encouragements are there in the present condition of the Jews which should urge us to make greater efforts in their behalf?

I. What is the revealed purpose of God towards the Jewish nation during the present Dispensation?

(a) It was the purpose of God that the Gospel should be first preached to the Jews.

There is an opinion, loosely held perhaps, but widely prevalent, that upon their rejection and crucifixion of the Son of God, the Jewish people were at once cast off and given over to a reprobate mind. Such opinion is directly opposed to the narrative of the Acts of the Apostles.

The preaching of the Gospel in its completeness began upon the day of Pentecost. "Ye shall receive power," were our Lord's parting words to His Apostles, "after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8.) Their testimony was to be delivered, "first in Jerusalem and in all Judea,"