

stand ; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive : for the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed ; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it."

"And when he had said these words," writes Luke, "the Jews departed and had great reasoning among themselves." Then he brings his chronicle to an end with these significant words, "And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came to him ; preaching the kingdom of God and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no man forbidding him."

Of those years in Rome there yet remains to us some slight record in the Epistles written to his beloved churches in Colossae, in Ephesus, and in Philippi. If he could not go to them himself there were yet willing messengers ready to bear his words of love and wisdom to "the faithful in Christ Jesus." And so, though he knew it not, this "ambassador in bonds" spoke to the church of all the ages.

"Unto me," he writes, "who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ Jesus our Lord. For this cause I bend my knees before the Father, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he may grant you, according