

the judgment-seat." This incident is not very easy to explain. Most likely Sosthenes was friendly to St. Paul. There was a Sosthenes, afterwards, a Christian. Perhaps, the mob, disappointed of the bloodshed which they had hoped to witness, turned in brutal rage upon a prominent Jew and made him their sport. Whatever was the cause of this outrage on justice and law, it produced no effect on Gallio. It did not induce him to alter his previously formed determination. Neither did it, as it ought to have done, bring severe retribution on those who, in the presence of the minister of law and order, set both at defiance by unprovoked cruelty. "Gallio cared for none of these things." He, perhaps, satisfied what little conscience he had by the reflection that he himself had done no wrong. He gratified his selfishness by abstaining from trouble. He forgot that by abstaining to prevent cruelty, he practically sanctioned it and made himself responsible for it. He did not know that to the end of time his name would be remembered as that of one who is indifferent to right and wrong, and who cares not which prevails; who values only his own enjoyment and the popular esteem of others. When Gallio sent St. Paul away, he did not know that he was putting from himself the cup of salvation.