

THE NAZARENE MESSENGER.

"A ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes."

"Behold I send my messenger before thy face."

"Ye seek Jesus the Nazarene, he is risen." This same Jesus "shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

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The Gospel of the Nazarenes.

PART II.

When it was Written.

An ancient tradition, mentioned by Eusebius and others of "the fathers," states, that the apostles remained at Jerusalem, or in Palestine twelve years after the martyrdom of Jesus; but it is evident that they did not entirely forsake their native land at so early a period, though after that time they appear to have begun to make more extensive tours, yet they evidently made it a sacred duty to visit the mother congregation in the Jewish capital, at the annual return of the Passover, when they would all be anxious to meet again and partake of the memorial emblems of their master, instituted by him the night before he suffered, and which time appears to have been the anniversary of his birth as well as his death, and the season when they expected his return. And though none of "the twelve" may have gone beyond the limits of the Holy Land before Paul

and Barnabas advanced into the districts of Asia Minor, yet both Rome and the cities of the Levant addressed by John in the Revelation, were doubtless visited by some of the apostolic band, probably Peter and John, before Paul's second visit to Corinth, or may be before he landed in Europe. At the Council at Jerusalem, A. D. 52, all the apostles appear to have been present, but that is no proof that they, as well as Paul may not already have visited many places where there were Hebrew colonies, and synagogues in foreign lands. The statement of Eusebius, "That Matthew committed his Gospel to writing in his native tongue, when on the point of going also to other nations," is therefore in harmony with what appears to have been from reasonable inference, the facts of the case, for we know that the origin of all the apostolic congregations were Jewish converts, most of whom understood the Hebrew language and letters, and when the apostles afterwards addressed them by epistles, they assume that their