

that is, so read that all may understand, not that a few may understand, but all." "What faithful man," saith St. Augustine "though he be but a novice before he be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost, doth not, with an equal mind, read and hear all things, which, after the ascension of our Lord, are written in canonical truth and authority, although as yet he understands them not as he ought?" But, of all others, St. Chrysostom is, everywhere most strong and explicit upon this point, amongst many places, hear what he saith in one of his homilies of Lazarus: "I do always exhort, and will never cease to exhort you, that you will not here only attend to those things which are spoken; but, when you are at home, you continually busy yourselves in reading the Holy Scriptures; which practice also, I have not ceased to urge upon those who come privately to me. For, let no man say, alas I am taken up with law cases, I am employed in public affairs, I follow my trade, I maintain a wife and children, and have a great charge to look to; it is not for me to read the scriptures, but for them which have cast off the world, which have taken up the solitary tops of mountains for their dwellings, and live in this contemplative life continually. What sayest thou O man? Is it not for thee to turn over the scriptures because thou art distracted with many cares?