

one accord give heed to the things which Philip speaks." Strange preaching, and strange hearing: nothing like this could be accounted orthodox in our country. Stranger still, "when they believe Philip, preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they are baptized, both men and women." Think you had we not better doubt the authority of this doctor: he acts so singularly in making converts. Doctor Clarke never made a convert in this manner. Some mistake somewhere. Why—yes—this preacher Philip, is not an apostle; let us depart to Philippi and hear Paul; for the question, which we must remember, is, How did the apostles make converts?

Now the apostle Paul has received 'a special call' to make a tour into that part of the world where Philippi is located, it being a city of Macedonia. As it is a considerable place of trade, the magistrates strict, with a good strong jail for offenders, and a thorough-going jailor to keep order, our fears for personal safety may all be dispersed in attending the meeting there. Still, as we arrive at Philippi, behold, Paul is honoured with a place in the prison. But he can still preach, for he has for years been accustomed to chains, jails, and jailors, and none of them can change his views, nor change his course in making converts.

"Suddenly there is a great earthquake—the foundations of the prison are shaken—all the doors immediately opened—every one's bands are loosed." Paul's vision previously, and this sudden convulsion, prepares us for something important. Let us keep our eye on the movement of things, and assuredly we shall be profited. See! the jailor wakes from his sleep, and, trembling, he asks Paul, with Silas his travelling companion, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved." Listen to the reply: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." This, you say, is the very thing you always held and now hold—that faith is the only requisite to salvation, and the apostle has proved it. Be not hasty, my friend; listen further. "They speak to him the word of the Lord, and to all in his house. And he takes them the same hour of the night, washes their stripes, and is baptized, he and all his straightway." Perhaps you may now reflect that Philip was not altogether astray in making converts in Samaria. He was at least in good company; for Paul and Silas, we see, make converts after this fashion.

It is only necessary to visit Corinth, to see if Paul in that city is like himself in Philippi. Follow him, then, into a synagogue in Cor-